

# CITYWIDE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR A MINNEAPOLIS AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC AND CULTURAL CONTEXT STUDY

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Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota

April 2022

**PREPARED FOR:**

City of Minneapolis

Department of Community Planning & Economic Development

505 4th Avenue South, Room 320

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LANGE JOHNSON DEVELOPMENT



**106GROUP**

Connecting People + Place + Time

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

In 2020, the Minneapolis Department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) was awarded an [African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund](#) Grant through the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Grants from the fund are designed to advance ongoing preservation activities for historic places representing African American cultural heritage. CPED hired a consultant team of Lange Johnson Development, Equity Strategies, LLC, and 106 Group to conduct citywide community outreach to gather feedback on content and deliverables for a future comprehensive African American Historic and Cultural Context Study for the City of Minneapolis. A portion of the grant was also used to provide stipends to stakeholders who participated in community engagement meetings and individual interviews. The community outreach efforts sought to collect feedback on the needs and wants of the community relative to heritage preservation. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all six community engagement meetings were held virtually. The consultant team also conducted interviews with individual community members. Additionally, the City created a [website](#) to introduce the project and receive feedback digitally.

With the adoption of the City's comprehensive plan, *Minneapolis 2040*, new policies were drafted to promote educational, outreach, and engagement opportunities related to heritage preservation among communities that have been traditionally underrepresented. Despite the consistently growing African American population in Minneapolis, the City has conducted no historic surveys, context studies or inventories related to African American heritage or experience. Places associated with African American history comprise a small portion of local landmark and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) listings. Additionally, many important places associated with African American heritage in Minneapolis have been lost or erased, due to intentional arson, construction of interstates, and urban renewal initiatives, among other factors. This outreach effort initiated an open conversation with African American residents regarding how they want to see their heritage documented, honored and preserved, and will be the first phase in a multi-phase project to complete a comprehensive Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study.

The community engagement sessions produced a sense of affirmation among speakers and attendees that these sessions promoted the emergence of new knowledge and authorship, and seemed to inspire audiences to become critically curious and committed to continuing in this journey of discovery. There seemed to be a renewed commitment that some of these long-forgotten histories are essential to preserve the memory of those who contributed much to the Minneapolis community. These stories of joy, love, connection, daily life, great achievement, creativity, resilience, discrimination, limitations, violence, destruction, and harm are essential to the story of Minneapolis. Through documentation, wider conversation, and ultimately action, we can build a more inclusive narrative that honors the African American experience in Minneapolis and brings greater awareness to the surrounding community.

Our consultant team included a retired State of Minnesota judge, human rights advocate, and Black History preservationist; a community engagement specialist; an architectural historian; a law student; and a Geographic Information System (GIS) specialist. Short profiles of the primary authors are included

below. By combining our different perspectives and expertise, we were able to produce a robust document that can guide the City of Minneapolis and the African American community for years to come.

### **Minnesota Honorary Consul, Judge LaJune Lange**

The Honorable LaJune Thomas Lange began her legal career with the Hennepin County Public Defender's Office as a trial lawyer until appointed by the governor to the trial court in 1985. Judge Lange served as a Fourth Judicial District Court Judge for the State of Minnesota handling complex civil and criminal cases until her recent retirement. Judge Lange now serves as Senior Fellow with the Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice at the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs. She is a founding member of the Minnesota Minority Lawyers Association and has served on the Minnesota State Bar Association Board of Governors, Minnesota Women Lawyers, Minnesota Public Interest Research Foundation, American Bar Association, National Bar Association, Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers, Minnesota Supreme Court Racial Bias Task Force. Judge Lange is an internationally recognized expert in human rights and the rule of law in developing nations.

### **Antonia Apolinário-Wilcoxon, EdD**

Dr. Antonia Apolinário-Wilcoxon provides direction and leadership in efforts of private, public, and collaborative efforts working to improve the lives of disenfranchised and vulnerable persons impacted by inequities. She obtained her doctorate degree in education focusing on critical studies informed by Critical Pedagogy theorists. An African-Brazilian, she brings experiences in education, corporate, private nonprofits and government to lead efforts that bring agency, voice and liberation in spaces where the presence of Oppression, bias and other barriers, silence those most valuable voices to find solutions to problems in their world. Dr. Apolinário-Wilcoxon's approach is one of listening deeply, exercising inquiry to enable wisdom and insights to emerge. Her facilitation is participatory, inclusive, resourceful, caring, and thoughtful. Trained in Respectful Conversations, Kaleidoscope Institute Faith-Based Facilitation, Technology of Participation (Institute of Cultural Affairs) and Art of Hosting/Art of Participatory Leadership, she blends these methodologies to attend to her audience's needs and motivation more responsively.

### **Erin Que, M.A.**

Erin Que is a Senior Architectural Historian at 106 Group. Erin leads reconnaissance and intensive architectural history surveys, historic context studies, design review, local designation studies, and documentation as part of mitigation efforts. Her work supports local preservation goals and ensures compliance with Section 106 and state cultural resources regulations. Her love of storytelling extends to interpretive writing for wayside exhibits and audio descriptions for state and national parks, making the stories accessible to a wide audience. As an advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion, she is passionate about bringing more voices to the table and telling a fuller story. Erin exceeds the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards* for Architectural History and History (as published in the Federal Register of September 29, 1983).

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The consultant team would like to thank the following individuals for their participation in this project:

## COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Gary Hines  
Harry Spike Moss  
DeSha Russell  
Harry Davis, Jr.  
Vivian Jenkins Nelsen  
Rev. Billy G. Russell  
Rev. Tracey Gibson  
Dr. Rose Brewer  
William English  
Theatrice Williams  
Tracey Williams-Dillard  
Angela Rose Myers  
Mel Reeves  
Coventry Cowens  
Leesa Kelly  
Seitu Jones  
Emory Carter  
Jonathan Carter

## CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

Robert Skalecki  
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## RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

Ardena Flippin  
Sharon Garth  
Ted Hathaway, Hennepin County Library  
Abigail Loyd, University of Minnesota

This report is dedicated to the memory of Mel Reeves, who passed away in January 2022 due to complications from COVID-19. We are grateful for his participation in this project and his many contributions to and on behalf of the African American community in Minneapolis.

Photographic sources are credited when known. Use rights were not acquired for this report.

This project was funded by a grant from the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation with support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

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# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

In 2020, the Minneapolis Department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) was awarded an [African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund](#) Grant through the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Grants from the fund are designed to advance ongoing preservation activities for historic places representing African American cultural heritage. CPED hired a consultant team of Lange-Johnson Development, Equity Strategies, LLC, and 106 Group to conduct citywide community outreach to gather feedback on content and deliverables for a future comprehensive African American Historic and Cultural Context Study for the City of Minneapolis. A portion of the grant was also used to provide stipends to stakeholders who participated in community engagement meetings and individual interviews. The community outreach efforts sought to collect feedback on the needs and wants of the community relative to heritage preservation. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all six community engagement meetings were held virtually. The consultant team also conducted interviews with individual community members. Additionally, the City created a [website](#) to introduce the project and receive feedback digitally.

With the adoption of the City's comprehensive plan, Minneapolis 2040, new policies were drafted to promote educational, outreach, and engagement opportunities related to heritage preservation among communities that have been traditionally underrepresented. Despite the consistently growing African American population in Minneapolis, the City has conducted no historic surveys, context studies or inventories related to African American heritage or experience. Places associated with African American history comprise a small portion of local landmark and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) listings. Additionally, many important places associated with African American heritage in Minneapolis have been lost or erased, due to intentional arson, construction of interstates, and urban renewal initiatives, among other factors. This outreach effort initiated an open conversation with African American residents regarding how they want to see their heritage documented, honored and preserved, and will be the first phase in a multi-phase project to complete a comprehensive Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study.

This report includes the following sections:

- A summary of outreach efforts (Section 2.0, Appendix A, Appendix B, Appendix E);
- Identification of key thematic areas (Section 3.0);
- Draft historic context outline (Section 4.0);
- Maps, photographs, and a list of potential sites or areas of historical significance related to African American heritage in Minneapolis (Section 5.0, Appendix C, Appendix D); and
- Recommendations for future actions (Section 6.0).

References are included after Section 6.0 and should be used as a starting point for the future historic context study.

## 2.0 SUMMARY OF OUTREACH EFFORTS

A joint group of three organizations came together, led by Retired Judge LaJune Lange, partner with lead organization Lange Johnson Development; Ms. Erin Que, Senior Architectural Historian at 106 Group; Ms. Shonice Pooniwala, researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development, and J.D. Candidate 2023 at the University of Minnesota Law School; and Antonia Wilcoxon, EdD, principal with the consulting company Equity Strategies, LLC, and facilitated six two-hour-long sessions using Zoom as the platform. The team created Eventbrite invitations to promote each session, which were shared to personal contacts by email and via social media. Interested members of the public had to register for the free events in order to receive the meeting link, which in turn allowed the consultant to team to collect email addresses for future communications. Zoom was selected as the platform to increase accessibility to the public. Slides of the panel members were featured as they spoke or were introduced.

The sessions were framed under the topics as outlined in the consultant team's project proposal (see tables on subsequent pages). Panel members were selected and interviewed ahead of time in preparation for the online evening sessions. Meetings were scheduled from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm. Key members of the team met a half-hour in advance of each session to clear any technical issues with technical administrators: Mr. Emory Carter and Mr. Jonathan Carter. These gentlemen also provided technical coordination of slides, sounds, and any needed technical assistance. It made for a smooth operation of such an important time to hear historic leaders in Minneapolis.

