

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Northfield Commercial Historic District (NRIS 79003125) Amendment

Other names/site number: Northfield Historic District

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: Northfield Commercial Historic District roughly bounded by S. Water, Division, Washington, E. 3rd, W. 3rd, E. 4th, and W. 6th Streets, and Dahomey Avenue/TH 3

City or town: Northfield State: MN County: Rice

Not For Publication: ☐

Vicinity: ☐

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this \_\_\_ nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_national \_\_\_statewide \_\_\_local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

\_\_\_A \_\_\_B \_\_\_C \_\_\_D

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau  
or Tribal Government

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_ entered in the National Register

\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

☒ X

Public – Local

☒ X

Public – State

☐

Public – Federal

☒ X

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)

☐

District

☒

Site

☐

Structure

☐

Object

☐

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

*Note: previously listed resources are included here to correct errors in 1979 nomination*

Contributing

63

Noncontributing

1

buildings

2

sites

3

1

structures

objects

68

2

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

### 6. Function or Use

#### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/department store

COMMERCE/financial institution

COMMERCE/restaurant

COMMERCE/specialty store

DOMESTIC/hotel

DOMESTIC/multiple family dwelling

EDUCATION/library

ENGINEERING/bridge

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

GOVERNMENT/city hall  
GOVERNMENT/fire station  
GOVERNMENT/post office  
GOVERNMENT/armory  
INDUSTRY/dam  
INDUSTRY/mill  
LANDSCAPE/market square  
LANDSCAPE/park  
RECREATION AND CULTURE/music hall  
RECREATION AND CULTURE/commemorative monument  
SOCIAL/meeting hall  
TRADE/specialty store  
TRANSPORTATION/bridge

### **Current Functions**

COMMERCE/restaurant  
COMMERCE/specialty store  
COMMERCE/financial institution  
DOMESTIC/hotel  
ENGINEERING/bridge  
GOVERNMENT/post office  
INDUSTRY/dam  
INDUSTRY/mill  
LANDSCAPE/public square and park  
RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum  
RECREATION AND CULTURE/commemorative monument  
RECREATION AND CULTURE/sculpture and fountain  
SOCIAL/meeting hall  
TRADE/specialty store  
TRANSPORTATION/bridge



Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY/Greek Revival

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne

LATE VICTORIAN/Second Empire

LATE VICTORIAN/Richardsonian Romanesque

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/ Late Gothic Revival

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Collegiate Gothic

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Classical Revival

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY MOVEMENTS/Commercial Style

MODERN MOVEMENT/Art Deco

MODERN MOVEMENT/Modern

### Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Foundations: STONE/Limestone/Granite; CONCRETE

Walls: WOOD; BRICK; STONE; TERRA COTTA; CONCRETE; STUCCO

Roofs: ASPHALT; METAL; TILE; UNKNOWN

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

### Purpose of Amendment

The Northfield Commercial Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.<sup>1</sup> This amendment updates all property descriptions and includes a Commerce context narrative that supports extension of the period of significance to 1966. This area of significance was not detailed in the original nomination. The amendment also defines certain parcel boundaries, and adds the formerly non-contributing Northfield National Bank at 25 Bridge

<sup>1</sup>Brian Oschwald, "Northfield Historic District Nomination," 1979. Accessed at <https://npgallery.nps.gov/AssetDetail/NRIS/79003125>. See also Britta Bloomberg to United States Department of the Interior, NRHP Evaluation / Return Sheet, 9/30/2004, for documentation of name change. On file, Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

Square (1966) as a contributing property. It removes the previously contributing Northfield Public Library (1910) due to exterior alterations that resulted in diminished historic integrity. It also removes the Northstar Hotel at 512 Division Street (1900), which was razed in 2018. A total of four properties, including the Northfield Armory (1915) and three 20th-century commercial buildings, were added to the southeast and northwest corners of the historic district.

## Summary Paragraph

### Northfield Commercial Historic District (1979) and Amendment (2020)

The Northfield Commercial Historic District is located in Northfield, Rice County, Minnesota and occupies the center of the city's original grain milling and commercial area along the east and west sides of the Cannon River and linked by the 4th Street Bridge. The district extends roughly three blocks on the east side of the river along Division Street, crossing Bridge Square and E. 3rd, 4th and 5th Streets. It also extends approximately one block on the west side of the Cannon River along S. Water Street and W. 3rd Street. The district includes Bridge Square and Riverside Park and contributing properties between and including 212 and 519 Division Street, 11 and 25 Bridge Square and 300 and 308 S. Water Street. It also includes the properties at 107 W. 3rd Street, 109 and 111 E. 4th Street, 103 and 105 E. 5th Street and 316 Washington Street (Figure 1). The historic district occupies a total of 21 acres (8.5 hectares).

The district is comprised of 70 properties, including buildings, structures and sites that represent the city's industrial, commercial, and institutional development from 1856 through 1966. There are 68 contributing resources and two non-contributing resources. This total includes 63 contributing buildings, one noncontributing building, two contributing sites, three contributing structures, and one non-contributing structure.

The district was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. Originally listed as the Northfield Historic District and renamed the Northfield Commercial Historic District in 2004, it was originally comprised of 60 properties including four that were listed as non-contributing.<sup>2</sup> The Scriver Block Building (1868) is the only property previously individually listed in the NRHP (1978; Figure 9, Photo 3). In 1979 the City of Northfield designated the local Northfield Historic District, which generally followed the NRHP district boundaries.

Most of the one-, two-, and three-story buildings within in the district are in good or excellent condition and the district retains its historic pattern of commercial, industrial, and governmental

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<sup>2</sup> Brian Oschwald, "Northfield Historic District Nomination Northfield: Northfield Heritage Preservation Commission, 1978," which did not include a map, appears to include 60 properties with four listed as non-contributing. Some properties, such as the Northfield Dam and Riverside Park, were not apparently not enumerated. Three properties (416, 418, and 420 Division Street) have since been rehabilitated and are classified as contributing, and the Northfield National Bank (1966) is a contributing property within the revised period of significance. Steve Edwins, ed., *Northfield Downtown Guidebook* (Northfield: Northfield Heritage Preservation Commission, 1982) described and mapped the district as including 65 district properties. This may have included other properties only in the local historic district.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

and institutional land uses. Typically, commercial buildings along the length of Division Street and on S. Water Street have party walls, with brick or limestone exteriors and street-level display windows. Most exterior façade alterations are at the ground-level storefronts, with intact upper-story features such as historic window openings, stone and brick window trim, cast-iron storefronts, and other decorative materials. Despite ground-level storefront and entry alterations, most buildings retain enough integrity to contribute to the historic feeling and association of the district. Overall, contributing properties in the district retain a generally good level of historic integrity reflected in the qualities of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The earliest properties in the district are Bridge Square, which began development in 1856 (Photos 14-15, Figure 12) and the Northfield Lyceum (1857; Photo 1). A total of 52 properties date from the city's early period of commercial and industrial development between 1868 and 1900, and ten properties date from the period 1901 to 1920, when most lots along Division Street were built up and the street was adapted to automobile use. Other 20th-century construction in the commercial historic district includes four properties built in the 1920s and four built in the 1930s. A number of commercial buildings were extensively remodeled in the 1940s and 1950s, and the Northfield National Bank (1966; Figure 19) was a prominent new modern building added to the center of the district.

The district was previously listed in the NRHP for significance under Criterion A under the areas of Industry and Community Planning and Development, and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The amended district also includes the area of Commerce under Criterion A. The associated period of significance is 1856 through 1966, spanning from the original townsite layout that included Bridge Square to civic leaders' mid-20th century planning efforts to create a modern city center.

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## Narrative Description

### ***Current Physical Appearance: Northfield Commercial Historic District (1979) and Amendment (2020)***

The Northfield Commercial Historic District occupies the city's historic central business core along and adjacent to the east and west sides of the Cannon River. The historic alignment of the generally grid-plan street layout, divided by the river and widening at Bridge Square, remains intact. Most district properties have been in continuous use since their date of construction. On the east side of the river they are aligned along north-south Division Street and in a grouping that frames Bridge Square at the intersection of Division and E. 4th Streets. On the west side there is a grouping on S. Water Street at the 4th Street Bridge crossing that includes the Ames Mill. The asphalt-clad streets are framed by concrete sidewalks. There are red brick-paved intersection crossings on the east side of the river and decorative streetlights and intermittent street tree plantings. Most building signage is confined to signbands, with a few overhanging signs and a number of canvas awnings.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

Contributing district buildings were constructed between 1857 and 1966. On the west side of the Cannon River, the tallest building, the four-story Ames Mill (1869) and mill complex at 319 S. Water Street, is opposite the Northfield Dam (1919) and the 4th Street Bridge (1914, 1986; Photo 13). The area occupied by Bridge Square, on the east side of the river at the foot of the bridge, originated with the townsite layout platted in 1856 (Photos 14, 15). Commercial streetscapes, like those in the 400 blocks of Division Street, are comprised primarily of flat-roofed, one-, two- and three-story, party-wall structures clad in tan or red brick or limestone (Photo 8). The exteriors of some brick examples are painted. Many cornices and storefront and entry trim are typically comprised of historic wood or metal, or historically appropriate replacements.

Many good commercial examples of the Italianate style are located throughout the district. In addition to the Scriver Block Building at 401 Division Street (1868; NRHP), the distinctive limestone exteriors of several Division Street buildings, most notably the two-story, Bjoraker Building (ca. 1870; Photo 2) at 422-424 Division Street, and the adjoining, two-story Morris Building at 420 Division Street (1879) are associated with the city's commercial development in the 1860s and 1870s. While the Scriver Block has stone-trimmed, round-arched window and entry openings, the Bjoraker and Morris buildings feature rectangular windows ornamented with smooth limestone sills. The two-story Scofield Block at 102 E. 5th Street (1868; Photos 11, 12) is among several Italianate style brick buildings on Division Street that retain decorative cast-iron storefronts. The building's canted corner is framed with slender, fluted cast iron columns topped with Corinthian capitals.

The three-story Archer Hotel (1877; Photo 4), which remains in hotel use, is notable for its mansard roof and deep bracketed cornices, and is one of few examples of the Second Empire style in Northfield. The more popular Queen Anne style, however, is especially associated with the city's business growth during the 1880s and 1890s. Multiple parcels at the Division and E. 4th and E. 5th Street intersections were developed with multiple-story buildings, some featuring prominent cornices or towers. Such buildings typically retain a good deal of historic masonry fabric at the side and rear elevations. Various types of masonry trim, including deep window and entry moldings, ornamental cornices, dogtooth brick coursing, tile, and decorative pecked, rusticated and other surfaces on stone keystones and beltcourses are typical Queen Anne style features evident on district streetscapes. The original stone foundation sills of many buildings remain intact, but some were shored with concrete in ca. 1912 during leveling to meet raised elevations after street paving.

Trimmed in stone and terra cotta, the three-story, red brick Central Block at 401-05 Division Street (1893; Photo 7), presides over Bridge Square. The three-story, Queen Anne and Romanesque Revival style arcade has a prominent, conical-roofed corner tower. The building retains its historic pattern of mixed-use, ground-level retail and upper-story office and meeting room uses. The Carpenter Building at 107 E. 4th Street (1899) is exemplary of the type of flat-roofed, Commercial style retail and office buildings that infilled Division Street after the turn of the 20th century. The facades of such buildings have simplified cornices and flat trim and window enframements.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

Local contractors, masons, and carpenters are credited with the design of most district buildings, but the work of several locally or regionally important architects is represented. Harry Wild Jones (1859-1935) of Minneapolis designed the State Bank of Northfield at 311 S. Water Street (1910; Photo 19), located on a prominent parcel on the west side of the 4th Street Bridge. The building features a splayed, Egyptian Revival style entry and a low, metal-clad dome with interior stained glass that rises from the flat roof. Harry G. Carter (1844-1910), a noted Minneapolis theatre architect, designed the Ware Auditorium at 316 Washington Street (1910; Photo 16). The New Deal-era, Collegiate Revival design of the Northfield Post Office at 14 Bridge Square (1936) is attributed to Dale McEnary (1890-1964) of McEnary and Larson, Minneapolis, under the supervision of Louis A. Simon (1867-1958), architect of the United States Treasury. The Northfield firm of Sovik, Mathre and Madson, comprised of partners Edward Sovik (1918-2014), Sewell Mathre (1922-2016), and Norman Madson (1922-2003) designed the Modern style, concrete-and-glass Northfield National Bank at 25 Bridge Square (1966; Photo 18).

The district retains the Cannon River setting, public space, architectural resources, and overall character associated with the 1856-1966 period of significance. Overall, district buildings and structures retain a good level of historic integrity and the qualities of location and setting are excellent. The quality of design, materials and workmanship at the upper stories of contributing commercial buildings varies from fair to excellent, with upper-story window alterations and cornice removal among changes diminishing historic integrity. Ground-level storefront changes are common, but commercial properties retain good overall integrity. There are no large parking or parking vacant lots, or other intrusions within the historic district boundary.

***Individual Descriptions: Properties in the Original Historic District (1979) and Updated Amendment Area (2020)***

**1. Shatto Building, 11 Bridge Square, 1878 (RC-NFC-302)**

**1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed building has a limestone rubble foundation. It faces south on Bridge Square and is adjacent to the Cannon River and Riverwalk above a retaining wall. There have been numerous remodelings and few historic features remain. The brick exterior is clad in stucco, with only the brick voussoirs remaining from the historic facade. The historic corbeled cornice has been removed. A one-story addition was placed at the first level, covering the former storefront. The addition has a recessed central entry flanked by two modern display windows trimmed with modern fluted millwork. The west elevation is clad in modern siding and flat panels. Windows are modern replacement units.

**2. Crosby Building, 13 Bridge Square, 1878 (RC-NFC-270)**

**1 contributing building**

The Italianate style Crosby Building faces south on Bridge Square. The small areas of exposed façade of the two-story, flat-roofed structure are clad in dark red brick and the west wall is clad in cream common brick. There are two small, two-story additions at the rear. There is a deep

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

wood cornice with large modillions above a narrow band of red brick. The 1979 National Register nomination noted its “pagoda like appearance” as the “result of a second-story porch and mansard-like canopies of both the first and second stories.” These roofs are clad in composite shingles. Photographs show that these features were in place by ca. 1920. A traditional wood storefront, date unknown, survives at the ground level with a central, sidelit entry and two large display windows and full-length transom.

