

Inventory Number: RA-RVC-00055
Historic Name: Minimal Traditional House Address: 158 County Road B West

Description Narrative

This one-and-one-half-story, rectangular-plan, Minimal Traditional house was constructed in 1946, according to tax assessor records and available aerial imagery.¹ It is of frame construction and is clad in original wood siding with board-and-batten siding in the front gable end. It has a concrete-block foundation. Asphalt shingles cover the cross-gable roof, and an exterior brick chimney is located at the side (west) elevation. Windows are original, six-over-six, wood sash, with a single fixed wood window at the front gable end and replacement vinyl egress basement-level windows on the front (north) facade. The entrance on the facade includes a small concrete stoop and replacement door and is accessed via concrete steps with a decorative metal railing. A single-bay, detached garage with wood siding is located to the southeast. Alterations to the house appear to be limited to the replacement front door and basement-level windows on the facade.

Significance Narrative

A detailed historic context is presented in *Phase I Architecture/History Survey and Phase II Evaluation for the G Line Bus Rapid Transit Project*. This house was constructed in 1946, according to tax assessor data, and is depicted in 1947 aerial imagery. Building permits were not available for this property; therefore, an original owner, architect, or builder were not identified. Aerial imagery from 1947 depicts it as one of three small adjacent dwellings along this portion of County Road B, with very limited surrounding development.² The property does not appear in city directories until 1956, with Charles W. Snyder listed at the address at that time.³ Charles lived with his wife, Vivian, and worked as a fireman on the Northern Pacific Railroad. He still occupied the home in 1983.⁴

This property was evaluated under National Register of Historic Places (National Register) *Criteria A, B, and C*. Research did not yield any evidence to indicate that the property possesses significance as it relates to residential development in Roseville or Ramsey County. Thus, the property lacks significance under *Criterion A: History*. Research did not reveal potential significance for this property under *Criterion B: Significant Person*. The property was not assessed under *Criterion D* as part of this evaluation. This property was considered for its potential to contribute to a historic district, but no potential district was identified.

Under *Criterion C*, the house retains many character-defining features of the Minimal Traditional style, including its original compact massing and footprint, cross-gable roof with no eave overhang, lack of ornamentation, and original wood siding and wood windows. Although Minimal Traditional houses were common during the post-World War II era, many have had alterations over time, including additions and replacement siding and windows. This property is potentially significant for its level of integrity as a relatively rare, intact example of the style. Additional contextual information and comparative analysis is needed to support a determination of eligibility; however, for the purposes of Section 106, the property is considered eligible for the National Register under *Criterion C: Architecture*.

¹ "Aerial Image, Ramsey County, Minnesota," *Historic Aerials by NETROnline*, 1947, <https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer>.

² "Aerial Image, Ramsey County, Minnesota," *Historic Aerials by NETROnline*, 1947.

³ R. L. Polk & Co., Publishers, *St. Paul City Directory* (St. Paul, Minnesota, 1956, p. 91).

⁴ R.L. Polk & Co., *St. Paul City Directory* (St. Paul, Minnesota, 1983, p. 95).

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Bibliography

"Aerial Image, Ramsey County, Minnesota." *Historic Aerials by NETROnline*, 1947.
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Mead & Hunt, Inc. *Phase I Survey/Phase II Evaluation of the METRO G Line Bus Rapid Transit Corridor, Ramsey and Dakota Counties, Minnesota*. Prepared for Metro Transit, a division of Metropolitan Council, 2024.

R.L. Polk & Co. *St. Paul City Directory*. Saint Paul, Minn.: R.L. Polk & Co., 1956.

———. *St. Paul City Directory*. Saint Paul, Minn.: R.L. Polk & Co., 1983.

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Photographs



RA-RVC-00055, January 29, 2024, front (north) facade, side (east) elevation, and detached garage, view facing southwest.



RA-RVC-00055, January 29, 2024, front (north) facade and side (west) elevation, view facing southeast.