A standard agenda prefaced the beginning of each meeting: an introduction of the team, the city planner, and the topic of discussion for the evening. Self-supplied panel member bios provided introduction to the audience and the focus question was read. Powerpoint presentations were prepared by the consultant team to accompany the panel member introductions (see Appendix A). Some content was provided directly by panel members. Other content was identified by Judge Lange and Antonia Wilcoxon, the latter of whom assembled the presentations for Judge Lange's approval.

Panel members had between 20 and 25 minutes to answer the focus question. After reading of the focus question, panel members were given time to offer their comments. Audience members posed questions on the Chat Box. Facilitator asked audience members permission how they wished their queries posed: Dr. Wilcoxon could read them out loud or the person could pose the question themselves. Each evening, audience members were able to interact with panelists who were actual knowledge keepers of the history of this beloved community. Buildings, community social services, social justice movements that had its origins in this city, unknown to most in the audience were woven into recollections of memory, recollections, and bittersweet acknowledgment of progress in some areas and lack of progress in many instances as the events of the year 2020 re-emerged during the conversation.

Attendance varied from a high of 30-35 to 10-15. Short surveys were completed at each session. All sessions were recorded and provided to the City of Minneapolis. A website created by the City of Minneapolis provides additional source of continued collection of input and feedback.

Preparation for each meeting entailed extensive pre-work:

- Interviews by retired Judge Lange, and her research assistant,
- review of various social media, archived photos and a number of newspaper articles where the panel members featured their accomplishments, interviews, or
- headlined events important in the history of the city of Minneapolis.

Consultant Wilcoxon contacted her network of professional colleagues and clients to advertise each event. She also contacted professional connections at the Radio Stations KMOJ and KFAI to seek support in advertising the events. Community Activist Art Serotoff provided positive recommendations for the events in his extensive Equity Community network.

The consultant team held weekly morning debriefing sessions after each evening session, and feedback was incorporated for improvement or modification.

## Participating Organizations

The following individuals and their corresponding organizations, if applicable, participated in the community engagement meetings as speakers:

- Dr. Rose M. Brewer, Professor of African American Studies at the University of Minnesota
- Coventry Royster Cowens, co-founder of the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery
- Harry W. Davis, Jr., Black sports club supporter
- William “Bill” English, member of the distinguished Monitors Club and founding member of Sabathani Community Center
- Rev. Doctor Tracey Gibson, St. James AME Church
- Gary Hines, founding member of Sounds of Blackness
- Seitu Jones, artist
- Leesa Kelly, executive director of Memorialize the Movement
- Harry Spike Moss, founding member of KMOJ Radio, the Way, Inc. Leo Johnson Drum Corps and the City, Inc.
- Angela Rose Myers, president of the Minneapolis chapter of the NAACP
- Vivian Jenkins Nelsen, co-founder of INTER-RACE and former social worker for Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House
- Mel Reeves, writer for the *Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder*
- Rev. Doctor Billy G. Russell, Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
- DeSha Russell, local and national gospel artist
- Theartrice (“T”) Williams, former director of Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House



- Tracey L. Williams-Dillard, publisher of the *Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder*

## Methodology

Equity Strategies, LLC brings expertise in participatory strategic planning, inclusive community and partner engagements, and communications, all essential elements to making this project successfully achieve its goals. Engagement approaches such as Art of Hosting, Technology of Participation, Respectful Conversations, and a commitment to inclusive and participatory encounters produces a superior product in which the community members are the actors and authors of their own narrative.

Due to the COVID-19 safety protocols in place, all sessions were held online. Engagement procedures to maintain the attention and respect for “Zoom fatigue” were followed. Panel members spoke while photos of significant events they described were featured using PowerPoint. Music welcomed each session and music was also streamed at the conclusion of each session.

Panel members strategically selected engaged in conversation as they recollected events in which they shared a common history and participation. Audience members expressed their appreciation for new discovery at the sessions when some new information was shared. There were poignant occasions of first-person accounts of acts of courage, bravery, and triumph in spite of injustice and dehumanizing acts.

As we concluded the sessions each evening, there was a sense of affirmation that these sessions promoted the emergence of new knowledge and authorship, and seemed to inspire audiences to become critically curious and committed to continuing in this journey of discovery. There seemed to be a renewed commitment that some of these long-forgotten histories are essential to preserve the memory of those who contributed much to the Minneapolis community.

The following pages include a high-level summary of each session, panel members, and questions. Survey results are also included as screenshots from the Zoom sessions. Agendas and presentations from each meeting are included in Appendix A.

October 12, 2021

Topic	Panel Members	Focus Question	Survey Questions
Black Music in Minneapolis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Gary Hines - Sounds of Blackness</li> <li>• Mr. Harry Spike Moss – Mentoring</li> <li>• Ms. DeSha Russell – Black Church Music</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do most residents know about the contributions of African Americans to the Music, Venues of Performances, and the Early Founders in the city of Minneapolis?</li> <li>• What would you like for them to learn?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it important to document, honor and preserve these contributions? (Yes, No)</li> <li>• How should we preserve these contributions? (Recordings, statues, music hall of fame in Minneapolis)</li> <li>• How would you like to show the next generation the contributions? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Music History Tours)</li> </ul>



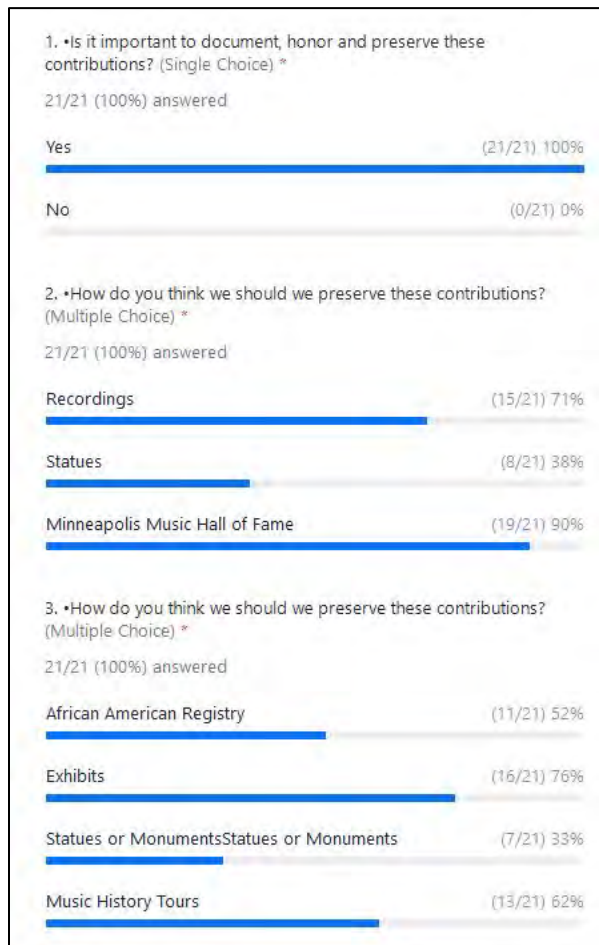
Gary Hines (Courtesy of Gary Hines)



Harry Spike Moss (Courtesy of Inver Hills Community College)



DeSha Russell (Courtesy of DeSha Russell)



October 12, 2021 Survey Results<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> We had a technical issue with this survey and one question was duplicated.

October 19, 2021

Topic	Focus Question	Survey Questions
Black Homes and Leisure Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What do residents in Minneapolis know about the history of African American family home and customs that became a part of America’s identity? What were beloved activities that children engaged in, what chores did their families depended on to preserve their garden harvests, hunting game and fishing? What about activities like golf, ice skating, baseball, football and boxing?</li> <li>Vivian, could you please also comment on holiday traditions, special foods, neighborhood gatherings and barbecues? Thank you.</li> <li>What do we know about games and storytelling passed down from one’s ears to the next, passing down the identity of what it truly means to be African American?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it important to document, honor and preserve these events, and histories? (Yes, No)</li> <li>How should we preserve these places and people’s histories? (Recordings, statues, Museum in Minneapolis)</li> <li>How would you like to show the next generation these histories? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Tours of Historic Homes)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Panel Members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Vivian Jenkins Nelsen is the co-founder (with her late husband George) of INTER-RACE, a diversity think tank located at Augsburg College in Minneapolis</li> <li>Mr. Harry W. Davis Jr. was a golfer at Hiawatha for the last 20 years, and a native Minneapolis resident for 75 years, Harry Davis has followed the plan for the future of our beloved Hiawatha Golf Course.</li> </ul>		



Vivian Jenkins Nelsen (Courtesy of Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder)



Harry Davis, Jr.