### **3. United States Post Office, 14 Bridge Square, 1936 (RC-NFC-274)**

#### **1 contributing building**

The Northfield Post Office faces west on a wedge-shaped site, overlooking the Cannon River and Bridge Square. The two-story, Collegiate Gothic style, six-sided concrete block structure has a buff-colored brick and beige granite exterior. The pitched roof is clad in gray slate. The three-part façade is divided horizontally by three stone beltcourses, one edging the raised basement story. The façade has a central entry flanked by two, multi-paned lancet-arched windows. A multi-paned transom surmounts the entry. The double-leaf entry doors are aluminum and glass. Each canted wing has a large central bay window with two flanking windows. The entry has two large multi-paned windows flanking the entry, each decorated with quoins and an engraved pediment. All main openings are stone-trimmed. Side and rear openings have stone sills. The central parapet has “United States Post Office Northfield Minnesota” carved into a stone panel. A loading ramp extends across the rear of the building. At the interior there are basement and mezzanine levels in addition to the main floor. The main lobby features a groined, vaulted ceiling with historic lighting. The end wall is filled with historic mailboxes. The building was designed by Dale McEnary of McEnary and Larson, Minneapolis, for Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect for the U.S. Department of the Treasury, during the New Deal era.

### **4. Second Dickson Building, 15 Bridge Square, ca. 1900 (RC-NFC-301)**

#### **1 contributing building**

This south-facing, flat-roofed, one-story, brick-clad building has a single large display window, and an entry in the west bay. There is no evidence of historic materials since the façade been covered in vertical wood siding. The original design featured a wood or stamped metal cornice, a large window with paneled base, and a recessed entry with glazed transom.

### **5. Schmidt Building, 16 Bridge Square, ca. 1880 (RC-NFC-305)**

#### **1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed, Commercial Style brick building faces north on Bridge Square. It is clad in dark brown brick, and the west-facing elevation is clad in glazed brick. At the second story, three rectangular windows have one-over-one modern sash, and the central recessed entry is flanked by display windows.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

**6. Boston Shoe Store, 17 Bridge Square, 1879 (RC-NFC-269) 1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed, Italianate style building faces south on Bridge Square. It is clad in painted cream brick. The sheet-metal cornice has five prominent brackets, stamped rosettes, and egg-and-dart and rope-beaded detail. Three round-arched windows at the upper story have arched windows with filled-in transoms; replacement sash is double-hung with one-over-one lights. Early photographs of show a central hinged window to allow loading of goods, and evidence remains in the wood infill below the window. The recessed ground-floor entry has a single-leaf door and is flanked by windows and transoms. A single-leaf wood door in the side entry has a glazed transom. There is a tin ceiling, apparently historic, at the entry and at the store interior. The building appears to have had recent exterior painting.

**7. Aldsworth Building, 19 Bridge Square, 1893 (RC-NFC-268) 1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed, Italianate style building faces south on Bridge Square. The exterior is painted cream brick and the exposed west-facing party wall is cream brick. The roofline is finished with a bracketed wood cornice. At the second story a shallow corbel course edges the slightly recessed brick panel that frames four arched windows. Each window has brick voussoirs and rusticated stone sills and a decorative brick course below the sill. The sash has 9-over-9 lights. A metal panel with star anchors surmounts the traditional ground-level storefronts. The storefront is framed by brick piers and the single-door entries have wood trim. The building was restored to its current appearance in 1997 by the Commercial National Bank.

**8. Northfield National Bank, 25 Bridge Square, 1966 (RC-NFC-318)  
1 contributing building**

This one-story, flat-roofed Modern style bank occupies the northwest corner of Division Street and Bridge Square. It was designed by the Northfield firm Sovik, Mathre and Madson. The building has a raised concrete plinth above the foundation, and the exterior concrete columns support a heavy roof band decorated with cast-concrete vertical ribs. The band surmounts recessed tinted plate glass windows that wrap the building. A one-story wing connects to the Aldsworth Building (1893).

**9. and 10. Bridge Square, 1856- includes: 1 contributing structure (monument)  
Riverside Park 1916- 1 non-contributing structure (sculpture)  
RC-NFC-400 2 contributing sites (square and park)**

Bridge Square is bounded by the street also known as Bridge Square on the north and south, Division Street at the east, and Water Street and Riverside Park at the west. The asymmetrical triangular perimeter of the easternmost portion, commonly called Bridge Square, is framed by historic commercial buildings, including the Scriver Block Building (1868, NRHP) and the Central Block (1893). The main portion of Riverside Park, which dates from 1916 and is edged by a concrete-parged retaining wall that supports a modern steel railing at the water's edge,

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

frames the park at the west. Both the square and small park both retain perimeter features from the 1916 plan by Minneapolis landscape architect Phelps Wyman as well as features from the 1970s and 1999 plans that introduced hardscape and additional plantings. Both areas include planted lawn and concrete plaza areas and concrete walkways. Bridge Square features a gray and pink St. Cloud Granite Civil War monument, dedicated to "The Soldiers and Sailors who Saved the Union, 1861-1865." The granite bench and main slab are surmounted by a polished granite globe and a bronze eagle. Dedicated in 1921, it was designed by Charles Watson of the P. N. Peterson Granite Co. of Minneapolis (contributing structure).<sup>3</sup> Immediately to the west, the Sheldahl Anniversary Fountain, by Raymond I. Jacobsen of Northfield (1921-2012), dates from 1980 (non-contributing structure due to date).

**11. Bridge No. 1232, 4th Street Bridge over the Cannon River (Water Street Bridge, Cannon River Bridge), 1914, 1986 (RC-NFC-365) 1 contributing structure**

Bridge No. 1232 carries 4th Street over the Cannon River. The Classical Revival style east-west structure was designed by C. A. P. Turner. The superstructure is angled east-west and consists of two concrete-arch spans supported on two reinforced concrete abutments and one reinforced concrete pier.<sup>4</sup> The bridge is 166 feet long, with a 30.8-foot deck. The longest span is 76.1 feet. The abutments are flanked by concrete and coursed limestone retaining walls at each side of the river. Bridge improvements in 1986 retained the concrete surfaces with recessed panels in the spandrels of the arch. The original concrete balustrade, set between concrete piers, and historic lighting have been replaced with compatible steel railings and lighting. Despite the loss of the historic concrete balustrade and other features the structure continues to retain enough historic integrity to be contributing to the district.

**12. Northfield Dam, 1919 (RC-NFC-406) 1 contributing structure**

The Northfield Dam on the Cannon River is located immediately south of the 4th Street Bridge. The angled east-west concrete structure is 6' high and 164' long. It has a fish barrier but has no hydroelectric purpose. It is framed by two parged concrete retaining walls at the east and west ends. In 1855, Northfield founder John W. North (1815–1890) erected a wood dam and an east-side sawmill and a west-side flour mill. In 1865 both mills were operated by Jesse Ames (1808–1894). By 1877, the flour milling business was one of 15 operating along 20 miles of the river between Faribault and Northfield. The mill was converted to steam power in 1879. In 1919 the dam was rebuilt in concrete during the ownership of the Theobald Flour Mill Company of

<sup>3</sup> "Order Placed for Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument," *Northfield News* 24 Sept 1920:1; "City's Finances Reach Low Stage," *Northfield News* 10 Sept 1920:10; "Final Statement from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Fund Association," *Northfield News* 3 June 1921:4.

<sup>4</sup> Collins Engineers, "Underwater Bridge Inspection Report, Structure No. 1232." Prepared for the Minnesota Department of Transportation, May 23, 2012.



Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

Cleveland. The Campbell Cereal Company began operation of the mill in 1925; the firm was renamed Malt-O-Meal in 1927. The dam is owned by the Malt-O-Meal Corporation.<sup>5</sup>

**13. Nutting Addition, 105-07 E. 4th Street, 1887 (RC-NFC-370) 1 contributing building**

The three-story, Commercial style, Nutting Addition faces south. It adjoins the Nutting Building (First National Bank, 327 Division Street) to the east. The building façade is clad in tan brick, with brick stringcourses surmounting the band of rectangular windows at the upper story and the storefront windows at the ground level. The wood cornice has a band of slender modillions. The party wall is common brick, with segmental-arched windows. Quoins were executed in a darker shade of brick at each corner and a band of an arched motif the same brick was applied to the frieze. The upper story windows have flush voussoirs, with rusticated, buff-colored stone sills. The same material is used in the second-story lintels and sills. The storefronts have been updated with infilled transoms and modern glass, but maintain the spirit of the late 19th-century designs.

**14. Carpenter Building, 107 E. 4th Street, 1899 (RC-NFC-292) 1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed, Commercial style building faces south on E. 4th Street and abuts the Lyceum and the Nutting Addition. It is clad in dark brown brick. A deep corbel course and simple brick piers frame the façade. A stone name plaque lettered with "CARPENTER" is placed in the parapet above the corbel course. A single-story bay window with multi-paned fixed sash projects from the second level. The ground level has a large multi-paned window and recessed entrance. There is a stuccoed, one-story addition at the rear. An old painted sign on the west elevation celebrates Grastvedt Plumbing, a long-term occupant.

**15. Lyceum Building, 109 E. 4th Street, 1857 (RC-NFC-291) 1 contributing building**

The one-story Lyceum occupies an elevated site facing south on E. 4th Street and abuts the Carpenter Building to the west. A stone retaining wall and concrete steps edge the street. In 1884 it was rotated from its original orientation facing the Cannon River. The Greek Revival style façade of the gable-roofed frame structure is clad in narrow clapboards with narrow, flat cornerboards, and the east elevation is stucco-clad. The roof is clad in composite shingles and there are small brackets along the wood cornice. The symmetrical, five-bay façade has two entries and three windows. The windows contain double-hung sash with replicated six-over-six lights. The openings have simple flat painted trim. The window trim at the east elevation is older than that at the south elevation. The building has been conserved, but most exterior materials are not the originals.

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<sup>5</sup> Analeisha M. Vang, "A Pre-Dam Removal Assessment: The Ames Mill Dam, Northfield, MN." Senior Integrative Exercise, Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Science from Carleton College, Northfield, Minnes

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

**16. Mrs. Sitze Building, 111 E. 4th Street, ca. 1884 (RC-NFC-314) 1 contributing building**

The flat-roofed, two-story Mrs. Sitze Building occupies a sloping site facing south on E. 4th Street. It abuts the Ware Auditorium at its east elevation. The original building was clad in red brick. The existing façade is clad in tan brick with a decorative coursing between the first and second stories. This is a mid-20th century remodeling, which also included removal of the cornice and replacement of original sash with one-over-one wood units at the upper story and metal-framed picture windows at the first story. Entries at each side have modern doors.

**17. Ware Auditorium 316 Washington Street, 1899 (RC-NFC-290)  
1 contributing building**

The three-story Ware Auditorium (Grand Theatre) faces east at the northwest corner of Washington and E. 4th Streets, one block west of Division Street. It fronts a primarily residential area. The Georgian Revival style exterior is painted brick red. The cornice and pediment have been removed, leaving a streamlined roofline. The principal elevations are divided into bays with shallow brick pilasters and horizontal brick beltcourses are placed below the parapet and the second story. Rusticated piers articulate each Washington Street corner. The slightly projecting central pavilion retains the arched window filled with a multi-paned lunette. It surmounts a modern three-part window. The rectangular windows in the upper story flanking bays have one-over-one modern sash. Other primary windows have similar sash. The original central portico has been removed, revealing double leaf entry doors and a modern glazed transom. The southeast corner bay has a restored storefront but the northeast corner bay has infilled windows. The Grand Theatre sign is intact above the E. 4th Street entrance. The original 1899 design is attributed to Minneapolis theatre architect Harry G. Carter (1844-1910).<sup>6</sup>

**18. Scofield Building, 102 E. 5th Street, 1868 (RC-NFC-284) 1 contributing building**

The two-story, flat-roofed Scofield Building occupies the southeast corner of Division and E. 5th Streets. The south wall exposes a small portion of the original limestone rubble party wall. The canted corner bay has one window, the elevation facing Division has three, and the E. 5th Street elevation has eight windows. The Italianate style, flat-roofed building has a bracketed sheet metal cornice with a prominent pediment and name plaque accenting the corner bay; "1878" and "STORE" are displayed in raised letters. Volutes frame the plaque. At the ground level, a shallow cornice shelters the entry, which is framed by a pair of cast-iron columns with Corinthian columns. The display windows flank the door. The west facing elevation is clad in cream brick. The windows are set in segmental-arched openings with prominent red brick voussoirs and corbel stops. Each window has a stone sill that surmounts a decorative brick panel. The sash has one-over-one lights. The entire north elevation is parged with stucco and the windows have painted sills. A steel stair system accesses two upper story entries.

<sup>6</sup> "Harry G. Carter," *Improvement Bulletin*, 3 March 1910:21.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

**19. McClaughry Tenement, 105 E. 5th Street, 1884 (RC-NFC-311) 1 contributing building**

The hip-roofed, two-story McClaughry Tenement faces south at the northwest corner of Grastvedt Lane and E. 5th Streets. It is situated west of the McClaughry Building. The Italianate style building has a high limestone foundation and the brick-clad façade is parged with stucco. A bracketed cornice with Eastlake detail edges the roofline. The segmental-arched windows contain modern sash. The red brick elevations have dogtooth brick stringcourses. A central entry portico has an upper-story balcony and enclosed entry porch separated by a flared roof. A low stuccoed wall rises from the sidewalk in front of the building. The north elevation is also stucco-clad and has modern windows.

**20. Archer House (Manawa, Hotel Ball, Stuart Hotel), 210-14 Division Street, 1877, 1895, 1986 (RC-NFC-264) 1 contributing building**

The Archer House is comprised of an original two-part, mansard-roofed building dating from 1877, a flat-roofed north addition dating from 1895, and a 1986 neo-mansard-roofed addition at the north. It also has a modern stucco-clad addition at the west elevation that houses a four-story elevator. The building is clad primarily in brick, with various treatments and existing conditions. The historic mansard roofs are clad in composite shingles; the flat-roofed addition could not be seen, and the north roof is clad in standing-seam metal.

