Finding Aid to the
Strategic Survey of Historic Properties, Buffalo, North Dakota, 2001-2002
Research Records

Isern, Thomas D.
.4 linear ft.
Collection number: Mss 348

OVERVIEW

Finding aid to the Research Records Near South Side Residential Area, Grand Forks, North Dakota: An Update Survey Research Records

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HISTORY

A survey of historic structures in the city of Buffalo, North Dakota, was conducted by the City of Buffalo Historic Preservation Commission in the years 2001-2002. Volunteers working with the assistance of a grant of historic preservation funds from the State Historical Society of North Dakota selected and surveyed thirty sites in Buffalo. The sites comprised sixty-four features. Twenty-eight of the thirty sites were adjudged, or contained features that were adjudged, to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. All twenty-eight were considered significant under NR Criterion A, for historic associations; nineteen also were considered significant under NR Criterion C, for design. Eighteen sites were classified as eligible for the register on an individual basis. The survey also suggested several possible themes for multiple property nominations and, perhaps most important, explored prospects for a historic district or districts in Buffalo. A Central Buffalo Historic District, comprising twelve significant, eligible, and contributing properties (along with six noncontributing properties) was delineated. Both individual nominations to the National Register and the designation of a historic district or districts would encourage preservation of the historic resources of the city, bolster community identity, and draw attention to possibilities for community development through use of historic buildings.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The research records of NDSU Professor of History Thomas Isern consist of surveys of the historic properties of Buffalo, N.D. in 2001-2002. These architectural analyses consist of photos, maps, and reports. In addition to the analyses, the collection contains four folders of related information, including a summary of a 1995 survey and Isern and Hoffer’s 2002 updated summary. There are two series in the collection: Background and Surveys.

The Background Series consists of documents relating to the entirety of the project rather than to specific properties. Included here is a copy of the final survey report, Strategic Survey of Historic Properties, Buffalo, North Dakota, 2001-2002, published by the Institute in 2003, part of its Dakota Monographs series.

The Survey Series includes the NDCRS Site Forms of buildings in Buffalo that were selected to participate in the survey. The Site Forms are comprised of survey reports, photos, and maps. There is a draft outline of the possible Historic District and there are two folders of Updates from 2002 included in the Survey Files Series.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

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<td>1/1</td>
<td>Finding aid including Historical information, and Biography for Dr. Isern</td>
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Background Series

1/2  Strategic Survey of Historic Properties, Buffalo, North Dakota, 2001-2002

Surveys Series

1/3  Draft of Historic District
1/4  NDCRS Site Forms – Original 2001 – North by SITS#s
1/5  NDCRS Site Forms – Original 2001 – South by SITS#s
1/6  NDCRS Site Forms – Update 2002 – North by SITS#s
1/7  NDCRS Site Forms – Update 2002 – South by SITS#s