October 19, 2021 Survey Results

October 26, 2021

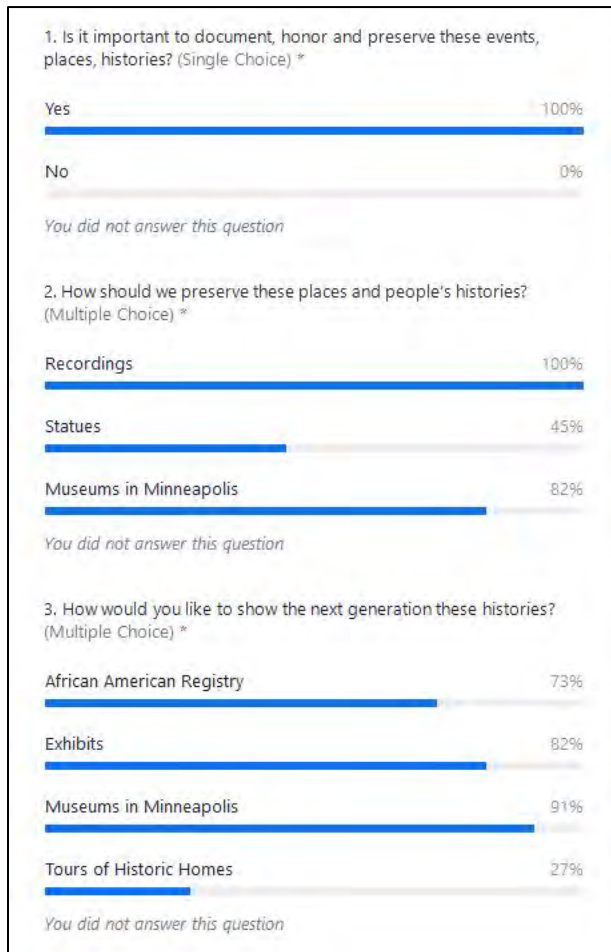
Topic	Panel Members	Focus Question	Survey Questions
Black Houses of Worship in Minneapolis, 1860-2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rev. Doctor Tracey Gibson</li> <li>• Rev. Doctor Billy G. Russell</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do residents in Minneapolis know about the history of places of worship where African Americans left their mark?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it important to document, honor and preserve these places, and their histories? (Yes, No)</li> <li>• How should we preserve these places and histories? (Recordings, statues, Museum in Minneapolis)</li> <li>• How would you like to show the next generation these histories? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Tours of Historic Homes)</li> </ul>



Tracey Gibson (Courtesy of Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal)



Billy G. Russell (Courtesy of Billy G. Russell)



October 26, 2021 Survey Results

November 9, 2021

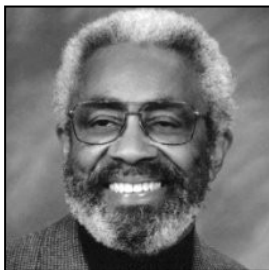
Topic	Panel Members	Focus Question	Survey Questions
Businesses, Professional and Social Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Rose M. Brewer</li> <li>• William "Bill" English</li> <li>• Theartrice ("T") Williams</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do residents in Minneapolis know about the history of Minneapolis African American Businesses, Professionals and Social Organizations?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it important to document, honor and preserve the people places, and their histories? (Yes, No)</li> <li>• How should we preserve the people, places and histories? (Recordings, statues, Museum in Minneapolis)</li> <li>• How would you like to show the next generation these histories? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Tours of Historic Homes)</li> </ul>



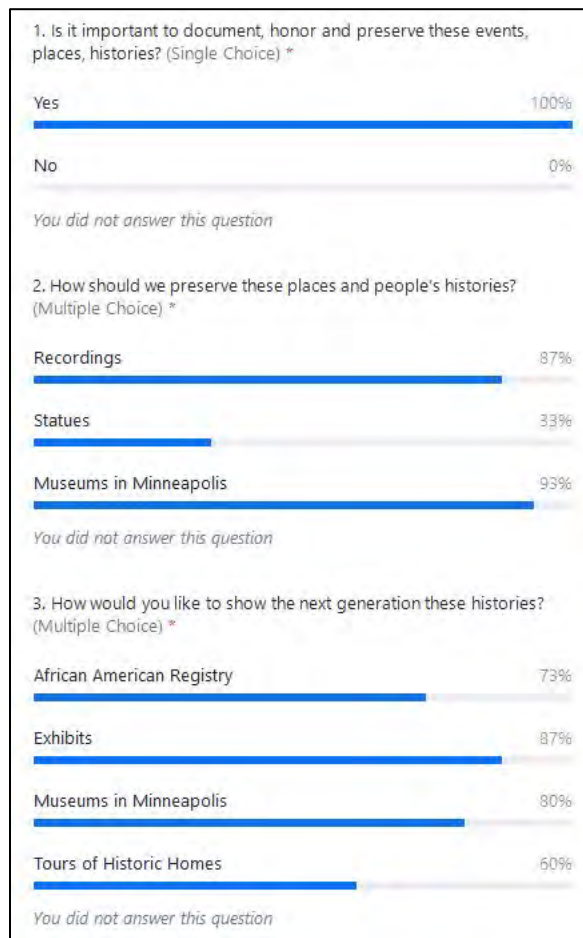
Rose Brewer  
(Photo by Eric Mueller)



Bill English (Courtesy of Bill English)



T Williams (Courtesy of The Hypatia Group, Inc.)



November 9, 2021 Survey Results

November 16, 2021

Topic	Panel Members	Focus Question	Survey Questions
Sites of Consciousness for the Black Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Tracey L. Williams-Dillard</li> <li>Mr. Mel Reeves</li> <li>Ms. Angela Rose Myers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How can the Minneapolis African American community identify people, places and buildings that are so seared into the Consciousness of the Black Community that there should be formal recognition for future generations and visitors.</li> <li>What should be saved and protected?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it important to document, honor and preserve the people places, and buildings? (Yes, No)</li> <li>How should we preserve the people, places and buildings? (Recordings, statues, Museum in Minneapolis)</li> <li>How would you like to show the next generation formally recognize this history for future generations and visitors? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Tours of Historic Homes)</li> </ul>



Tracey Williams-Dillard (Courtesy of Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal)



Mel Reeves (Courtesy of Mel Reeves)



Angela Rose Myers (Photo by Nina Robinson)



November 16, 2021 Survey Results

November 23, 2021

Topic	Focus Question	Survey Questions
Arts and Culture in the Black Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your experience as knowledge preservers of African American Arts and Culture it is very critical to Minneapolis as we talk about the challenges of the present, your vision for the future and addressing a history of funding inequality for African American Arts and Culture as well as investments in Historic preservation of African American Arts and Culture in Minneapolis.</li> <li>We know that walls of art have been destroyed and artistic representation of historic places, people and events often garner fleeting recognition. We are interested in your views of sites in Minneapolis that you believe are significant enough to the Black Community to be protected?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it important to document, honor and preserve African American Arts and Culture? (Yes, No)</li> <li>How should we preserve African American Arts and Culture? (Recordings, statues, Museum in Minneapolis)</li> <li>How would you like to show the next generation formally recognize the historic preservation of African American Arts and Culture? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Tours of Historic Homes)</li> </ul>
<b>Panel Members</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Coventry Royster Cowens</li> <li>Ms. Leesa Kelly</li> <li>Mr. Seitu Jones</li> </ul>		



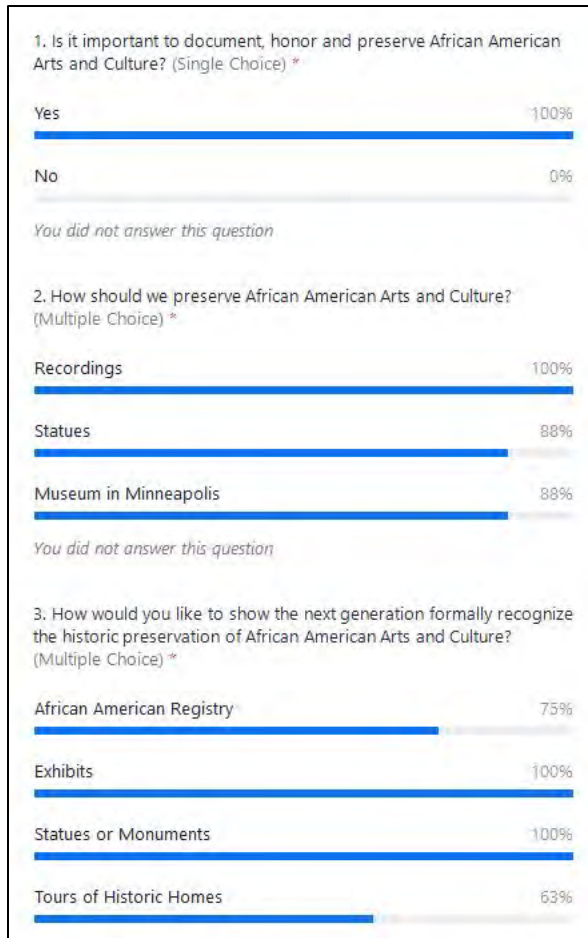
Coventry Royster Cowens  
(Courtesy of MAAHMG)



Leesa Kelly (Photo by Nina Robinson for MPR)



Seitu Jones (Courtesy of Seitu Jones)



November 23, 2021 Survey Results

## Stakeholder Interviews

Judge LaJune Lange conducted individual interviews with the following individuals with their contributions to the project's content noted:

- Vuyiswa Nyirenda – early history of the Lion King rehearsals and production in Minneapolis
- Pete Rhodes – founder of Minnesota Black Music Awards
- Harry Davis, Jr. – Black sports club supporter, active at Hiawatha Golf Course, descendant of early African American family in Minneapolis
- Harry Spike Moss – Founding member of KMOJ Radio, the Way, Inc. Leo Johnson Drum Corps and the City, Inc., long-time mentor for young musicians
- Gary Hines – founding member of the Grammy Award winning Sounds of Blackness, director, mentor, and producer
- Sharon Garth – early history of Zion Baptist Church
- Joyce Hughes – first Black woman to receive a law degree from the University of Minnesota, among other accolades
- Mahmoud El-Kati - professor, historian, and social justice advocate
- Skyp Lee – retired Minneapolis firefighter and relative of Arthur Lee

Recordings were provided to the City of Minneapolis of interviews for which the individual provided consent.