The 1877 block is four stories including a dormered attic story and the flanking wings. The five-bay central façade has a sidelit central entry. The arched window openings have deep brick hoods, with dogtooth coursing between rows of brick headers. Incised wood with a foliate motif infills the lintel below each arch. The central bay is filled with paired sash with one-over-one lights; the other bays have single units. The dormers have round-arched windows. A central portico sheltered the main entry, with short flanking porches on each bay. The porches were carried by slender chamfered wood posts that rested on tall plinths. The north addition is variegated cream brick, with modern windows of various types. It wraps around the flat-roofed section of the building.

**21. Nutting Block, 220 Division Street, 1893 (RC-NFC-265) 1 contributing building**

The flat-roofed, three-story Nutting Block (Northfield Knitting Factory) is clad in smooth red brick. There is a one-story addition at the rear of the building (1914). The block faces east on Division Street, and the rear fronts the Cannon River and Cannon River Commons. The building has heavy-framed construction and poured concrete floors reflecting its original industrial use. The prominent sheet-metal cornice is crowned by a low brick parapet. Finials frame a name plaque that announces "Nutting Block." The 1981 restoration of the Richardsonian Romanesque façade recessed the, six-bay, ground-level storefronts with large glass display windows. Two upper stories are united by shallow brick arcades. Round arches with prominent brownstone keystones are placed at the third story, and rectangular units fill openings at the second story. Second-story windows have prominent brownstone lintels and sills. The shallow brick piers dividing the windows are ornamented with foliate-motif stone capitals at the third-story level.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

Window openings are filled with casement units. The multi-paned blue transom glass is set below a broad horizontal beam ornamented with a dentil course and rosettes. Cast-iron columns frame modern but historically compatible storefront windows; the original two-entry system was replaced with the present central entry. A two-story flat-roofed historic addition at the rear (1914) is clad in cream brick and now shelters a drive-through; an adjacent modern one-story addition is clad in used brick. Historic windows at the side and rear elevations are round- or segmental-arched, and contain compatible modern sash. There is a steel stair on the north elevation.

## **22. Jacob Sitze Building, 300 Division Street, 1886 (RC-NFC-297) 1 contributing building**

The Jacob Sitze Building (Hulbert's Block) is a two-story, Italianate style, flat-roofed commercial building that faces east on Division Street, and the rear fronts the Cannon River and the Cannon River Commons. The building has a shallow corbel course lining the roofline. The cornice originally had a central peak, which was removed at some point. It has recently been replicated. "John Sitze" and "1886" has been painted on the peaked cornice and brick panel at the roofline. This treatment replicates that shown in a ca. 1900 photograph.<sup>7</sup> There is a corbel course below, and a decorative dogtooth brick stringcourse. The historic façade, or an interpretation of it, was completed in 2002 for the Scandinavian Marketplace by Steve and Jenny Green.<sup>8</sup> The remodeling from the 1950s with glass block, aluminum-framed windows, and brick infill under the modern display window now has painted brick and a full-width storefront system of large windows and double-leaf wood doors. A glass transom surmounts the system above a signband.

## **23. Fire Station and City Hall, 302 Division Street, 1876 (RC-NFC-266) 1 contributing building**

This two-story, Italianate style, flat-roofed cream-brick building faces east on Division Street. The rear fronts the Cannon River and the Cannon River Commons. There is a narrow passageway between this building and 304 Division Street. This building shares a north party wall with the John Sitze Block (1886). There is a stamped metal cornice at roofline that surmounts a shallow corbel course. This cornice replaced a peaked roofline that continued the corbeling; it appears to have been anchored to a now-removed bell tower. Below the cornice, stone beltcourse edges the windows, and with a shallow dentil course frames four panels of patterned dogtooth brick. A pair of round-arched windows are centered on the façade and are flanked by segmental arched windows, all with raised brick voussoirs. The windows contain modern sash. The single entry at the ground floor level has a round arch, also with raised brick voussoirs. The modern storefront contains multi-paned display windows. These windows replaced two arched wagon doors. The rear of the building retains a single entry and five window openings.

<sup>7</sup> Jacob Sitze Building photograph, Northfield Historical Society Collections.

<sup>8</sup> City of Northfield Building Permit Records.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

**24. Young Men's Christian Association, 304 Division Street, 1885 (RC-NFC-267)**

**1 contributing building**

The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) is a two-story, flat-roofed, red-brick structure has a raised stone foundation with a rusticated limestone sill. The rear is clad in yellow brick. It faces east on Division Street and the rear fronts the Cannon River and the Cannon River Commons. The stone was supplied by C. McCall of Faribault and the brick by Stroback, Greiner of Chaska, Minnesota.<sup>9</sup> The Queen Anne style design is attributed to G.M. Goodwin of Minneapolis. The 30-foot wide facade has a prominent projecting two-story oriel window with arched lights in the upper story and multi-paned transoms in the lower story. Windows are filled with stained glass transoms. The bay has a shallow metal roof. The entry is set into an arched opening embellished with WELCOME above a multi-paned transom. A pair of multi-paned windows are placed above the entry, with a decorative terra cotta tablet composition with a date plate at the upper story. The single-leaf glazed door is flanked by sidelights. The original entry was lowered; original design appears to have featured a recessed entry without the existing enclosure. A now-removed balustrade originally edged the cornice.

**25. Alex Marshall Building, 306 Division Street, 1932 (RC-NFC-298)**

**1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed building faces east on Division Street and the rear fronts the Cannon River and Cannon River Commons. The only remaining features of the historic building are the upper story and stepped parapet with tan stone coping. The rectangular windows have simple enframements and contain one-over-one, double-hung wood sash. The ground level was remodeled with two large arches opening to multiple storefronts and two arched single entries.

**26. Arcade Building, 309 Division Street, 1895 (RC-NFC-317)**

**1 contributing building**

The Arcade Building (Moses Building; Drentlaw Building) is a two-story, flat-roofed building that retains few features of its original design, although the upper-story arched window and entry outlines are intact. The original red-brick cladding is covered with smooth painted stucco. Cut-glass transoms infill above the three arched, upper-story windows. The window arches retain some indication of their original crushed brick surfaces; the windows have been infilled with modern double-hung sash. The arches at the storefront windows and recessed central entry are filled with modern glass.

**27. Bushnell Building, 310 Division Street, 1897 (RC-NFC-299)**

**1 contributing building**

This flat-roofed, three-story building is clad in painted brick. It faces east on Division Street, and the rear fronts the Cannon River and Cannon River Commons. It has filled-in window openings at the third level, possibly to accommodate printing plant use. The four-bay facade has a deep corbel course below the simple cornice, a small name plaque, and four rectangular windows with

<sup>9</sup> Northfield Historical Society file, YMCA Building.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

double-hung sash. The storefront below has a modern system that generally replicates traditional design.

**28. Tosney Building, 312 Division Street, 1882 (RC-NFC-367) 1 contributing building**

This flat-roofed, two-story building is clad in painted brick. It faces east on Division Street, and the rear fronts the Cannon River and Cannon River Commons. It has a simple cornice, probably remodeled. Below the cornice line, the three-bay facade has recessed panels with corbel courses that flank the prominent central bay. Each window has a decorated stone lintel with a central rosette and leaf motif. Replacement sash are double-hung units. The storefront below has a modern system that generally replicates the traditional design.

**29. Northfield News Building, 311-313 Division Street, 1884 (RC-NFC-316)  
1 contributing building**

A pair of party-wall, two-story brick buildings are united by a stamped metal cornice decorated with a running Greek-key motif, a rusticated stone beltcourse, and shallow piers that divide the narrow bays. Each upper-story bay is filled with a window; or in one case, a pair of windows. The windows contain modern one-over-one sash. The lower level façade was remodeled in 1965 following a fire. There are three entries and several wall and window treatments. No historic materials appear to have survived. The signband area has blank masonry panels. There is a one-story, stucco-clad addition at the rear.

**30. McKay Building, 314 Division Street, 1925 (RC-NFC-368) 1 contributing building**

This flat-roofed, two-story building is clad in painted brick. It faces east on Division Street, and the rear fronts the Cannon River and Cannon River Commons. It has a simple cornice with three low-relief stone medallions. The simple façade has six second-story windows filled with multi-paned, double-hung sash, and wide brick piers that divided the building into two ground-level units. The storefront has a modern storefront system that generally replicates the traditional design. The storefront display window openings are filled with multi-paned sash. There is a two-story, brick-clad addition at the rear.

**31. Sumner Building, 315 Division Street, 1873 (RC-NFC-295) 1 contributing building**

The two-story, flat-roofed, Italianate style, red-brick Sumner Building (Lockrem Building), faces west. Like the French Building to the south at 317 Division, three arched windows light the second story. The windows have prominent brick voussoirs. The one-over-one double-hung sash is a modern replacement. The storefront has a recessed side entrance, a wood cornice with paired brackets, and a large display window. The wood or metal apron below the simple brick cornice appears to be a contemporary addition, but is similar to the appearance of a feature shown in a ca. 1890s photograph, placed between now-missing brackets.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

**32. French Building, 317 Division Street, 1872-3 (RC-NFC-294) 1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed building faces west. The upper-story exterior is clad in what appears to be red used brick, possibly a recent recladding. Like the Sumner Building to the north at 315 Division, three arched windows light the upper story. The one-over-one, double-hung sash is a modern replacement. The windows have prominent flat brick voussoirs and gray stone sills. The storefront has a recessed side entrance, a wood cornice with paired brackets, and a large display window. The wood or metal apron below the simple brick cornice appears to be a contemporary addition, but is similar to the appearance of a feature shown in a ca. 1890s photograph, placed between now-missing brackets. The upper-story brick appears to have been painted by the 1970s.

**33. Clark Building, 319 Division Street, 1925 (RC-NFC-369) 1 non-contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed building faces west from a mid-block location between 2nd and 3rd Streets. The remodeled exterior is clad in brick and stucco. Upper-story windows are modern replacements, and the storefront has a recessed side entry to the upper story offices. The remodeled storefront for the first-floor coffee house has large glass display windows and a wide signband. This building had a different appearance when included in the 1979 Northfield Commercial Historic District as contributing to the district. Although this building is historically significant for its role in the city's early 20th-century commercial development, the façade remodeling does not reflect its previous appearance, nor models from other Division Street commercial buildings. With the altered upper story, the property does not retain historic integrity and is non-contributing to the district.

**34. Third Mergen Building, 320 Division Street, 1901 (RC-NFC-300)  
1 contributing building**

This flat-roofed, one-story building faces east on Division Street, and the rear fronts the Cannon River and Cannon River Commons. The stucco-clad exterior has a stone and concrete-trimmed, random-ashlar limestone apron flanking the entrance and wrapping the south elevation. The central entry is framed by two round-arched windows. Five round-arched windows and an entry are located on the south elevation. Window trim is cast concrete and stone. The south-facing windows are new openings, since this elevation was formerly a party wall. Historic photographs, ca. 1924, show there was a standard masonry facade, with a simple cornice and display windows. A remodeling in 1954 included a "late Moderne" facing with black glass tiles and transom infill with glass block. The current façade dates from 2000 and was designed by SALA Architects.

**35. First Mergen Building, 321 Division Street, 1882 (RC-NFC-315)  
1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed commercial building is clad in stucco and has had an almost complete remodeling of its historic brick exterior. The primary evidence of the historic façade are the two upper-story windows, which retain their segmental-arched openings and contain modern, double-hung sash. The first story retains no historic surfaces or details.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

### **36. Second Mergen Building, 323-25 Division Street, 1883, 1886 (RC-NFC-320)**

#### **1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed brick building is comprised of two red brick structures that share a party wall. The existing building was extensively remodeled at the ground floor, and the upper stories were covered with corrugated metal (ca. 1950s?). The current façade is the result of an extensive recent restoration. The deep bracketed cornice has a peaked date plaque trimmed with rosettes and filigree. The Eastlake style trim on the cornice includes decorated, incised brackets capped with finials. The cornice surmounts deep brick corbels. The façade is decorated with a rusticated limestone beltcourse and blocks on the shallow piers between the slender windows. The sash includes leaded, double-hung units. The new glass, wood and steel storefront, with paired wood doors, is compatible with the historic features of the building.

### **37. Nutting Building, 327 Division Street, 1889, 1966 (RC-NFC-293)**

#### **1 contributing building**

The Nutting Building, built in 1889 and occupied in 1893 by the First National Bank, occupies the northeast corner of E. 4th and Division Streets. The façade was angled to fit the narrow lot. The three-story, flat-roofed building is clad in red painted brick and has a limestone foundation. The deep Eastlake Style cornice is layered with large brackets and small modillions, all carrying a frieze ornamented with punched and incused ornament. Pyramidal finials accent the corner element, where a peaked enframement shelters three rows of dogtooth brick coursing. Deep corbel bands are set into the surface between shallow piers that divide the bays. The three-bay façade has an angled northeast corner. Each bay is framed by shallow piers decorated with rusticated limestone. Each window has a rusticated limestone lintel and sill. The windows contain double-hung sash with multi-colored lights in the upper sash. This treatment is carried around the six-bay, south-facing elevation. A 1966 remodeling by Northfield architect Robert Warn included a resurfacing of the original storefront. The transoms were filled with polished stone, and the wood apron replaced with the same material. The new clear display windows resulting from that remodeling have since been replaced with dark glass. The Nutting Addition adjoins this building at the east. A small one-story building at the north, now addressed as 327, was also remodeled in 1966 and is addressed as part of this building. It is faced in the same polished stone as the Nutting Building, and has a recessed entry.

### **38. Central Block, 401-05 Division Street, 1893 (RC-NFC-289)      1 contributing building**

Presiding over Bridge Square, the three-story Central Block is one of the city's key landmark buildings. Situated at the northeast corner of Division and E. 4th Streets, the red brick structure has a stone foundation. The exterior combines the Queen Anne and Romanesque Revival features typical of the last decade of the 19th century. The roofline is embellished with a stamped metal cornice and a low brick balustrade. The oriel bay at the northwest corner has a conical, ribbed roof and metal finial. Blind oculi with stamped keystones circle the base of the roof. The base of the oriel is embellished with a low-relief filigree motif. The name plaque facing Division Street reads "CENTRAL BLOCK." The red brick exterior is trimmed with smooth brownstone



Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

or terra cotta, which is applied to lintels and pilaster trim. The principal, west-facing façade has three rehabilitated storefronts at the ground level, with recessed entries and large display glass bays. The apron below the storefront windows, which has a narrow limestone sill, is wood-paneled. The brick signband area is sheltered by a shallow metal cornice.