## Additional Outreach

On January 28, 2022, Judge Lange spoke at the virtual Black History Month Kickoff Celebration and Council Resolution Event, upon the invitation of Minneapolis City Council President Andrea Jenkins. The City Council includes six Black council members this term, which is a historic first for the City. Judge Lange shared information about this project and invited Council members to notify their constituents and encourage them to provide feedback through the online form. Information was included in the Ward 8 email newsletter on February 10, 2022, and the Ward 7 email newsletter on February 11, 2022. The project was also promoted in the March 21, 2022 newsletter from the City of Minneapolis Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy (ACCE).



## 3.0 THEMATIC AREAS

At the start of the project, the consultant team identified the following thematic areas around which community engagement sessions would be focused. They were each addressed by speakers across the six sessions:

- African American Neighborhoods
- Homes and Leisure/Recreation
- Places of Worship
- Arts and Culture
- Entertainment, Restaurants, and Clubs
- Businesses, Shops, and Professional Services
- Fraternal Organizations
- Sites of Consciousness

As we look ahead to the future context study, it was important to consider the following areas of significance within which a property may be eligible or listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and in what areas potential sites associated with African American history in Minneapolis could have significance (see table in Section 5.0):

- Agriculture
- Architecture
- Archeology
- Art
- Commerce
- Communications
- Community Planning and Development
- Conservation
- Economics
- Education
- Engineering
- Entertainment/Recreation
- Ethnic Heritage – Black
- Exploration/Settlement
- Health/Medicine
- Industry
- Invention
- Landscape Architecture
- Law
- Literature
- Maritime History
- Military
- Performing Arts
- Philosophy
- Politics/Government
- Religion
- Science
- Social History
- Transportation

In preparation for and during the implementation of each community engagement session, it was confirmed that the thematic areas are intersectional, meaning that they cannot be considered only in isolation. Thematic areas frequently overlap. Similarly, many properties on the list of potential sites of significance are not limited to one area of significance.

The following thematic areas have been identified to serve as anchors in the future historic context study:

1. Arrival (1820s to present)
2. Residential Life and Neighborhoods (1820s to present)
3. Religion and Houses of Worship (1860 to present)
4. Employment and Professional Growth (1820s to present)
5. Community, Social Organizations, Recreation, and Education (1820s to present)
6. Arts, Design, Music, and Culture (1820s to present)
7. Segregation, Discrimination, Civil Rights, and Reclamation (1820s to present)

## 4.0 DRAFT HISTORIC CONTEXT OUTLINE

The future historic context study will provide a foundation within which key sites of historical significance can be evaluated for NRHP eligibility and listing, and designation as local landmarks. It will also provide a framework for the future preservation of these sites and the community's history. The context will describe the history of African Americans in Minneapolis, from the 1820s to the present. The physical extent of the context will be the current boundaries of the city of Minneapolis. However, the African American experience in Minneapolis transcends geographic boundaries and is part of much larger regional, state, national, and international contexts.

The outline presented below was informed by speaker remarks during community engagement sessions and additional research, conducted primarily by Judge Lange with support from Erin Que. Historic contexts are often presented chronologically. However, for a historic context centered on an entire community's history, intersectionality is imperative as historical events and significant people do not exist within one theme alone. Throughout the outline, names of significant individuals and key places appear under multiple thematic areas. Locations can be cross-referenced with the table in Section 5.0. Across each thematic area, there are common threads related to survival, resilience, displacement, and exclusion. At the same time, there are countless stories of creativity in spite of obstacles, reclamation, and empowerment. African Americans in Minneapolis repeatedly created their own space when they were excluded from others, due to racist policies as well as social behavior.

Some photographs of people are included in the outline. There are many more photographs available in local repositories that should be included in the future context study. References are included after Section 6.0. Photographs of buildings and key places are included in Appendix D.

### Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study

- Abstract/Management Summary
  - Acknowledgements
- Introduction
  - Goal and scope of the project
  - Summary of previous stage of work
- Research Design and Methodology

#### 1. Arrival (1820s to present)

- African Americans have lived in Minneapolis for approximately 200 years, arriving in the city for a variety of reasons and continually over time.
- Fort Snelling (1820s-1857)
  - Enslaved laborers brought by officers (estimated 15-30+ at any given time)

- Harry Davis, Jr.'s great-great-grandfather John Wesley Harper (a Spanish soldier) was shipped to Fort Snelling to oversee cattle, then married an African American woman (Armenitha) and had 16 kids, he was discharged from the army, stayed in Minnesota
- Reverend Robert Hickman and a group of about 75 Black men and women sought freedom from their enslavers in Missouri via a raft on the Mississippi River, towed by the *Northerner* steamship, landed at Fort Snelling, employed by U.S. Army officials.
  - Hickman also founded Pilgrim Baptist Church in St. Paul, and other community members became part of St. James AME in Minneapolis (St. James AME was founded in St. Anthony in 1860).
  - This group was the incubator for the prosperity of the early Black community in Minneapolis.
- Dred Scott and Harriet Robinson met and married here in 1830s, and had two children. Dred was enslaved by Army Surgeon John Emerson. Harriet was enslaved by U.S. Indian Agent Lawrence Taliaferro. The Scott family moved with the Emersons to St. Louis in 1840. Their home at Fort Snelling was part of their suit for freedom in the 1857 U.S. Supreme Court case *Scott v. Sandford*.
- Rachel and Courtney, both sued for their freedom and won
- James Thompson enslaved as of 1827 and emancipated in 1837
- Early Community Members
  - Enslaved laborers brought by fur traders and vacationing southerners
    - Eliza Winston was brought to Minnesota by her owner from Mississippi, the Greys helped her gain freedom
  - Free people
    - Emily O. Goodridge Grey (arrived in 1857) and Ralph Toyer Grey (arrived in 1855) were abolitionists and businessowners, worked with other St. Anthony residents to fight slavery, lived in Winslow House Hotel, hosted Frederick Douglass during his visit
      - Second son, Touissant L'Ouverture Grey, was the first Black child born in St. Anthony
    - Amos Yancy and Mary Ellen Johnson – lived at 3rd Avenue North near 1st Street, Amos worked as a laborer at the J.B. Basset & Company planing mill, became foreman
    - George Hall (great-uncle of John Samuel Wright) – arrived by 1874 and worked as barber in St. Paul, excluded from first state barber's union, moved to Minneapolis
    - John Samuel Wright I – active in Bethesda Baptist Church, National Afro American Council (NAAC)
    - Fannie Hall Wright – member of St. Peter's AME Church, founding head of the Colored Women's Pioneer Economic Development Club
    - Ida Dorsey – known for running multiple brothels from the 1880s to the 1910s in Minneapolis, at 125 2nd Street North, 116 Second Avenue, and 212 11th Avenue South,

which she built and was one of the first bordellos in the new Eleventh Avenue Red Light District

- Underground Railroad
  - National Park Service map identifies Minneapolis on the route
- Settlement in the mid- to late 1800s
  - Black churches would send people from the Northeastern U.S. to Minnesota one at a time to get acclimated to the area and people before sending other folks after them
  - Frederick Douglass visited Minneapolis in 1873
- Great Migration (1910s-1970s)
  - Seeking freedom from the oppression of Jim Crow
  - Economic opportunities
  - Educational opportunities
  - Joining family members
- Recent Immigrants from Somalia, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Liberia, Eritrea, and others



Figure 1. Harriet Robinson Scott and Dred Scott<sup>2</sup>

## 2. Residential Life and Neighborhoods (1820s to present)

- Family and home life are critical components of African American identity, shaped by individual family life and support from the surrounding community.
- Neighborhood Development
  - Early settlement (c. 1850s) in St. Anthony, which would later become Minneapolis
  - Then community moved across the river, and then to south Minneapolis

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<sup>2</sup> “Harriet Robinson Scott and Dred Scott.” MNopedia. Accessed January 30, 2022.  
<https://www.mnopedia.org/multimedia/harriet-robinson-scott-and-dred-scott>.

- Redlining and Racial Covenants
  - Highest African American populations in 55411 and 55407
  - Did not live or go to Northeast Minneapolis (other areas were also known to be forbidden)
  - Understood the boundaries of where they could exist
  - Racial wealth divide
- Seven Corners – available to African Americans due to restrictive covenants
- South Minneapolis
  - South of Lake Street to 50th Street, between Lyndale and Elliott/Chicago
  - A high concentration of significant individuals grew up around 38th Street, specifically on Clinton
  - Welcoming community to new arrivals in the 1960s
  - Early 20th century African American community along Snelling Avenue, between 36th and 46th streets East
- North Minneapolis
  - Shingle Creek
    - One of the early settlements of African Americans
  - At 8th and Bryant Avenues North and Sumner Field
  - Willard-Homewood Neighborhood
    - Willard Homewood Organization (WHO) founded by Van White and George Nelsen (who was White)
    - Collective organization to rehabilitate neighborhood housing stock
  - Near North, especially along Plymouth Avenue
    - One-third of Minneapolis' African Americans lived here by 1960
    - Bisected by widening of Olson Memorial Highway
    - I-94 cut off North Side from downtown
- Pattern of African American community being pushed aside for other uses
  - In 1955, I-35W construction was introduced to get to the suburbs faster. About 1,200 houses were demolished, and the highway cut right through the zip code 55407. Kids were separated to different schools.
- One of the worst Black poverty rates in the U.S.
- Property Ownership
  - Arthur and Edith Lee House – first African American family moved into the neighborhood in 1931, experienced discrimination, represented by Lena O. Smith in the lawsuit

- Arthur's postal colleagues helped protect his home and took shifts during the lawsuit
- Many significant individuals were often the first Black property owner(s) in an all-White neighborhood
- John Samuel Wright I and Fannie Hall Wright owned two apartment buildings in Minneapolis, which became residences of leading Black families (Cecil Newmans' family, Mathew Little, Curtis and Mildred Ewing families)
- Tilsenbilt Homes
  - Developed by Archie Givens, Sr. to provide property ownership opportunities for African Americans
- Public and private housing projects, many of which are tied to urban renewal initiatives
  - Sumner Field Homes (1938)
  - Girard Terrace East / University Towers and Townhouses
  - Cecil Newman Plaza
  - Cecil Newman Courts
  - Bethune Park Apartments
  - Plymouth Avenue Apartments and Townhomes, from Girard to Morgan Avenues North
  - Minneapolis Model City urban renewal project
  - Grant Park urban renewal project
  - Glenwood Homes Project
  - Atrium Apartments (314 Hennepin)
    - Nellie Stone Johnson served on the Democratic National Committee, attended Presidential Inaugurations and used her position of influence to get African American Judges appointed to the Minnesota state courts, civil rights legislation and labor law protections while living here
- Home traditions
  - Fruit cake (Vivian Jenkins Nelsen)
  - Canning and freezing
  - Gardens



Figure 2. Children at play on Sumner Field, with W. Harry Davis, Sr. in front row, right of center<sup>3</sup>

### 3. Religion and Houses of Worship (1860 to present)

- Topics
  - Black houses of worship served the community on Sundays and every other day of the week by providing jobs, housing, and other social services.
  - Between AME and Baptist churches, the structure is different, but the core is the same.
  - Church was/is the central focus of life/neighborhoods, and also serves a social justice role.
  - Reinvention of “church” during COVID-19 pandemic – a church without walls
- AME Traditions
  - Branched off from Methodist Episcopal tradition due to discrimination/alienation
  - There are six AME churches in Minnesota, including five in the Twin Cities, of which three are in Minneapolis
  - Various colleges associated with AME church (outside Minnesota)
  - Camp Baber in Michigan owned by AME church, place for Black kids to come together that’s their own, along route for escaped slaves
  - St. James AME Church – the oldest Black congregation in Minneapolis and in Minnesota
    - Founded in 1860 by free Blacks near St. Anthony Falls (Mrs. Pa Brown and two daughters, Isaac Newton, Maddie Williams)
    - Has had six locations – history of displacement
      - They were forced to move from their fourth location (a new building) due to the railroad.
      - They were forced to move from their fifth location due to expansion of the highway.

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<sup>3</sup> Zalusky, Joseph. “Children at play on Sumner Field, Minneapolis; W. Harry Davis, front row, right of center.” Minnesota Historical Society. Accessed January 30, 2022. <http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10696092>.



- Reverend Noah Smith – former pastor, widely respected, was oldest living minister still active in the U.S. at the time of his death, later married Dr. Hallie Hendrieth Smith
  - Reverend Tracey Gibson – current pastor, serves on Board of Trustees for Luther Seminary, also Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer at Anderson Windows
- St. Peter’s AME Church
  - Established in 1880, which gave the community one AME church on each side of the river
  - Church located on 22nd Street East near 10th Avenue South, and later 41st Street East
  - Parsonage at 2205 Elliot Avenue in the early 1950s
  - Later parsonage at 5th Avenue South and 38th Street East
- Wayman AME Church
  - Served the north side Black community
  - First church followed African meeting house design and was destroyed by fire in 1938
  - Very Modern second church
  - Reverend Martin Hendrieth and first lady Hallie Hendrieth Smith in the early 1950s
- Presiding Elder Stacey L. Smith – highest ranking member of the AME church
- Baptist Traditions
  - Churches gave Baptists a home in the Twin Cities
  - There are 25 Black Baptist churches in the Twin Cities, services may differ in style/activities
  - Church leadership can run in the family
  - Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
    - Reverend Billy Russell - longtime and recently retired pastor, also served as president of Minnesota Baptist State Convention, everything in his life he owes to the church
    - Reverend Charvez Russell – newly elected pastor
    - Longtime location across from Bryant Junior High School
    - Moved to current location for greater space and to add K-6 school (Friendship Academy of the Arts)
    - Old location purchased by Seward Co-op, torn down, and the co-op is called the Friendship Store to honor the church
    - Pearls of Living events on Sundays
  - Zion Baptist Church
    - Reverend Curtis Herron – former pastor
    - Reverend Brian Herron – current pastor
  - Bethesda Missionary Baptist – founded in 1887

- John Samuel Wright I and Fannie Hall Wright provided a parsonage at 27th and 11th Avenue South
- Sabathani Baptist Church – built as a church without a sanctuary, with a gym to provide a place for young folks
- Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church
- Redeemer Missionary Baptist Church (housed at Stewart Memorial Presbyterian Church for some time)
- Other Churches
  - St. Thomas Episcopal Church (Bill English attended) – one of the first Black Episcopal churches in the state, merged into Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
  - Apostolic Faith Mission – organized in 1907, meeting in members’ houses, then renting halls, and then other locations
  - Keneseth Israel – location of First Church of God in Christ from 1948-58
  - Tifereth B’nai Jacob Synagogue – location of First Church of God in Christ since 1958
  - Border Methodist Episcopal Church – established in 1918 by 15 African Americans, had two locations, merged into Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church
  - New Covenant Church of God in Christ – three locations
- Places of Rest
  - Funeral Homes
    - Woodard Funeral Home – opened by McDuff Woodard in late 1920s, first African American funeral home, later owned by son Theodore
    - Estes Funeral Chapel
      - Tracy Wesley – longtime funeral director and CEO
    - Glenwood Funeral Home
  - Pioneer and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery
    - Nine African American soldiers who served in the United States Colored Troops – Private Solomon Hare (Co F 25th USCT), Private Woodford Anderson (Co D 17th USCT), Ruben Burley (Co C 25th USCT), Archie Ramsey (Co K 17th USCT), Amos Watkins (Co G 17th USCT), Private Oscar Vaughn (Co H 16th USCT), Thomas Jefferson, Glenis Lee, Amos Yancy
    - John W. Cheatham – the first African American firefighter in Minneapolis<sup>4</sup>
    - Morgan Jones – enslaved in Virginia who lived in Minnesota as a free man for 44 years

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<sup>4</sup> In late 2021, it was determined that Dight Avenue would be renamed Cheatham Avenue in honor of Captain Cheatham. The official renaming was held on March 17, 2022.

- William C. Goodridge – born enslaved in Maryland, freed by age 16, involved in the Underground Railroad, moved to Minnesota in 1865
- Touissant L’Ouverture Grey – first Black child born in St. Anthony
- Lakewood Cemetery
  - Lena O. Smith
  - Emily O. and Ralph Goodrich Grey
  - Dr. B. Robert Lewis
  - Dr. Robert S. Brown
  - Cecil Newman
  - Anthony Brutus “A.B.” Cassius
  - Bobby Marshall
- Crystal Lake Cemetery
  - John Wesley Harper
  - Theodore Elmer Woodard

#### 4. Employment and Professional Growth (1820s to present)

- Commerce
  - Black Wall Street (38th Street East & 4th Avenue South)
    - Black-owned businesses patronized by the Black community and provided jobs
    - Streetcar and bus service operated on a regular service along 4th Avenue South, with access to Downtown Minneapolis and to Lake Street, which provided an easy route to Sears & Roebucks and to the Black community in St. Paul
    - Schofield’s Soda Shop
      - Owned by Donald (Pat) and Pearl Schofield
    - Dreamland Café
      - Owned by Anthony Brutus “A.B.” Cassius and Thel Collins, established in 1939
      - Place for Black touring musicians to play, due to restrictions downtown
    - Crown’s Corner
    - Jet Records
  - Other businesses along in South Minneapolis
    - Taystee Freeze (1963 or 1964) – first Black-owned ice cream shop
      - Owned by Tollie Flippin (daughter is Ardena Flippin)
    - Joanna Salon of Beauty
      - Owned by Joanna Holbrook Barnett (daughter is Carolyn Holbrook, a nationally recognized writer)
    - Another concentration of key businesses at 38th Street East and Nicollet Avenue
  - Plymouth and Penn Avenues North / Plymouth Avenue Business District

- First Plymouth National Bank – only Black-owned bank
    - John M. Warder – president
  - Strip mall southeast of intersection had Kings grocery store and Lucille’s kitchen (now UROC)
- Givens Ice Cream Bar – Archie Givens, Sr.’s first business venture, on Olson Highway and Lyndale Avenue North
- West Broadway Avenue
  - Concentration of businesses at West Broadway and Penn Avenues, extended farther along Broadway
- Hotels/Clubs
  - African Americans weren’t allowed to stay in downtown hotels, instead had to stay in settlement houses
    - Wilmington Hotel
    - Nicollet Hotel
  - Curtis Hotel – willing to hire Black staff, had all-Black team of waiters
  - Minneapolis Athletic Club – willing to hire Black staff
  - Elks Club – willing to hire Black staff
- Young Brothers Barber Shop
  - Owned by Sylvester Young and his five brothers, with several locations in the Twin Cities
- Lewis Whitlock, Jr. operated a dry-cleaning business that was demolished when I-35W was built; his wife, Beverley, was a photo librarian for the *Star Tribune*; children were involved in music/performing arts
- Cassius Bar (two locations)
  - Owned by Anthony Brutus Cassius
  - Place where all races could mix and mingle safely
- Restaurants
  - Dreamland Café
  - Ted Cook’s 19th Hole BBQ – long-term establishment
  - Sammy’s Avenue Eatery – owned by Sammy McDowell
  - Breaking Bread Café – founding chef Lachelle Cunningham
- Professional Growth
  - Many started as railroad workers, Pullman porters, in service jobs, then came into middle class and were able to buy homes and send kids to college
  - Black men with college degrees were limited to jobs for the Minneapolis U.S. Postal Service