The second- and third-story windows, each filled with one-over-one, double-hung sash, are united by shallow pilasters that divide each bay; seven at the west elevation and ten at the north. The pilasters have foliate-motif terra cotta capitals and simple bases that rest on the second-story window sills. Each upper-story window has a square transom with a single light framed with prominent brick voussoirs. The east elevation, which is clad in light cream brick, has segmental-arched windows, including small units surmounting the third-story units. An exterior metal stair on the north elevation that led to the third floor hall has been removed. A one-story cream brick building at the east elevation, separated by a narrow walkway, is a contributing property on the same parcel.

**39. Gress Building, 407 Division Street, 1893 (RC-NFC-288) 1 contributing building**

The flat-roofed, two-story Gress Building is clad in red brick. It faces west on Division Street. The building has a stone-trimmed, peaked parapet edged by a painted coping. Two small rosettes with a small finial at the peak decorate the parapet. At the gable end, a dog's tooth brick panel and a slender recessed panel provide decoration. At the second story a tripartite oriel window with a bell-shaped sheet metal roof and composite wood base contains slender one-over-one sash. The oriel is flanked by two round-arched windows above a narrow brownstone sill. The transom above each window is filled with brick. The ground-floor storefront has a pair of single-leaf doors with glazed transoms at the south end, a glazed seven-panel transom, and three large display windows. All trim is wood, with fluted detail. The apron below the windows is wood.

**40. Scriver Block Building, 408 Division Street, 1868 (RC-NFC-275)  
1 contributing building**

The flat-roofed, two-story Italianate style Scriver Block Building occupies the southwest corner of Bridge Square at its intersection with Division Street. The structure has a Platteville limestone foundation and is clad in gray limestone that has been partially parged with a thin layer of stucco. The east half of the six-bay north façade, housing the Northfield Historical Society, faces Bridge Square. It retains original surfaces and details, including exposed limestone cladding, a wood cornice, round-arched windows with flat limestone sills, and a recessed central entry placed between slender cast-iron columns. The lower-story transoms are filled with multi-paned glass. The west half of the Bridge Square elevation, now a retail business, has a ca. 1930 modernized façade, with brick-trimmed rectangular windows, brick piers and beltcourses, stucco parging, and a modern storefront with large glazed windows. The current east-facing Division Street facade is the result of restoration and rehabilitation to near-historic (1868) condition. Restoration of the historic former bank bay at the south corner and removal of a peaked roof (1888) and dormers (1893) are among work completed since 1976. The existing exterior wood stair replaced an iron stair shown in historic photographs, which replaced the original wood stair. The brick-

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

trimmed rectangular windows remaining on the Division Street elevation date from the 1930s-era remodel.

**41. Wheeler Building, 408 Division Street, ca. 1887 (RC-NFC-275) 1 contributing building**

The Wheeler Building faces west on Division Street. This two-story, flat-roofed, Italianate style commercial building has a four-bay façade. The sheet metal cornice has eleven stamped modillions placed between corner brackets. The stamped detail includes scalloped motifs between the modillions and a slender molding at the base. Four second-story windows contain one-over-one, double-hung wood sash. Each window has a smooth terra-cotta, lancet-arched lintel, with incised detail framing a central rosette set in a quatrefoil. A smooth stone stringcourse unites the lintels, and another stone stringcourse joins the stone sills. Historic photographs show that it once had a small peaked panel centered at the cornice. The recessed entry is framed by large display windows. Historic hexagonal tile (possibly ca. 1900) in the entryway is intact. The signband area is covered, but the brick area around it suggests previous damage, probably when old signs and hardware were removed.

**42. Rebstock Bakery, 410 Division Street, 1885 (RC-NFC-276) 1 contributing building**

The Rebstock Bakery faces east on Division Street. This three-story, Italianate style, flat-roofed commercial building has a three-bay, red-brick façade. The historic sheet metal cornice has been removed and there is a shallow corbel course at the roofline. Large brick quoins frame the corner piers. Three round-arched wood windows at each upper story contain one-over-one, wood sash with tracery in the upper sash. Each window has a smooth round-arched hood, with a rosette carved into each keystone. Sills are smooth stone. The brick piers at the lower facade are painted brick. The recessed central entry has a single-leaf door with glazed transom, and is framed by large display windows. Another entry at the north side has a glazed transom. The signband area is covered with an awning.

**43. Hamre Building, 411-13 Division Street, 1886 (RC-NFC-286) 1 contributing building**

The Queen Anne style, flat-roofed Hamre Building faces west on Division Street. It is comprised of two buildings joined by a party wall. It has a prominent nine-bay, red brick façade crowned with a tall parapet, deep corbel course, and stamped metal cornice. Each bay is framed by brick pilasters trimmed with rusticated, buff-colored limestone. A stone stringcourse unites the sills and lintels across the façade. The central bay is framed by a projecting pilaster surmounted by a finial-topped, crested date plaque at the cornice; the plaque is embellished with a stamped dog's tooth pattern and the date 1886. At the ground level, fluted cast-iron columns stamped with "St. Paul Foundry" frame a single stone step and paneled single-leaf door with a glazed transom. The flanking storefronts have a recessed entry and large, wood-framed display windows.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

**44. Ferstler Building, 412 Division Street, 1921 (RC-NFC-306) 1 contributing building**

The Ferstler Building faces east on Division Street. This three-story, flat-roofed Commercial Style building has a three-bay, variegated red and brown brick façade. Historic photos do not show a cornice; there is a corbel course below an area of possibly repaired brick at the roofline. Four rectangular windows have smooth stone sills and lintels. The modern sash has one-over-one lights. The recessed central entry has a single-leaf door with glazed transom, and is framed by large display windows. The signband area is covered with an awning and a wood canopy.

**45. Kingman Building, 414 Division Street, 1889 (RC-NFC-307)  
1 contributing building**

The flat-roofed, two-story Kingman Building faces east on Division Street. The four-bay, Queen Anne style, red brick façade accented by a deep sheet metal cornice. The cornice has stamped brackets and dentil and egg-and-dart moldings. The cornice surmounts a brick corbel course, and dogtooth-filled brick panels are placed below the corbeling. A rusticated, buff-colored limestone beltcourse links the lintels and sills of the rectangular second-story windows. The red brick piers between the windows have rusticated stone trim at the meeting rail level. The windows are filled with one-over-one wood sash. Decorative brick also ornaments the area below the stone sills. The recessed entry has a single-leaf door with glazed transom, and is framed by large display windows. The signband area is covered with an awning. A plaque states notes that the building was renovated in 1988 by Christine M. Hager.

**46. Skinner Block, 415-417 Division Street, ca. 1880 (RC-NFC-313)  
1 contributing building**

This three-story, flat-roofed, Commercial style building faces west on Division Street. It is clad in tan and red brick veneer. The original façade was completely reorganized in a 1950s remodeling. The two central bays are filled with a pair of metal-roofed oriel windows, each consisting of a single picture window flanked by sash with double-hung, two-over-one lights. The sash in the tripartite windows at the ends of each story are filled with two over-one sash. A smooth stone or concrete band frames the window composition at each story. Below a wide wood signband, the modern ground floor storefronts and recessed entrances are framed by piers clad in reused brick; windows have tinted glass.

**47. Lawler Building, 416 Division Street, ca. 1872 (RC-NFC-319) 1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed Lawler Building (Thoreson Building), faces east on Division Street. The brick exterior is clad in stucco. The cornice has a simple metal flashing. By the mid-20th century, the original façade was completely remodeled. The three arched windows that had brick hoods with stone keystones are now rectangular, with two-over-two modern sash. Rusticated stone sills may be survivors. Some of the 1950s remodeling has been modified with a painted signband. The modern ground floor storefronts and recessed entrances are framed by brick-faced piers and display windows have aluminum frames. The rear of the building and exposed south

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

wall are red brick. Segmental-arched windows and a door exposed at the south elevation have flat brick voussoirs and stone sills.

**48. Building, 418 Division Street, ca. 1890 (RC-NFC-321) 1 contributing building**

This narrow, one-story, flat-roofed commercial building faces east on Division Street. The modern ground-floor storefront is framed by piers clad in stacked brick; display windows have aluminum and steel frames. Vertical metal cladding covers the parapet and signband area. The building extends full length at the rear, matching the length of the two neighboring properties.

**49. Lockwood Opera House, 419 Division Street, 1872 (RC-NFC-312)  
1 contributing building**

The Lockwood Opera House faces west on Division Street. 419 and 423 Division Street (Melwin Building, 423 Division) were previously joined at the street level as Jacobsen's. The flat-roofed, Commercial Style structure has a six-bay façade clad in light red brick. A corbel course and shallow pilasters frame the top and sides, with recessed brick panels surmounting the six rectangular windows. Each window has a stone sill and lintel and contains one-over-one sash. A recessed panel is placed below each window. Two storefronts occupy the ground level and are divided by a brick pier. Each storefront has a recessed entry and glazed display areas. The traditional storefronts were part of past remodelings the building has received since original construction.

**50. Morris Building, 420 Division Street, 1879 (RC-NFC-322) 1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed, Italianate style building is clad in coursed ashlar, buff and gray limestone. It faces west. There is a simple wood cornice with two iron anchors in the frieze. The three upper-story windows have segmental-arched, smooth limestone lintels and rusticated stone sills, and are filled with wood one-over-one-sash. The ground-level storefront below a wood signband is a modern system, with stacked brick piers. The exposed north and west elevations are stucco-clad stone.

**51. Melwin Building, 423 Division Street, 1899 (RC-NFC-373) 1 contributing building**

The flat-roofed, two-story Melwin Building faces west on Division Street. 419 and 423 Division Street (Lockwood Opera House, 419 Division) were previously joined at the street level as Jacobsen's. A deep sheet metal cornice trimmed with stamped swags edges the roofline, and surmounts a corbel course and a recessed panel that spans the façade. The five rectangular windows at the second story are framed by brick piers, with rusticated, buff-colored limestone trim. Lintels and sills are the same stone. There is a decorative brick course below the windows above the signband. The ground level has a single-leaf door at the north end, which accesses the second floor. The retail store has a recessed entry and large display windows.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

**52. Bjoraker Building, 422-24 Division Street, ca. 1870 (RC-NFC-277)**

**1 contributing building**

The Italianate style Bjoraker Building is a two-story, flat-roofed commercial building at the northeast corner of Division and E. 5th Streets. The east-facing façade and the original south-facing wall are buff-colored, coursed ashlar limestone. A two-story rear addition, ca. 1945, is faced in similar stone, with finer masonry joints. A variety of pecked stone and other surfaces were used to finish the masonry. A wood cornice edges the roofline at the east-facing, Division Street elevation. The three windows at the upper story have flush stone lintels and rusticated sills, and the wood sash has two-over-two lights. Gray limestone piers at the ground level frame the storefront transoms and display windows.

**53. McClaughry Block, 429 Division Street, 1882 (RC-NFC-285) 1 contributing building**

The three-story, flat-roofed McClaughry Block occupies the northeast corner of Division and E. 5th Streets. The Italianate style, west-facing building has a limestone foundation and is clad in brown brick. At the south elevation, a prominent sheet metal cornice with stamped brackets and a brick corbel course are intact, but only the brick corbel course remains on the west elevation. The west-facing, three-bay main façade is divided by rusticated brick pilasters that divide pairs of windows. Each window opening has a prominent brick segmental arch with a stone keystone and corbelled stops, and contains double-hung, one-over-one sash, and a stone sill. The keystones have a diagonal diaper pattern. The corners of the building are articulated with large brick quoins. Three remodeled, traditional storefronts occupy the ground level. The south elevation has nine single window or door openings, each articulated like those on the west elevation. This treatment is carried around to the east elevation. All windows contain modern, one-over-one sash. A steel stair provides access to the entries at the second level.

**54. Holland Block, 500 Division Street, 1883 (RC-NFC-278) 1 contributing building**

The Holland Block occupies the southwest corner of Division and E. 5th Streets. The Queen Anne style, flat-roofed building is clad in brown brick. The corbeled brick cornice wraps the east and north elevations and is accented by bands of dogtooth brick. Above the ground-level storefronts, a deep wood cornice wraps the façade around the E. 5th Street corner. It has incised brackets and acanthus trim. The four-bay east façade facing Division Street has paired windows, each united under a segmental brick arch filled with incised detail. Each window has a stone sill and the sash has one-over-one lights. The two ground-level storefronts have recessed entries and large display windows. The cornice and storefronts are recent interpretations of the features that were removed in 1999 by Mainstreet Properties. The north-facing, E. 5th Street elevation has eight upper-story windows including three pairs of windows joined under segmental-arched openings. All windows have stone sills and contain sash with one-over-one lights. A storefront facing E. 5th Street (103 E. 5th) is accessed by metal steps and has a recessed central entry and glazed transoms over display windows. A metal stair leads to the single second-floor entry. The west elevation is coursed limestone rubble, with four historic window openings and an entry. The openings have brick voussoirs and stone sills. There are also two modern windows.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

**55. Kelly Building, 503 Division Street, 1907 (RC-NFC-283) 1 contributing building**

The Kelly Building faces west on Division Street. The roofline of the flat-roofed, Commercial style building has metal flashing. A corbel course is surmounted by a row of dogtooth brick. Three second-story windows have segmental arches with prominent brick voussoirs and stone keystones and sills; the wood sash has one-over-one lights. The recessed central entry is flanked by original cast-iron columns. The large display windows have decorative trim of undetermined date.

**56. Olson Building, 504 Division Street, 1890 (RC-NFC-279) 1 contributing building**

The flat-roofed Olson Building faces east. It is clad in painted brick. There is brick corbeling at the cornice and a brick beltcourse surmounts the two large windows at the second story. Each window opening has a deep brick arched hood with a painted stone keystone. Each opening contains one-over-one sash. The modernized ground level is stucco-clad and has two arches partially infilled with wood paneling.

**57. Henderson Building, 505 Division Street, 1908 (RC-NFC-282) 1 contributing building**

The Henderson Building faces west on Division Street. Like its neighbor to the north, the flat-roofed, Commercial style building has a metal flashing where a metal cornice may have been previously installed. The façade is clad in cream brick, and a corbel course is surmounted by a row of dogtooth brick below the cornice line. Four second-story windows have segmental arches with prominent brick voussoirs and stone sills; the wood sash has one-over-one lights. The second-floor entry is placed at the north end of the angled ground-level façade and is abutted by the modern storefront entry and a large display window.