- Civil Works Administration (CWA) jobs – included first Black nurse, hospital file clerk, and bookbinder, skating instructors, librarians, housing surveyors
- Works Progress Administration (WPA) jobs – semiskilled construction workers
- Tokenism of a few Black elites in corporations – their success is both important and not the whole story
- Key People
  - Bill English – 1st Black salesman at 3M, 17 years as Vice President of Human Resources at Control Data, then Chief Diversity Officer
  - Honeywell group of Black engineers created internship program for high schoolers to help them become engineers
    - Charles Johnson – engineer at Honeywell, encouraged young people and created paid internships, became Vice President and Group Executive of Honeywell's Industrial Systems Business Unit before he retired
    - Luther T. Prince, Jr. – engineer at Honeywell, encouraged young people and created paid internships, first African American inducted in the Minnesota Business Hall of Fame, active in civil rights movement
  - Josie Johnson – civil rights advocate, Minneapolis Urban League staff and later acting director, first African American to serve on the University of Minnesota Board of Regents
  - Professor Joyce Hughes – first Black woman to receive a law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School, first woman of any race and the first African American of any sex to serve as a law clerk in the U.S. District Court in Minnesota; first African American female in the country to be a tenure-track law professor in any majority school in the country at the University of Minnesota (also daughter of Solomon Hughes, Sr.)
  - Woodrow Woodson – first Black pilot for Northwest Airlines
  - Wayne Glanton – construction firm owner who contributed to economic development in South Minneapolis, helped with conversion of Bryant Junior High School into Sabathani, his brother was a civil engineer
  - Lena O. Smith – civil rights lawyer and activist, first African American woman licensed to practice law in Minnesota (and only until 1945), helped found Minneapolis Urban League, first woman president of the Minneapolis NAACP chapter
  - Dr. Robert S. Brown – first Black doctor, also served as NAACP President
    - Worked tirelessly, saw patients every day of the week at his downtown office
  - John Wright – professor in African American and African Studies at the University of Minnesota, a beloved advisor to students, part of 1969 Morrill Hall takeover
    - Grandson of John Samuel Wright I and Fannie Hall Wright, only Black student in electrical engineering at the University of Minnesota, then only Black MBA student, then PhD in American Studies, eventually directed African American & African Studies department

- W. Harry Davis, Sr. – one of the first Black executives in the Twin Cities, helped found Minneapolis Urban Coalition, served on Minneapolis school board, was the city’s first Black mayoral candidate, civil rights activist
- Dr. Thomas Johnson – clinics in south Minneapolis (1957-1966), North Minneapolis (1966-1988), civil rights activist, helped get Cecil Newman admitted to the Minnesota Athletic Club as its first Black member, worked with Jimmy Fuller to open Riverview Supper Club
  - North Minneapolis clinic at Plymouth and Queen avenues North, expanded to take over whole block with a dental office, pharmacy and beauty salon
  - Residence along Lake of the Isles Park in an affluent and virtually all-White neighborhood
- Ardena Flippin – pioneer in emergency medicine, the television show “E.R.” was based on her hospital in Chicago
- John Francis Wheaton – first African American graduate from University of Minnesota Law School (1894), first African American man elected to the Minnesota House (1898)
- McCants Stewart – attended University of Minnesota Law School, challenged discrimination from a Minneapolis restaurant and won, noted Black lawyer and civil rights leader
- William R. Morris – first African American lawyer to practice in Minneapolis
- Hines family – Dennis had a PhD in chemistry but was forced to work at the Post Office along with James Thomas and many other Black men, wife Dorothy, daughter Kim is a nationally recognized playwright, two children became doctors, attended St. Peter’s AME Church



Figure 3. John Francis Wheaton (courtesy of Abigail Loyd, University of Minnesota Law School)



Figure 4. W. Harry Davis, Sr.<sup>5</sup>



Figure 5. Lena O. Smith<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> "L to R: Harry Davis, Harold Greenwood, Giffy O'Dell." Minnesota Historical Society. Accessed January 30, 2022. <http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10760426>.

<sup>6</sup> "Lena O. Smith." MNopedia. Accessed January 30, 2022. <https://www.mnopedia.org/multimedia/lena-o-smith>.

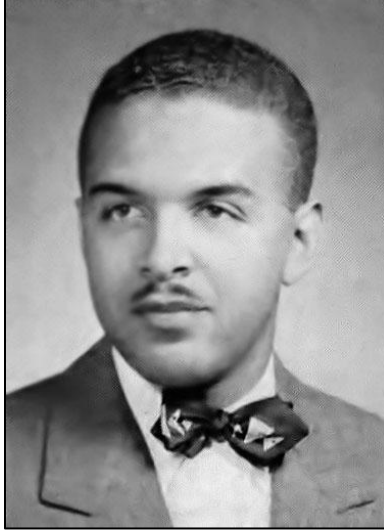


Figure 6. Luther T. Prince (courtesy of MIT Museum)<sup>7</sup>



Figure 7. Dr. Robert S. Brown<sup>8</sup>

- Public Service
  - Topics
    - Racial discrimination in the Minneapolis Fire Department (MFD) for much of its history
    - Civil Rights Movement and integration of the MFD in 1972
    - African American service in the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD)
  - Key Places and People
    - Fire Station No. 24 – only all-Black fire station
      - Captain John Cheatham

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<sup>7</sup> “Luther T. Prince.” MIT Black History. Accessed January 30, 2022. <https://www.blackhistory.mit.edu/archive/luther-t-prince-jr-1952>.

<sup>8</sup> “Robert S. Brown.” Minnesota Historical Society. Accessed January 30, 2022. <http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10776212>.



- Frank S. Harris
  - James Rad Cannon
  - Archie Van Spence
  - Oscar Clark
  - Charles Rucker – chair of the Minneapolis African American Professional Firefighters Association
  - Riley Gilchrist – one of the first Black police officers
  - Leo Johnson – joined MPD in 1969
- Politics/Government
  - 1868 equal suffrage amendment to the Minnesota constitution
  - 1885 Equal Accommodations Act passed
  - 1897 civil rights law
  - Sharon Sayles-Belton – first African American and first woman mayor of Minneapolis
  - Andrea Jenkins – first African American openly transgender woman elected to public office in the U.S., and first African American openly transgender woman to serve as City Council President
  - Van White – first African American elected to City Council
  - Alan Page – Minnesota Vikings, Supreme Court judge
  - LaJune Thomas Lange – Minnesota District Court judge, first African American woman public defender, and advocate for African Americans, especially young people
  - Pamela Alexander – first Black woman judge in Minnesota and advocate
  - Bobby Joe Champion – state senator
  - Neva Walker (daughter of Clarissa Rogers Walker) – first African American woman elected to Minnesota State Legislature
  - Angela Conley – first African American elected as Hennepin County commissioner
  - Phillipe Cunningham – first openly transgender man of color elected to public office in the U.S., serving on the Minneapolis City Council

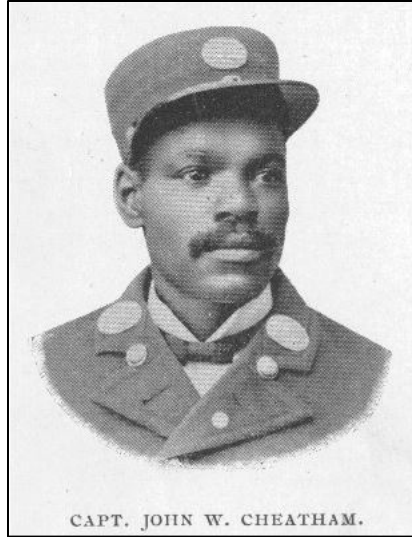


Figure 8. Captain John W. Cheatham (courtesy of Hennepin History Museum)<sup>9</sup>



Figure 9. Pamela Alexander (left) and LaJune Thomas Lange (center)<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> "John Cheatham." Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery History Page. Accessed January 30, 2022. [http://www.friendsofthecemetery.org/history/alley\\_articles/John\\_Cheatham\\_feb2005.shtml](http://www.friendsofthecemetery.org/history/alley_articles/John_Cheatham_feb2005.shtml).

<sup>10</sup> Chamblis, Charles. "Pam Alexander, LaJune Thomas Lange and unidentified woman." Minnesota Historical Society. Accessed January 30, 2022. <http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10780751>.