**58. Onstad Building (north), 506 Division Street, 1887 (RC-NFC-280)  
1 contributing building**

The two-story, Italianate style, flat-roofed Onstad Building faces east. It is clad in painted brown brick. It has a sheet metal cornice stamped with brackets. A brick corbel course and a brick beltcourse surmount the paired windows at the second story. Each window opening is placed under a deep brick arch with a painted stone keystone, and each window contains paired one-over-one sash.

**59. Onstad Building 2 (south), 508 Division Street, ca. 1900 (RC-NFC-281)  
1 contributing building**

The flat-roofed, Queen Anne style, two-story Onstad Building (south) faces east. It is clad in red brick. The roofline is edged by a deep sheet metal cornice with pyramidal finials and a brick corbel course. The four upper-story windows are flanked by piers with smooth stone trim and each is surmounted by a blind arch. Each window has a prominent stone sill and lintel. The

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

modern sash has one-over-one lights. The modernized storefront has stack-coursed brick and modern display windows.

**60. Nelson Building, 507 ½ Division Street, 1922 (RC-NFC-310)  
1 contributing building**

507 ½ Division Street faces west. The flat-roofed, two-story building is clad in brown brick. It has a simple metal-flashed cornice that surmounts a stretcher course panel above a corbeled panel that extends across the façade. The three windows have arched openings with a double course of header bricks and a stone lintel. The recessed entry is placed at the north end of the ground level, with a modernized display window below the signband (Photo 22, left).

**61. Building, 509 Division Street, 1900 (RC-NFC-407) 1 contributing building**

This flat-roofed, one-story building faces west. It has a very simple painted brick façade. The cornice line is metal-flashed. The recessed central entry is flanked by glass block and sheet glass display windows (Photo 22, right).

**62. Building, 515 Division Street, 1940 (RC-NFC-377) 1 contributing building**

The façade of this one-story, Moderne style building is clad in coursed ashlar limestone. The flat-roofed building faces west on Division Street. There is a single display window that extends across the façade, and a recessed, glazed entry door. The north elevation is finished in stucco.

**63. Building, 517 Division Street, 1911 (RC-NFC-379) 1 contributing building**

This two-story, flat-roofed building is clad in dark brown brick and faces west. A brick soldier course defines the roofline, above a decorative panel edged with a stretcher course. Three rectangular windows with brick sills are placed at the second story; each has replacement sash with one-over-one lights. The storefront is stuccoed, with one large window. The window has been slightly reduced in size since the mid-1960s. The recessed, angled entry at the south end has a single cast-iron column.

**64. Northfield Armory, 519 Division Street, 1915 (RC-NFC-166) 1 contributing building**

The Northfield Armory faces west between a two-story, ca. 1911 commercial building and a small, one-story modern drive-in bank (Northfield First National Bank). The two-story, gable-roofed Late Gothic Revival style building has a prominent crenellated parapet that adds to its bulky appearance. There is a flat roof atop the headhouse. The drill hall has a standing-seam metal roof with two ventilators atop the ridge. The building rests on an elevated basement story with a cast concrete stone foundation and is clad in dark red brick with cast concrete applied to the coping and scuppers at the parapet. Smooth cast concrete also trims the window sills and beltcourses across the façade. The drill hall elevations are clad in tan brick. The brick basement

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

level is flared. The three-bay façade has a central pavilion with a peaked parapet that surmounts narrow rectangular second-story windows and a central cast-concrete panel with ARMORY in raised letters. The central entry has aluminum frame double-leaf doors and is accessed by concrete steps with brick, stone-trimmed cheek walls. Glass globes on metal light posts flank the steps and "1915" is inscribed in a concrete name plate. The pattern of narrow windows is repeated at the first and basement stories. The window openings contain compatible modern sash. The six-bay north and south elevations contain operable sash. There is a flat-roofed, three-bay garage addition (1961), constructed of tan brick and concrete block, at the southeast corner of the building and a one-story addition at the rear. The building has been adapted to brewery and entertainment use (Photo 21).

**65. Plummer Corner, 300-304 S. Water Street, 1903 (RC-NFC-304) 1 contributing building**

The two-story Plummer Corner Building is located at the northwest corner of W. 3rd and S. Water Streets. It adjoins the Law Building (1899). The flat-roofed, Commercial style building has a wood cornice and brick corbel course that wraps the seven-bay 3rd Street and ten-bay S. Water Street elevations. Shallow pilasters divide the bays that contain one, two or three windows. The corner bay is canted. The former two storefronts include the south unit, remodeled by infill brick by the current occupant, the Fraternal Order Eagles Club, Aerie 2242. An old neon Eagles sign, advertising Bingo and Dance, is a distinctive feature of the façade. The north storefront has a historically compatible full-length display window. The corner entrance is set in the canted bay and there are brick corbels flanking the former transom area. In addition to the two storefronts originally designed at the S. Water Street façade, another space labeled an office was placed on the W. 3rd Street elevation. This unit now has a historically compatible traditional storefront system.

**66. Law Building, 308 S. Water Street, 1899 (RC-NFC-303) 1 contributing building**

This two-story, double-store building faces east and adjoins Plummer Corner. The Commercial style exterior is clad in brown brick. The flat roof has the remains of a deteriorated cornice, and a brick corbel course. The upper story of the six-bay façade has six rectangular windows with a stone lintel and beltcourse. A wood cornice demarcates the first story. Four brick piers divide the two storefront areas from the three-door, recessed central entry. The former display windows have been infilled with glass block and smaller windows. The south side of the building has stucco cladding and seven upper-story windows.

**67. Ebel Block, 307 S. Water Street 1907 (RC-NFC-272) 1 contributing building**

The two-story, Commercial style cream brick building is addressed with 311 S. Water Street. It has a stone foundation and faces west on S. Water Street. The façade is divided into three bays by pilasters; two contain four window openings and the south bay has three. There is a deep cornice at the roofline accented with large brackets and modillions and a brick corbel course extends across the facade. Each window has an arched surround with short corbel stops and a stone sill. Windows contain modern one-over -one sash. There is a dogtooth brick panel beneath



Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

each window. Brick piers divide the three storefronts; each has a historically compatible design. The exposed portions of the piers reveal the limestone ashlar masonry. The north elevation is coursed limestone rubble. The south elevation is yellow brick. Two small, one-story buildings, dating from after ca. 1910 and originally shops, are attached to the north side of the Ebel Block. They have had extensive exterior renovation and are not included in the district. (The south elevation of the Ebel Block abuts the State Bank Building, 1910).

**68. State Bank of Northfield, 311 S. Water Street, 1910 (RC-NFC-271)**  
**1 contributing building**

The two-story State Bank building occupies a narrow parcel at the bridgehead of the 4th Street crossing of the Cannon River. The building is one story at street level, and rests on a stone retaining wall above the river. The Egyptian Revival style, flat-roofed structure is built of stucco-clad tile and has a simple overhanging cornice. The low, metal-clad dome with interior stained glass rises from the flat roof. A pair of windows filled with stained glass flank the central entry; each window is surmounted with a glazed transom. The entry has distinctive splayed piers with "BANK" executed in raised letters above the entry. The east elevation above the river has five windows at the first story and three small windows at the basement level. The building abuts the Ebel Building to the north.

**69. Ames Mill, Campbell Cereal, Malt-O-Meal, 319 S. Water Street, 1869- (RC-NFC-273) 1 contributing building (contiguous complex)**

The Ames Mill complex occupies a large parcel along the west side of the Cannon River at the 4th Street Bridge. The adjoining buildings include the main timber-frame, four-story mill above the mill dam that features a low-pitched roof and uniform rows of windows (1869), a one-story, flat-roofed, concrete block finished-products warehouse, and a concrete-block elevator. A flat-roofed masonry office block formerly served as a filling station in the mid-20th century. The main mill buildings have deep limestone foundations attached to the river wall. Despite interior upgrades, the historic mill building has had relatively few major exterior alterations, although windows were reduced in size in the 1950s and an original fifth-story monitor roof was removed at an unknown date. Recent rehabilitations have been successful in maintaining the integrity of the buildings' historic appearance.

**70. Building, 107 S. 3rd Street, ca. 1940 (RC-NFC-384)**

**1 contributing building**

This small, one-story Moderne style building faces north. The façade of the flat-roofed structure is clad in what appears to be gray, coursed artistically rusticated concrete. The west elevation is clad in stucco and new windows have been introduced on what may have been a party wall. The three-bay façade has a central entry flanked by large windows, each with a single pane. Each opening has prominent voussoirs and a contrasting keystone (Photo 23).

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Commerce (added to 2020 amendment)

Industry (1979 nomination)

Community Planning and Development (1979 nomination)

### Period of Significance

1856-1966

### Significant Dates

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Cultural Affiliation

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Architect/Landscape Architect/Engineer/Builder

Harry Wild Jones (architect)

Harry G. Carter (architect)

Dale McEnary (architect)

Louis A. Simon (architect)

Sovik, Mathre and Madson (architects)

Phelps Wyman (landscape architect)

S. A. Wagner (architect)

J. H. O'Neal (architect)

Bettenberg, Townsend, Stolte and Comb (architects)

Claude Allen Porter (C. A. P.) Turner (engineer)

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

***Northfield Historic District (NRHP listed 1979)***

The Northfield Commercial Historic District represents the development of the late 19th-century Cannon River milling industry and Northfield's continuing 20th-century significance as a Rice County trade center. Northfield is located about 43 miles south of the Twin Cities on the east and west sides of the Cannon River. The district is comprised of Bridge Square (1856-), the Ames Mill complex (1868-), the Northfield Dam (1919), the Cannon River Bridge (1914, 1986), and an architecturally and historically significant collection of primarily commercial buildings constructed between 1857 and 1966. District streetscapes include 19th- and 20th-century business blocks that represent good examples of Italianate, Second Empire, Queen Anne, Romanesque, Commercial, and Modern styles. These properties are evidence of Northfield's industrial and commercial growth as well as continuing community planning and development. District significance spans from initial townsite layout in 1856 to the city's comprehensive planning for a modern business district in 1966.

The district is associated with the local historic contexts, "Commerce," "Industry and Agriculture," "Private Institutions" and "Public Institutions and Improvements."<sup>10</sup> It also reflects the historical patterns identified by three statewide historic contexts, "Early Agriculture and River Settlement, 1840-1870," "Railroads and Agricultural Development, 1870-1940" and "Urban Centers, 1870-1940."<sup>11</sup> During the decades following NRHP listing in 1979, many properties have been rehabilitated to their near-original appearance. Contributing district properties retain a generally good level of historic integrity reflected in the qualities of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

As listed in the NRHP in 1979 under Criterion A for its significance in the areas of Industry and Community Planning and Development and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, the Northfield Commercial Historic District is also locally significant for its association with the city's commercial development from 1856 through 1966. As noted in this amendment, significance under Criterion A should therefore also include the area of Commerce. Properties within the district reflect the growth of the local milling industry and Northfield's position as a Rice County trade center. Although the area was generally built up by 1900, economic development, new construction and civic improvement projects continued through and well beyond the World War II period. The post-war period is associated with local leaders' mid-1960s efforts to create a modern town center anchored by Bridge Square and the Northfield National Bank (1966). The bank was completed in the same year as the city's first comprehensive plan by

<sup>10</sup> Carole Zellie, "Northfield Preservation Plan." Prepared by Landscape Research LLC, Saint Paul, Minnesota, for the City of Northfield, 1992.

<sup>11</sup> Minnesota Statewide Historic Contexts, on file, Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, Saint Paul.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

Hodne Associates Inc. of Minneapolis, “which emphasized the need for a vital central business district.”<sup>12</sup>

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**“Commerce” is added to the existing areas of significance (Industry, Community Planning and Development, and Architecture).**

*Commerce*

Northfield’s founder, John W. North, a native of New York, developed a dam site on the Cannon River twelve miles above Faribault in 1855 and immediately erected a sawmill and a gristmill. Efforts to organize local government began soon after North’s and other permanent white settlement in the mid-1850s. A post office was opened in 1855 and North’s “Plat of Northfield, Rice County, Minnesota Territory” was filed in 1856. Northfield Township was organized in 1858 and a village government in 1871. The City of Northfield was established in 1875.

North (1815–1890), an attorney and railroad speculator, was the first of many New Englanders who settled in the early community and established businesses and professional offices, as well as schools, churches, and community organizations.

Northfield’s 1860 population was 867, which included outlying Northfield Township. The Minnesota Central Railway reached Northfield in 1865, and would contribute to the settlement’s future as a grain and agricultural distribution center. Jesse Ames (1808-1894), a native of Maine, purchased the mills in 1869. He converted the sawmill to flour production and built an important industry that reflected the success of the middlings purifier and other grain milling innovations (Figure 6).

The development of two colleges, Carleton, founded in 1867 by Minnesota Conference of Congregational Churches, and Saint Olaf, founded in 1874 by the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church, was closely integrated with the growth of the city’s population and economy. The Carleton campus is north of the historic district on the east side of the river, and Saint Olaf is on the west side, about one mile from the river.<sup>13</sup>

Most development along Division Street on the east side of the river and, unlike the aptly-named Water Street businesses on the west side, avoided the potential for seasonal Cannon River flooding. A bowstring-truss iron bridge was completed in 1874, replacing earlier wood trestles, and linked the east side and Bridge Square with the rail and elevator district near S. Water Street.

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<sup>12</sup> Dan Rogness, “Planning the Course of Small-Town Development: the Past Thirty Years,” in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community* (Northfield: Northfield Heritage Preservation Commission, 1997), 34.

<sup>13</sup> Carole Zellie, “The Colleges,” in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community* (Northfield: Northfield Heritage Preservation Commission, 1997), 58-61.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

Its extant concrete replacement was designed by engineer Claude Allen Porter (C.A.P.) Turner (1869-1955) and dates from 1914. The Classical Revival, double-arch design was remodeled in 1986. The Northfield Dam, immediately south of the bridge, was replaced with the extant concrete structure in 1919.

The Northfield Commercial Historic District is comprised primarily of masonry commercial structures dating from ca. 1868 to 1910. The densely built streetscapes include buildings designed to house shops and stores at ground level, with upper-story offices, meeting rooms, and apartments, as well as space for artisan and manufacturing use. There are seven remaining 19th-century “anchor” buildings on key Division Street corners, each distinguished by its size, architectural treatment, and prominent roofline. The corner turret at the Central Block (1893) commands a view of the entire district including the Cannon River and dam (Figure 10). The Central Block was exemplary of the city’s mixed-use commercial buildings, with retail shops, banks and offices at the ground level, offices and apartments or manufacturing space at the second level, and a meeting hall used by fraternal and other groups at the top level. A variety of commercial buildings, some only a few bays wide, infill the Division Street blocks anchored by prominent corner properties.

Four periods of commercial growth are represented in the district. Northfield’s population grew to 2,143 in 1875, 3,210 in 1900, and 4,023 in 1920. By 1910, four railroad divisions, three railroad companies, and two depots served the community.<sup>14</sup> The earliest period of commercial growth, from 1856 to about 1880, included the original townsite survey that resulted in a compact downtown focused on Bridge Square on both sides of the river and along Division Street between E. 2nd and E. 5th Streets. The first store, now razed, opened in 1856 on Bridge Square and was stocked with goods brought from Hastings. Hotels, groceries, and carriage shops were established, as well as banks, beginning with the First National founded in 1863. The builders and owners of early frame stores and stone and brick Italianate commercial structures located retail and service shops on the first floor, with offices, apartments, and manufacturing space above. Significant early survivors are the limestone Bjoraker Building (422-24 Division Street, ca. 1870; Photo 2), which retains its façade of massive stone piers; the limestone Scriver Block Building (408 Division Street, 1868; Photo 3), at the southwest corner of Bridge Square; and the limestone and brick Scofield Building (1878; Photo 11), an important early corner anchor at E. 5th and Division Streets. In 1872, on the eve of the national financial panic that slowed local growth, merchant Ephraim Lockwood built a dry goods and grocery store with an upper-story opera house and meeting rooms (419 Division Street). A succession of dry goods businesses occupied the brick building after 1903 as well as a roller rink and ice cream factory. Complementing these business blocks, an elegant new brick hotel, the Second Empire style Archer House (1877), was praised by the local press as a progressive enterprise and was indicative of an improved economy for commerce and industry.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Carole Zellie, “Historic Resources,” in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community*, 48-49.

<sup>15</sup> Clifford Clark, “The Town as Manifested,” in Lynn Carlin, ed., *Continuum: Threads in the Community Fabric of Northfield, Minnesota* (Northfield: Northfield Bicentennial Committee, 1976), 68.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

1880-1900

By the early 1880s Rice County's transition from a wheat-based agricultural economy to one based on milk production was evident, and between 1880 and 1900 downtown Northfield acquired much of its current configuration. Flour production at the Ames Mill (Figure 6) continued, but milk production at firms such as the Northfield Creamery and stock sales by area farmers who raised purebred Holstein cows and Percheron horses were among significant contributors to local banking and trade. By 1894, two farms had stock sale yards within the Northfield city limits that attracted a national market.<sup>16</sup> Many new retail stores and shops opened by the late 1890s, and the number of offices housing physicians, attorneys and other professionals expanded. The city prided itself on offering stylish and up-to-date goods. Competition from national brands and mail order firms threatened local businesses, however, and the Retail Merchants Association, founded in 1886, and the Northfield Commercial Club, founded in 1900, led the resistance. Drumming up retail and banking business from rural customers was especially important.<sup>17</sup> In this period, the Rural Improvement Association of Northfield, founded in 1884, was an early voice for the improvement of Bridge Square and the Cannon River, as well as city parks and cemeteries.<sup>18</sup>

Substantial new brick structures, reflecting Victorian Italianate, Romanesque Revival, and Commercial styles, were built by the city's business leaders. The Nutting Block (First National Bank, 1889; Photo 6), Central Block (1893; Photo 7), Holland Block (1887 Photo 10), and McClaughry Block (1882; Photo 9) are architecturally significant corner blocks that anchored downtown commercial activity. The infill along each block was typically a retail storefront with upper-level offices or apartments. Wood and metal cornices, elaborate window enframements, a few cast-iron storefronts, and an array of overhanging signs enriched the continuous street wall. Canvas awnings obscured much of the storefront detail, which typically relied on a recessed entry between glazed storefronts and transoms.

Liveries, sheds and storage buildings of many types were part of the early commercial core just outside and at the edges of the historic district boundaries. Beginning in the early 20th century, gasoline stations were first located at automotive repair businesses and then occupied their own corners, particularly around S. Water Street between the 4th Street Bridge and the railroad tracks, and around E. 6th and Division Streets. Repair shops, implement stores, laundries, small restaurants, and lumber dealers were also part of this generally low-rise area south of the Division Street commercial blocks.

<sup>16</sup> Carole Zellie, "Historic Resources," in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community*, 49.

<sup>17</sup> Kirk Jeffrey, "Bread and Butter," in Lynn Carlin, ed., *Continuum: Threads in the Community Fabric of Northfield, Minnesota* (Northfield: Northfield Bicentennial Committee, 1976), 51; "Zellie, "Historic Resources," 52.

<sup>18</sup> Clifford Clark, "Evolution of a Community," in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community* (Northfield: Northfield Heritage Preservation Commission, 1997), 10.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

### 1900-1940

After the turn of the 20th century, builders infilled a few vacant or redeveloped parcels along Division Street. On Water Street near the Ames Mill on the west side of the river, the two-story brick Plummer Corner at 300-304 S. Water Street (1903; Figure 8) is exemplary of the turn-of-the-century Commercial style. The stucco-clad State Bank of Northfield at 317 S. Water Street (1910; Photo 18), designed by Minneapolis architect Harry Wild Jones, is architecturally significant as an example of the Egyptian Revival style.

Business turnover during the years that spanned two world wars, and which included continuing competition from national mail order and chain stores, was evident in consolidation of some adjoining small stores into single, larger units. Exterior remodeling rather than new construction was very common after the turn of the century and no remaining new commercial construction dates from the period 1911 to 1920. A large institutional exception is the Minnesota National Guard Armory at 519 Division Street (1915). The building was the result of efforts by the local business community to locate the armory on Division Street for Company D, Second Regiment of the Minnesota National Guard. The facility also housed many community meetings and events. The lower level had a rifle range, quartermaster's room, locker and shower room, and kitchen and dining room. In addition to the main floor drill hall, the building provided a company library and reading room, women's lounge, ticket office, and officer's room. The building was in National Guard use until 2015, when it was offered for sale as part of a statewide reduction in armory facilities (Photo 21).<sup>19</sup>

Municipal improvements, including paved streets furnished with electric lighting and concrete sidewalks, curbs and gutters, changed the appearance and function of the early 20th-century commercial streetscape, as did accommodation of auto parking (Figures 5, 6, 9). Construction of the 4th Street Bridge (1914) and a new Northfield Dam (1919) were encouraged by citizens and business leaders interested in beautifying the downtown banks of the Cannon River (Figure 7). In 1915, landscape architect Phelps Wyman of Minneapolis was hired to recommend initial plans for Bridge Square and the riverbank, as well as general street improvements.<sup>20</sup> In the early 20th century, the Northfield Improvement Association, along with the *Northfield News*, continued the Rural Improvement Society's campaign for civic improvement. Beginning in 1888, the *News* was led by Joel P. Heatwole (1856-1910) and later by William F. Schilling (1872-1959). Between 1884 and 1964, the business was housed in the two-story building at 311-13 Division Street (1884).

The effort to promote local businesses continued through and beyond the World War I period. In 1914 the Northfield Commercial Club merged with the Northfield Civic Association, which soon

<sup>19</sup> Jeffrey Blythe, "'Early Period' Armories of the Minnesota Army National Guard, 1911-1917: A Thematic Study and Properties Inventory." Submitted to the Minnesota Dept. of Military Affairs by Gene Stout and Associates, 2004. On file, Minn. State Historic Preservation Office, St. Paul.

<sup>20</sup> "To Make Physical Survey of City," *Northfield News*, 8 Oct 1915:4.



Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

incorporated as the Northfield Community Club. The slogan, “Cows, Colleges, and Contentment,” was adopted by the Northfield Commercial Club in 1914, when there were 261 herds of purebred cattle in the surrounding area.<sup>21</sup> In 1920, ten manufacturing establishments contributed to the city’s industrial and commercial development valued at \$1,094,444. Milk products, including those from the Twin Cities Milk Producers Plant (1917, razed), led other firms with sixty-four percent of the total, followed by foundry products from the Northfield Foundry, which specialized in repair of mill and farm machinery. Flour production at the Theobald Flour Mill, the successor to the Ames Mill, contributed sixteen percent of the total.<sup>22</sup> Through the 1920s and 1930s the *Northfield News* steadily promoted the city’s commerce and industry along with the area’s surrounding agricultural economy, and despite the Great Depression of the 1930s. The paper shared its call for civic improvement efforts with college leaders. In 1925, for example, St. Olaf College President Lars W. Boe (1875-1942) wrote that Northfield “enjoys as fine a place as it is possible to find” but nevertheless encouraged citizens to avoid “having big buildings and shouting hurrah for every booster enterprise.”<sup>23</sup>

Four extant buildings represent the period 1920 to 1936, including three commercial buildings and the Collegiate Gothic style Northfield Post Office(1936) at 14 Bridge Square, which was part of the New Deal of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Administration (1936; Photo 17). The economy slowed during the Depression, but newly improved roads somewhat enhanced trade-area expansion and advertisers of goods and services increasingly came from a wide area extending to the Twin Cities. Four clothing stores, two creameries, six hardware dealers, and three feed dealers were among the local core of merchants and tradesmen in operation through World War II.<sup>24</sup>

### 1940-1966

In the early 1940s, a few small, one-story, stone or concrete-faced buildings including 307 3rd Street W. (1940; Photo 23) were built at the edges of the district on both sides of the river. Although the city’s downtown core grew at a modest pace in the immediate post-World War II period, the tradition of civic improvement and boosterism continued. In 1948, the Junior Chamber of Commerce created Jesse James Day. The outlaws’ raid on the Northfield Bank was re-enacted at the Scriver Block Building at 408 Division Street (1868; Photo 3), bringing public focus to the historic downtown and a key landmark.<sup>25</sup> This popular event continues today. By the 1950s, “more than seventy clubs and associations flourished in the city.”<sup>26</sup>

The city’s population rose from 7,487 in 1950 to 8,707 in 1960 and economic growth was underpinned by established firms such as the Campbell Cereal Company, manufacturer of Malt-O-Meal and operating in the Ames Mill, and by new industries, most notably plastics

<sup>21</sup> Carole Zellie, “Historic Resources,” in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community*, 49.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., 49.

<sup>23</sup> “All Must Share in Building City,” *Northfield News* 23 Oct 1923.

<sup>24</sup> Zellie, “Historic Resources,” in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community*, 53.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid., 46.

<sup>26</sup> Clark, “Evolution of a Community,” in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community*, 16.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

manufacturer, the Sheldahl Company.<sup>27</sup> Further improvement of area roads, and especially construction of Highway 3 along the west side of the river in 1956, continued to underwrite Northfield's connection to the Twin Cities and outlying trade centers, although good roads also allowed farmers to bypass local businesses. Owners of district commercial buildings completed many remodelings in the 1950s and 1960s, and sampled new materials including corrugated metal awnings, brushed aluminum and glass entry systems, and a variety of new signage types.

### Bridge Square and Community Planning, 1916-1966

The appearance of Bridge Square has evolved through each period of the city's commercial development. Initially a hay market known as Mill Square, it is framed on three sides by historic commercial buildings, including the Scriver Block Building (1868) and the Central Block (1893; Figures 4, 7, 11, 12). Since the early 1900s Bridge Square has been the focus of public improvement efforts led by the Northfield Improvement Association and other organizations. A 1916 plan by Minneapolis landscape architect Phelps Wyman (1870-1947) provided a turf-covered triangle opposite a small riverfront park built on the former site of a pioneer sawmill and flourmill. The square and park were arranged to accommodate automobile parking and circulation.<sup>28</sup> A pink granite Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument was installed in 1921 on Bridge Square with support from the Women's Relief Corps Auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic (G. A. R.; Figure 15).<sup>29</sup> The current landscape design of both spaces, which includes a concrete plaza, lawn areas, and radiating concrete paths, appears to date primarily from plans developed from the mid 1970s and 1999 (Figures 14, 15).<sup>30</sup>

At mid-century, local citizens were concerned about business growth, parking and new housing, as well as decaying buildings and beautification of the Cannon River. Bridge Square and the riverfront became the focus of new planning efforts. As evident in large American cities by this time, such downtown planning often included demolition of century-old buildings and construction of steel and glass replacements. Projects in Minneapolis and Saint Paul, including the Gateway Redevelopment in Minneapolis, were intended to revitalize aging civic cores.<sup>31</sup> In 1966, Minneapolis architect Thomas Hodne (1927-2014) of Hodne Associates Inc. was hired to study the Bridge Square area's land use. Hodne was concurrently involved in planning for the

<sup>27</sup> Clark, "Evolution of a Community, in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community*," 16-17; Dan Rogness, "Planning the Course of Small-Town Development: the Past Thirty Years," in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community* (Northfield: Northfield Heritage Preservation Commission, 1997), 34; Kirk Jeffrey, "Bread and Butter," in Lynn Carlin, ed., *Continuum: Threads in the Community Fabric of Northfield, Minnesota* (Northfield: Northfield Bicentennial Committee, 1976), 54.

<sup>28</sup> "Consider Paving Plans," *Northfield News*, 3 March 1916:1; "Plan for the Improvement of Mill Square, including a Portion of Riverside Park," *Northfield News*, 7 April 1916:1.

<sup>29</sup> Clark, "Evolution of a Community," in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community*, 13.

<sup>30</sup> Bridge Square file, Northfield Historical Society and City of Northfield.