## 5. Community, Social Organizations, Recreation, and Education (1820s to present)

- Education
  - No Black teachers/superintendents in Minneapolis Public Schools for several decades
  - Segregation
  - 1950-1970 community leaders pushed to improve education in Minnesota for Black students, help create superstars
  - Desegregation (1970)
  - K-12 School Locations – many buildings torn down
    - Minneapolis Central High School built at 34th Street East and 4th Avenue South in 1914
      - torn down due to insufficient population to support it, but then a middle school was built on the same site
      - Many significant graduates from here
    - Bryant Jr. High School (now Sabathani Community Center)
      - Many significant graduates from here
      - Close proximity to family homes, may have allowed parents to be more involved
      - African American kids had to pass the Red Cross swim test at this pool (important to have access to a pool to learn these skills, no longer accessible and there is a high incidence of Black children drowning)
    - Minneapolis North High School
      - Martha Wright – brilliant scholar, graduated at age 15 as valedictorian, only Black student in the School of Technology at the University of Minnesota
      - Boyd Wright (father of John Samuel Wright III) – only Black student in the School of Mortuary Science at the University of Minnesota
      - cultural institution, was going to be closed and the community rallied
    - Lincoln Middle School
  - Key People
    - Mary Jackson Ellis – the first full-time African American elementary school teacher in Minneapolis, initially denied a position due to her race, Cecil Newman spoke to then-mayor Hubert H. Humphrey on her behalf and she was hired
    - Dr. Hallie Hendrieth Smith – elementary school teacher and principal
  - University of Minnesota
    - 1902 National Afro-American Council Meeting, attended by Booker T. Washington, Ida B. Wells, W.E.B. DuBois at the Armory

- First Black student organization in 1936-37: Council of Negro Students, with Martha and Boyd Wright as members, created in opposition to Coffman's policies, Martha became president
- Restricted housing options for Black students
  - Lived at Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House
  - International House as of 1941 – segregated cooperative housing for Black males
  - Huntley House – strives to foster a strong community by exploring the shared experience of African American undergraduate men, and facilitate opportunities for members to become visibly engaged, high-achieving, campus leaders at the University of Minnesota and in the surrounding community.
- Hosmer Library – librarian Doris Jones let kids read books on weekends about African American heroes to supplement their education
- Civic and Community Leadership
  - Topics
    - Labor movements
      - Local 665 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Union at Minneapolis Athletic Club
        - Nellie A. Stone (later Johnson) and Albert Allen were involved
      - All-Black waiters union at the Curtis Hotel, organized by A.B. Cassius
    - Social institutions and non-governmental organizations built out of crises
    - Insurrection/rebellion in the 1960s
  - Key Organizations
    - NAACP
      - Founded in 1914 in south Minneapolis, Gail Heiler was one of founders
      - Focus on community building, membership, fundraising
      - one of the strongest chapters in the 1960s
      - Sam Richardson
      - Mathew Little
      - Leslie Redmond – youngest president of the Minneapolis branch in 2018
      - Angela Rose Myers - one of the youngest NAACP Adult Branch Presidents in the U.S. in 2020
    - Minneapolis Urban League
      - Cecil Newman – first Black president
      - Dr. B. Robert Lewis served on board, Minnesota's first Black state senator

- Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers (MABL)
- Political Council of Black Women – met at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs on the 2nd Floor
- Minneapolis Urban Coalition – founded in 1967 by Theatrice “T” Williams with members from top corporations, very effective in dealing with race and poverty, influenced corporate recruitment strategies
- INTER-RACE – diversity thinktank founded by Vivian Jenkins Nelsen and her husband, George
- Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation (GMHC) – founded in 1969
- Legal Rights Center – founded in 1970
- Metropolitan Economic Development Association (MEDA) – founded in 1971
- Project for Pride in Living (PPL) – founded in 1972
- Opportunities Industrialization Centers (OICs) – Theatrice “T” Williams, direct support for community members to find jobs, help them succeed in their job, connect to resources
- Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice – founded in 1992
- Josie R. Johnson Community Room at Hubert H. Humphrey School – 2020 to give space for community organizations on campus
- Northside Job Creation Team (NJCT) – founded in 2013, Bill English as consulting project director
- Key People
  - Nellie Stone Johnson – union and civil rights leader
  - Albert L. Allen, Jr. – one of principal organizers and president of Local 665, the Minneapolis Athletic Club’s athletic coordinator
  - Bill English – founding executive director of Sabathani and active in many organizations, civil rights and social justice advocate
  - Theatrice “T” Williams – Minnesota’s first Ombudsman for Corrections, founder of Minneapolis Urban Coalition, Minneapolis Schol Board member
  - Rose Brewer – professor and past chair of the Department of African American and African Studies at the University of Minnesota
  - Mahmoud El-Kati – professor, historian, and social justice advocate
  - Dr. August Nims – anti-apartheid movement and activist
  - Anthony Brutus Cassius – active in labor movement, fighting for fair wages, first Black man to secure a full liquor license from the City of Minneapolis, mayor of Old Southside, Godfather of Black social space
  - Benjamin Mchie – founder and executive director of the African American Registry

- James and Myrtle Thomas (parents of LaJune Lange) – active in NAACP, DFL politics, labor union for letter carriers (James specifically)
- Lillian D. Anthony – Minneapolis’ first civil rights director, resigned after two years, became first faculty member in the new Afro-American Studies department at the University of Minnesota



Figure 10. Civic Leaders, including A.B. Cassius, Harry Davis, James Cannon, William Donald Brown, Sr., Jimmy Slemmons, Ben Cassius, William Manson Seabron, and James T. Wardlaw (courtesy of Hennepin County Library and the children of John Glanton)<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Glanton, John F. “Civic Leaders.” Hennepin County Library Digital Collections. Accessed January 30, 2022. <https://digitalcollections.hclib.org/digital/collection/p17208coll1/id/733/rec/1>.



Figure 11. Nellie Stone Johnson<sup>12</sup>

- Community Centers
  - Topics
    - Knowledge was stored and shared in settlement houses and community centers
    - Institutions in south Minneapolis essential to the community and preserving culture
  - Key Places and People
    - Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House
      - Two locations, both non-extant, second was demolished for the freeway
      - Started by Gertrude Brown, who also helped transition Black women into teaching positions
      - Where Black university students lived because they couldn't live in the dorms, and you had to live in University-approved housing to stay a student
      - Came alive during the holidays
      - Summer camps provided important skills building
    - Phyllis Wheatley Community Center
      - Theatrice “T” Williams – executive director from 1965-1972
      - Jim Cook
      - Carrie Hoffman Wallace – longtime administrator
    - The Way – founded in response to Plymouth Avenue violence
      - Syl Davis – artist and first director

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<sup>12</sup> “Nellie Stone Johnson.” MNopedia. Accessed January 30, 2022. <https://www.mnopedia.org/multimedia/nellie-stone-johnson>.

- Harry “Spike” Moss – former director, provided structured environment for youth development
  - Sabathani Community Center (in Bryant Jr. High School)
    - Bill English – founding executive director
    - Clarissa Rogers Walker
    - Many community leaders involved
    - Received \$100,000 from Lund Foundation
    - Sounds of Blackness rehearsed here
  - Stair Step Foundation
- Other Key People
  - Vivian Jenkins Nelsen – social worker
  - Harry Davis, Jr. – head of the board of Phyllis Wheatley, 5th generation Minnesotan
- Social Organizations
  - Colored Men’s Railroad Club (1920)
  - Order of the Eastern Star, women’s auxiliary of the Prince Hall Masons (Fannie Hall Wright)
  - Sisters of the Mysterious Ten, a women’s auxiliary of a Kentucky-based fraternal organization (Fannie Hall Wright)
  - United Brothers of Friendship
  - Monitors Club – men’s social club and watchdogs for the African American community in all arenas
    - Founded by two young Black professional men in 1955 in south Minneapolis for professional opportunities, to support each other, and help each other deal with racism in the workplace; Lorenzo D. Willimas was a founding member
    - Bill English – 1st Black salesman at 3M, 17 years as Vice President of Human Resources at Control Data, then Chief Diversity Officer, founding executive director of Sabathani
    - Don Lewis
    - Clint Hewitt – landscape architect
  - Deltas and other sororities or fraternities
  - Elks Lodge (Ames Lodge #106)
  - Civitas – formed by Bill English and Milton Edwards (now Mahmoud El-Kati)
- Recreation
  - Pattern of African American community being pushed aside for other uses
  - Underrepresentation on MPRB



- Landscapes
  - Minnehaha Park – Deer Pen – area for gatherings with space for kids to run around
  - Hiawatha Golf Course – the only option for inner-city youth to play golf due to cost and access
    - started in 1934, annually floods from Minnehaha Creek, African Americans could play but were not allowed to use the clubhouse (which had bathrooms, snacks)
    - helped integrate the game of golf
    - Harry Davis, Jr. has run a kids/teen golf program for 15 years
    - Tiger Woods has visited the course
    - Solomon Hughes, Sr. – a very good golfer
    - Jimmie Slemmons wanted to start his own golf tournament, the Negro Open Golf Tournament, because he couldn't play in White tournaments. Negro Open Golf Tournament was played at Armour Golf Course (1939), Theodore Wirth Golf Course (1940-1941, 1946-1967). It continued until 1954 and was renamed the Bronze Tournament. It was held at Hiawatha from 1968-1990s. Because they couldn't access the clubhouse, they put up tents for food.
    - Tournament won by former heavyweight champion Joe Louis in 1957
    - Hubert Humphrey helped desegregate the course.
    - Course is surrounded by mostly single-family houses, with concerns about flooding, property values have decreased
    - In 2018, a MPRB member wanted to make it a natural reserve. Community has fought against this. The decision has been deferred until 1925.
    - Tuesday mornings, 52 Black men golf club meets
    - Many corporate decisions are made on the golf course, important for African Americans to know the sport to be able to participate in those decisions
    - Golf teaches important skills like hand-eye coordination, affords ability to travel, and meet new people
    - Kids learned entrepreneurship by being caddies and earning tips
    - New clubhouse is to be named after Solomon Hughes
  - Nicollet Park/Field (now Martin Luther King, Jr. Park)
    - A court decision bisected this park, took away Olympic-sized skating area, warming house, pools, etc.
    - Another generation later, it was almost turned into a dog park, the community rallied to stop this.
  - Powderhorn Field

- Phelps Field
- Athletics
  - Often means to an end, access to college and scholarships
  - Swimming
  - Ice skating
  - Key People
    - Alan Page – Minnesota Vikings
    - Kirby Puckett – Minnesota Twins, helped win World Series
    - Bobby Marshall – distinguished multi-sport athlete, first African American high school football coach in Minneapolis, went on to coach collegiate football at Parker College in Winnebago, Minnesota
    - Emerson Carr – football player at Minneapolis Central High School
    - Sandy Stephens – first appointed African American quarterback for University of Minnesota, led team to National Championship in 1960
    - Devean George – NBA player who is now working on reinvestment on the North Side



Figure 12. Jimmie Slemmons and golf group<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> “Group of golfers; Rosella Ellis in foreground, Jimmy Slemmons, second from left.” Minnesota Historical Society. Accessed January 30, 2022. <http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display.php?irn=10772438>.