<sup>31</sup> Judith A. Martin and Antony Goddard, *Past Choices/Present Landscapes: The Impact of Urban Renewal on the Twin Cities* (Minneapolis: Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, University of Minnesota, 1989). Accessed at <http://www.cura.umn.edu/publications/catalog/c1021>; Clifford Clark, "The Town as Manifested," in Lynn Carlin, ed., *Continuum: Threads in the Community Fabric of Northfield, Minnesota* (Northfield: Northfield Bicentennial Committee, 1976), 76.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

Cedar Riverside housing project in Minneapolis, and conducted many studies in small Minnesota cities.<sup>32</sup> He initially prepared a comprehensive plan (1966) intended to create a modern city center at Bridge Square. It included a concrete plaza framed by streamlined concrete and glass buildings (Figure 12).<sup>33</sup> When the Italianate style Citizen's Bank (1878) at 25 Bridge Square, a corner landmark, was demolished along with other store buildings, it was replaced with a concrete and glass bank by Northfield architects, Sovik, Mathre and Madson (1966). The white concrete exterior of the Modern design stood out among its traditional neighbors and reflected the ideas of the plan as well as demand for increased visibility for banking and related financial services (25 Bridge Square; Photo 18).<sup>34</sup>

Planning for a new Northfield center with such buildings, however, was quickly eclipsed by interest in preservation of historic downtown buildings. The creation of the Community Development Program (CoDeP) in 1965-67 acknowledged the need to "promote the image of Northfield as a progressive, expanding community, but also to preserve and build upon the City's historical and traditional background."<sup>35</sup> The passage of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), establishment of the National Register of Historic Places (1966) and popular celebrations such as the United States Bicentennial (1976) encouraged citizens' interest and the Northfield City Council's 1978 adoption of the Northfield Heritage Preservation Ordinance and creation of the Heritage Preservation Commission. When the Commercial Historic District was listed in the National Register in 1979 it was also locally designated by the Northfield City Council. Property owners have since rehabilitated the many historic buildings that comprise today's district streetscapes.

## Conclusion

The Northfield Commercial Historic District retains local historic significance and integrity that reflects the development of the late 19th-century Cannon River milling industry and Northfield's continuing position as a Rice County trade center during the period 1856 to 1966. The period after 1940 reflects steadily growing local interest in planning for the downtown riverbank and the Bridge Square area, represented by development of the Northfield National Bank (1966) at 25 Bridge Square.

There are 70 properties in this district amendment. The amendment removes the previously contributing Northfield Public Library (1910) at 210 Division Street due to exterior alterations that resulted in diminished historic integrity. It also removes the Northstar Hotel (1900) at 512 Division Street due to demolition. A total of four properties, including the Northfield Armory

<sup>32</sup> David Thompson, "Plan for 7 Corners Project Unveiled," *Minneapolis Star* 26 Oct 1966:1; "City Architects will Design \$35 Million Housing Project," *Minneapolis Star* 18 Oct 1968:20.

<sup>33</sup> Bridge Square file, Northfield Historical Society; Clifford Clark, "Evolution of a Community," in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community*, 17; Kirk Jeffrey, "Bread and Butter," in Lynn Carlin, ed., *Continuum: Threads in the Community Fabric of Northfield, Minnesota*, 56.

<sup>34</sup> "Northfield Bank Gets New Home," *Minneapolis Star* 25 August 1966:47.

<sup>35</sup> Clifford Clark, "Evolution of a Community," in *Northfield: the History and Architecture of a Community*, 17.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

(1915) and three 20th-century commercial buildings, were added to the southeast and northwest corners of the historic district (Photos 21, 22, 23).

The formerly non-contributing Northfield National Bank (1966) at 25 Bridge Square is added to the district as a contributing property (Photo 20). The bank is significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Planning and Community Development and Commerce, and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an example of a small, mid-20th century Modern bank designed by the Northfield firm, Sovik, Mathre and Madson.

The amendment also includes a Commerce context that supports extension of the period of significance to 1966. Several parcel boundaries were also corrected and updated (Figure 1).

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

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Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

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### *Maps and Atlases*

*Bird's Eye View of Northfield Looking East, Rice County, Minnesota, 1869*. Madison, Wis.: Ruger & Stoner, 1869.

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Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

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

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office  
☐ Other State agency  
☐ Federal agency  
☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☒ Other

Name of repository: Northfield Historical Society, Northfield, Minnesota

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acres of Property** 21 acres (8.5 hectares)

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

1. Zone:	Easting: 487084.05	Northing: 4922663.49
2. Zone:	Easting: 487120.33	Northing: 4922682.57
3. Zone:	Easting: 487083.21	Northing: 4922669.02
4. Zone:	Easting : 487143.70	Northing: 4922614.46
5. Zone:	Easting : 487221.3312	Northing: 4922589.64
6. Zone:	Easting : 487374.07	Northing: 4922567.23
7. Zone:	Easting : 487374.49	Northing: 4922565.10
8. Zone:	Easting : 487296.80	Northing: 4922556.32
9. Zone:	Easting : 487315.55	Northing: 4922318.95
10. Zone:	Easting : 487263.10	Northing: 4922342.87
11. Zone:	Easting : 487244.84	Northing: 4922391.82
12. Zone:	Easting : 487166.97	Northing: 4922507.66
13. Zone:	Easting : 487029.68	Northing: 4922576.41

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

***DRAFT: Pending Further Revision. 8/18/2020***

Beginning at the intersection of northern lot line of Lot 11 in the original town and the Cannon River; thence easterly along this line to its point of intersection with the northerly lot line of lot 3, block 16; thence easterly along this line to its point of intersection with the eastern curb line of Washington Street; thence southerly along this line to its point of intersection with the center line of East Third Street; thence westerly along this line to the eastern curb line of Division Street; thence southerly along this line to the point of intersection with the northern lot line of lot 7, block 23; thence easterly along this lot line to the intersection with the western lot line of lot 7, block 23; thence southerly along this line to point of intersection with the north lot line of lot 8, block 23; thence southerly along this line to the point of intersection with the north lot line of lot 1, block 23; thence easterly along this line to the western curb line of Washington Street; thence southerly along this line to the point of intersection with the center line of East Fourth Street; thence



Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

westerly along the center line of East Fourth Street to the eastern lot line of lot 6, block 33; thence southerly along this line to the point of intersection with the center line of East Fifth Street; thence westerly along this line a distance of fifty feet to the intersection with the eastern building wall of 503 Division Street; thence southerly along this line to the southerly lot line of lot 7, block 48; thence westerly along this line to its point of intersection with the center line of Division Street; thence southerly along the center line of Division Street to its point of intersection with the extension of the southerly lot line of lot 3, block 47; thence westerly along this line to the point of intersection with the westerly lot line of lot 3, block 47; thence northerly along this line to its point of intersection with the center line of East Fifth Street; thence westerly along center line of East Fifth Street a distance of 62 feet to the point of intersection with the east lot line of lot 1, block 34; thence northerly along this line to the intersection with the north lot line of lot 1, block 34; thence due northwesterly a distance of 500 feet to the point of intersection with the south easterly corner of lot 1, block 22; thence westerly along the southern lot line of lot 1, block 22, to the point of intersection with the westerly lot line of lot 1, block 22; thence northeasterly along this line to the point of intersection with the south curb line of West Second Street; thence easterly to the point of intersection with the western curb line of Water Street; thence southerly to the point of intersection with the southern lot line of lot 5, block 7; thence easterly along the extension of the southern lot line of lot 5, block 7, to its point of intersection with the east bank of the Cannon River; thence northeasterly along the east bank of the Cannon River to the point of beginning.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The amended boundary includes the listed National Register Historic District boundary (1979) and correction of certain parcel boundaries, and addition of five properties. One, the Northfield National Bank, is a contributing property historically associated with the existing Northfield Commercial Historic District and its planning and community development and commercial themes are added. This contributing property retains historic integrity and was built within the revised period of significance, 1856-1966. Four previously unlisted properties were added. Two properties within the Northfield Commercial Historic District boundary, as listed in 1979, were removed due to demolition or loss of historic integrity.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

Name/title: Carole S. Zellie

Organization: Landscape Research LLC

Street & number: 765 Hampden Avenue

City or town: Saint Paul State: MN Zip code: 55114

e-mail: czellie@landscaperesearch.net

Telephone: (651) 641-1230

Date: August 18, 2020

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

## Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

## Index of Figures

<b>Figure 1</b>	Northfield Commercial Historic District showing Amended Boundary (2020)
<b>Figure 2</b>	Sketch Map, photo key
<b>Figure 3</b>	USGS Map, Northfield Commercial Historic District Amendment, Northfield, Rice County, MN. UTM coordinate locations shown.
<b>Figure 4</b>	Partial Northfield Commercial Historic District boundaries shown on Sanborn Map (1930), updated to 1943.
<b>Figure 5</b>	Division Street in ca. 1925, facing north from E. 4th Street. (Northfield Historical Society)
<b>Figure 6</b>	Ames Mill in ca. 1915, facing south from S. Water Street. (Northfield Historical Society)
<b>Figure 7</b>	Bridge Square, ca. 1925, facing west from Division Street. (Northfield Historical Society)
<b>Figure 8</b>	S. Water Street area, ca. 1925, facing north. (Northfield Historical Society)
<b>Figure 9</b>	Scriver Block Building and 400 Block of Division Street, looking southwest, in 1925. (Northfield Historical Society)
<b>Figure 10</b>	Central Block and 400 Block of Division Street, looking south, in ca. 1900. (Northfield Historical Society)
<b>Figure 11</b>	Bridge Square aerial view, looking northeast, ca. 1940. (Northfield Historical Society)
<b>Figure 12</b>	Hodne Associates Inc., Bridge Square drawing, looking west, ca. 1966. (City of Northfield)

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

## Photo Log

Name of Properties: Northfield Commercial Historic District

City or Vicinity: Northfield

County: Rice State: MN

Photographer: Carole Zellie

Date Photographed: 2019

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo #1 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0001)

Exterior, Northfield Lyceum, 109 E. 4th Street, south elevation, camera facing north.

Photo #2 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0002)

Exterior, Bjoraker Building, 422-24 Walnut Street, east and south elevations, camera facing northwest.

Photo #3 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0003)

Exterior, Scriver Block Building (NRHP), 408 Division Street, west elevation and south elevation, camera facing southwest.

Photo #4 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0004)

Exterior, Archer Hotel, 210-14 Division Street, west elevation and south elevation, camera facing northeast.

Photo #5 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0005)

Exterior, Young Men's Christian Association, 304 Division Street, east elevation, camera facing west.

Photo #6 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0006)

Exterior, Nutting Building and First National Bank 327 Division Street, east elevation and south elevation, camera facing northeast.

Photo #7 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0007)

Exterior, Central Block, 401-05 Division Street, west elevation and south elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #8 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0008)

Exterior, Gress Building, 407 Division Street (left), and Wheeler Building, 409 Division Street (right), west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #9 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0009)

Exterior, McClaughry Block, 425-29 Division Street, west elevation and south elevation,

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

camera facing northeast.

Photo #10 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0010)  
Exterior, Holland Block, 500 Division Street, east elevation and north elevation, camera facing southwest.

Photo #11 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_00011)  
Exterior, Scofield Building, 102 E. 5th Street, north elevation and west elevation, camera facing southeast.

Photo #12 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_00012)  
Exterior, Scofield Building, 102 E. 5th Street, entry detail, at north elevation and west elevation, camera facing southeast.

Photo #13 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_00013)  
Exterior, Ames Mill, 319 S. Water Street, east elevation, camera facing southwest.

Photo #14 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_00014)  
Bridge Square, camera facing northeast.

Photo #15 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_00015)  
Bridge Square and Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, camera facing east.

Photo #16 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_00016)  
Exterior, Ware Auditorium, 316 Washington Street, west elevation and south elevation, camera facing northwest.

Photo #17 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_00017)  
Exterior, Northfield Post Office, 14 Bridge Square, west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #18 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_00018)  
Exterior, Northfield National Bank (25 Bridge Square), south elevation, camera facing northeast.

Photo #19 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_00019)  
Exterior detail, State Bank of Northfield, 311 S. Water St., west elevation, camera facing south.

Photo #20 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0020)  
Exterior, State Bank of Northfield, 311 S. Water St., west elevation, camera facing northeast.

Photo #21 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0021)  
Exterior, Northfield Armory, 519 S. Water St., west elevation, camera

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

facing northeast.

Photo #22 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0022)  
Exterior, Nelson Building, 515 Division Street, and Building, 517 S. Water St., west  
elevations, camera facing northeast.

Photo #23 (MN\_Rice County\_Northfield Commercial Historic District\_0023)  
Exterior, Building, 107 S. Water Street, north elevation, camera facing southeast.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours  
Tier 2 – 120 hours  
Tier 3 – 230 hours  
Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

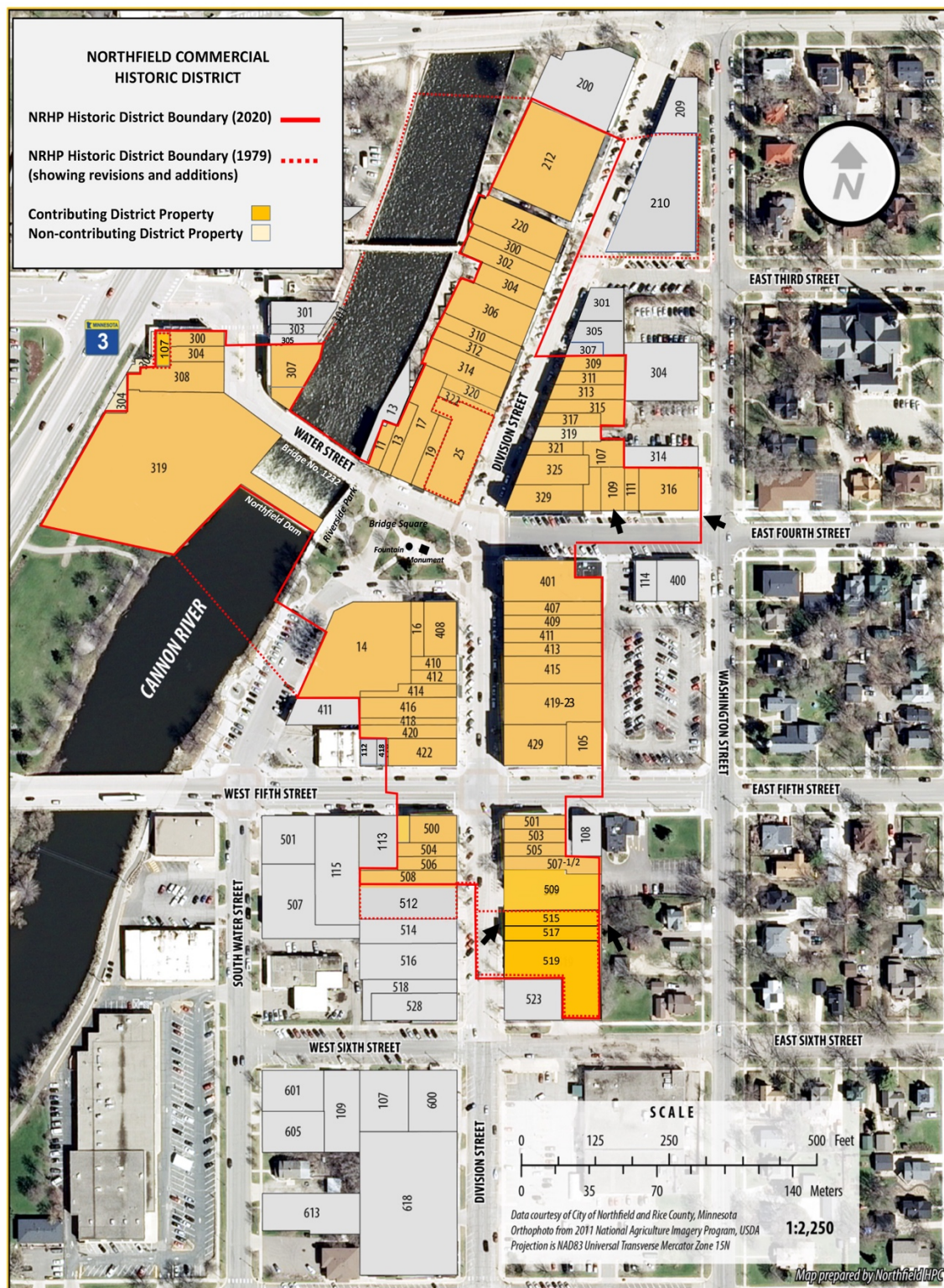


Figure 1. Northfield Commercial Historic District, 2020



Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State

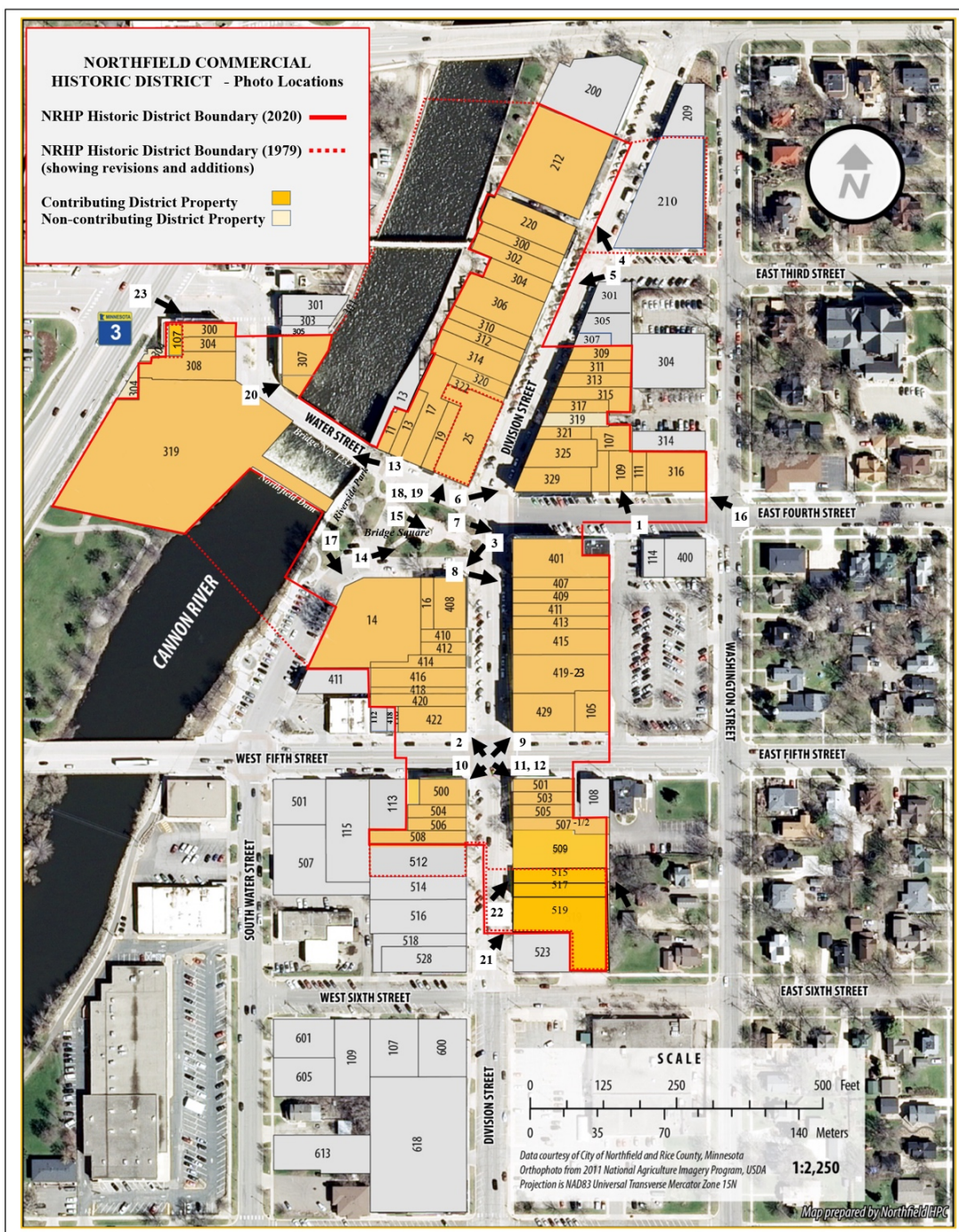


Figure 2. Northfield Commercial Historic District Photo Locations.



Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

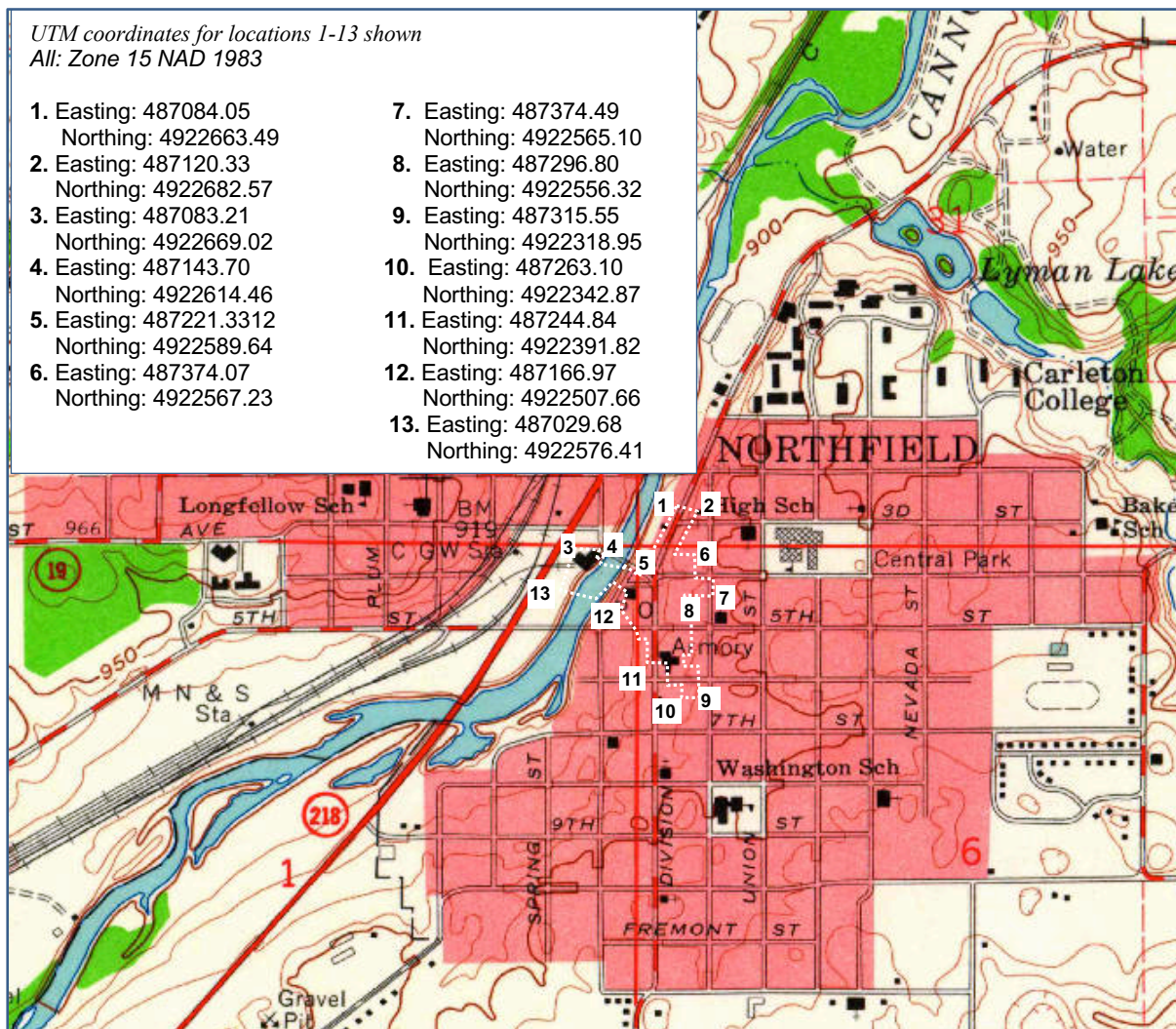


Figure 3. USGS Map, Northfield Commercial Historic District, Northfield, Rice County, MN, 2020.



Northfield Commercial Historic District

Rice, Minnesota

Name of Property

County and State

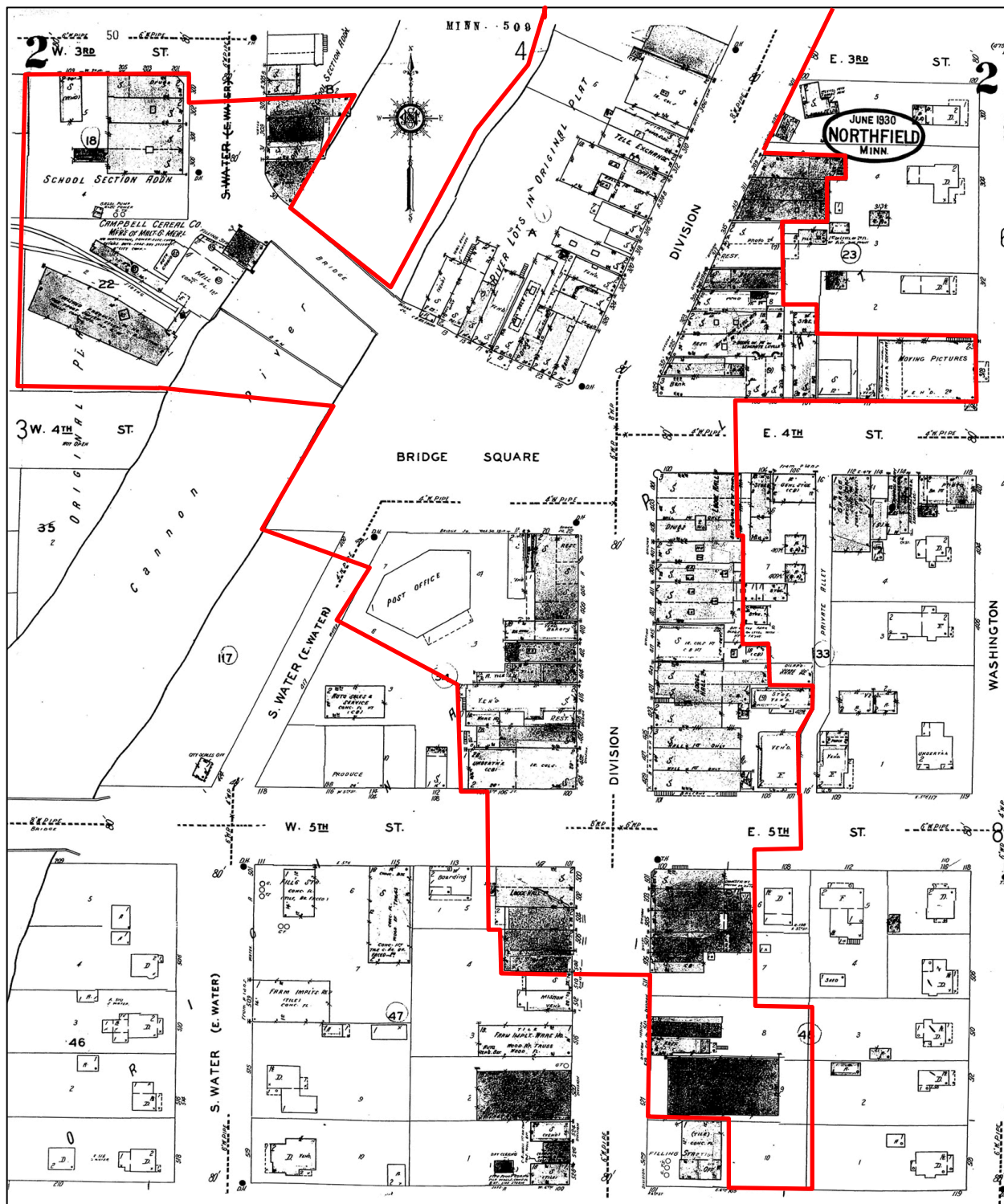


Figure 4. Partial Northfield Commercial Historic District boundary shown on Sanborn Map (1930), updated to 1943.

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

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Figure 5. Division Street in ca. 1925, facing north from E. 5th Street. (Northfield Historical Society)

Northfield Commercial Historic District

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County and State



**Figure 6. Ames Mill in ca. 1915, facing south from S. Water Street.  
(Northfield Historical Society)**



**Figure 7. Bridge Square, ca. 1925, facing west from Division Street. (Northfield Historical Society)**

Northfield Commercial Historic District

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**Figure 8. Plummer Corner and S. Water Street area, ca. 1925, facing north. (Northfield Historical Society)**



Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State



**Figure 9. Scriver Block Building and 400 Block of Division Street, looking southwest, in 1925. (Northfield Historical Society)**



**Figure 10. Central Block and 400 Block of Division Street, looking south, in ca. 1900. (Northfield Historical Society)**

Northfield Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Rice, Minnesota

County and State



**Figure 11. Bridge Square aerial view, looking northeast, ca. 1940.  
(Northfield Historical Society)**



**Figure 12. Hodne Associates, Bridge Square drawing, looking west,  
ca. 1966. Northfield National Bank is shown at right. (City of Northfield)**