Figure 13. Golfers at the 1948 Negro Open Golf Tournament at Theodore Wirth Golf Course<sup>14</sup>

## 6. Arts, Design, Music, and Culture (1820s to present)

- Media
  - *Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder*
    - Cecil Newman purchased the *Minneapolis Spokesman* in 1934, remained owner and publisher until his death in 1976, would also help people in legal trouble, very close to Hubert Humphrey so he had influence on racial issues
    - Launa Q. Newman took over after Cecil’s death
    - Tracey Williams-Dillard (Newman’s granddaughter) is the owner today (preceded by grandmother, mother, and uncle)
      - ◻ Launched annual “Graduation Celebration” in 1995 to celebrate graduating seniors of African and African American descent and their families
    - Mel Reeves – community editor, human rights activist, and journalist
  - KMOJ – creation of a Black radio station
    - Walter Banks aka Q Bear – longtime DJ
    - Freddie Bell – veteran DJ and radio executive, general manager at KMOJ
  - Thornton Jones aka Pharaoh Black
    - DJ for three-hour show on KUXL, with Kyle Ray another Black DJ
  - Daniel Bergin – TPT’s leading history filmmaker in the past decade

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<sup>14</sup> “Participants at the 1948 Negro Open Golf Tournament Theodore Wirth Golf Course.” Save Hiawatha 18. Accessed January 30, 2022.  
[http://savehiawatha18.com/history/Hiawatha\\_Golf\\_Course\\_Black\\_History/black\\_golf\\_tournament\\_history/bronze\\_golf\\_tournament\\_mpls/golf\\_history\\_bronze\\_tournament\\_negro\\_open\\_minneapolis.htm](http://savehiawatha18.com/history/Hiawatha_Golf_Course_Black_History/black_golf_tournament_history/bronze_golf_tournament_mpls/golf_history_bronze_tournament_negro_open_minneapolis.htm).

- Jerry Holt – *Star Tribune* staff photographer
- Tony Hughes – first Black weatherperson at Channel 11 (daughter of Solomon Hughes, Sr.)



Figure 14. Thornton Jones aka Pharaoh Black (courtesy of Hennepin County Library Special Collections)

- Performing Arts
  - Topics
    - Theater is a place where stories are acted out
    - History of discrimination, segregation of African American audiences
    - Cultivation of Black performers
  - Key Events
    - Black Nativity performed at Orchestra Hall, Guthrie Theater, Hallie Q Brown Center (St. Paul)
    - Christmas plays at churches
  - Key Places
    - Pantages Theatre – Lena O. Smith helped end segregation of African American audiences
      - They refused to seat her in 1916, she refused to get up
    - Penumbra Theatre (in St. Paul)
      - Founded by Lou Bellamy, his daughter Sarah Bellamy took over as artistic director
      - Lewis Whitlock III – performer and dancer, theater pioneer, founding company member of Chanhassen Dinner Theatres
    - Mixed Blood Theatre – opportunities for Black actors/theater professionals

- Orpheum Theatre – debut of *The Lion King* musical in 1997, featuring a predominantly Black cast, from which 15 Black actors launched lucrative careers with long running productions
      - Mayor Sharon Sayles-Belton promoted refurbishment of these theaters to avoid teardowns
    - *The Lion King* cast frequented the Rock Bottom Café for nightly meals and socializing
  - Key People/Groups
    - T. Mychael Rambo
    - August Wilson – transplant to Minneapolis
    - Blackout Improv
    - Black Storytellers Alliance and annual Black Storytellers Festival
- Music
  - Topics
    - Expanding the narrative beyond Prince to understand the robust music community that existed within which Prince could come up
    - White venues wouldn't let Black performers play, so the community had to create their own venues
    - Given the number of music companies in Minneapolis, this should have been the second Motown
    - Older community members helped youth navigate the challenges of the industry, manage unfair record deals, and find success.
    - Development of a distinct Minneapolis Sound
    - Some musicians stayed, others left for bigger opportunities in Los Angeles and elsewhere
    - Many places associated with Black music have been lost or taken away
      - Minneapolis Park and Recreation took the land for the Riverview Supper Club
      - A police station was built in the location of The Way
      - Nacirema Club is now a church
  - Key Organizations/Events
    - Elks Lodge Bugle Corps
    - Leo Johnson Drum Corps
    - Northside Festival
    - Juneteenth celebration on Plymouth Avenue (organized by Spike Moss)
    - Sound Verité Records
    - Flyte Tyme Studios

○ Key People

- Harry “Spike” Moss – freedom fighter and peacemaker, former director of The Way and City, Inc., industry mentor and music group founder
- Prince Rogers Nelson – internationally known singer, writer, and performer, starred in film “Purple Rain”
- Jimmy Jam – keyboardist, producer, songwriter, record label owner
- Terry Lewis – bassist, producer, songwriter, record label owner
- Gary Hines – director of Sounds of Blackness, industry mentor and producer
- Doris Hines – vocalist, first Black woman in a Northwestern Bell Phone Co. television commercial, member of Sounds of Blackness
- André Cymone – musician, songwriter, producer
- Davu Seru – jazz musician and scholar on African American culture
- Pete Rhodes – co-founder of Minnesota Black Music Awards
- Shirley Witherspoon – R&B-infused jazz singer, toured with Duke Ellington
- Michael Bland – drummer for Prince and Soul Asylum
- Jellybean Johnson – guitarist for fDeluxe and drummer for the Time
- Jon Jon Scott – Sound Verité Records label proprietor, promoter, artist manager
- Derrick Stevens – producer for Minnesota Public Radio/The Current and former MC Skat Kat
- Todd Wright – Minneapolis-reared rapper, produce, and educator
- Cynthia Johnson – singer, sang on “Funkytown”
- Morris Eugene Day – principal percussionist and composer for Minneapolis Grand Central Band, formed The Time with Prince
- Alexander O’Neal – Flyte Tyme’s frontman
- Percy Hughes – jazz musician
- Rockie Robbins – singer
- Irv Williams – jazz saxophonist
- Cornbread Harris - pianist
- Morris Wilson – jazz saxophonist
- PaviElle French – singer and theater star
- Bruce Henry – well-traveled singer
- Tonia Hughes – Gospel singer and actress
- Maurice Jacox – singer/saxophonist
- Willie Walker – gospel singer
- Gwen Matthews – jazz singer
- Roberta Davis – jazz singer
- Jeralyn Steele – singer
- Maurice McKinnies
- Mojo Buford
- Sonny Knight
- Jimmy Lawrence

- Lothario Day
- Darnell Davis
- Stacey Jones
- Bobby Joe Champion
- Debbie Duncan – singer
- Anthony Cox – bassist
- Sanford Moore – pianist
- Bobby Lyle – jazz musician
- Oliver Lyle – jazz musician
- Robert Robinson – singer
- I Self Devine (Chaka Mkali)
- P.O.S. – hip hop artist
- Chastity Brown – singer
- Lizzo – singer and rapper
- Mankwe Ndosi – vocalist and composer
- Bands/Groups
  - Sounds of Blackness
  - Dave Brady and the Stars
  - Cohesion
  - Mind and Matter
  - Quiet Storm
  - Sam Davis
  - Gospel Choirs United
  - The Wheatley Aires
  - Ipso Facto
  - Spirit
  - Minnesota Saxophone Quartet
  - Willie & the Bees
  - The Exciters
  - The Val-Dons
  - The Butanes
  - Passage
  - The Steeles
  - Flyte Tyme
  - The Time
  - Excelsior
  - Moore by Four
  - Twin Cities Community Gospel Choir
  - Mint Condition
  - Next
  - Heiruspecs
  - Brother Ali
- Key Places
  - Venues
    - Cozy Bar & Lounge (one of maybe two Black-owned bars in Minneapolis in 1960s)
      - Owned by Jimmy Fuller
    - Regal Tavern
      - Owned by Jimmy Fuller, demolished for highway construction
    - Blue Note – demolished for highway construction
    - Riverview Supper Club
      - Built and owned by Jimmy Fuller and Dr. Thomas Johnson

- King Solomon’s Mines – first downtown R&B club
- Nacirema Club (Black-owned)
- The Way
- Flame Café / The Flame
- Fox Trap
- Dick’s Jet-A-Way Club
- Taste Show Lounge
- Mattie’s Ribs
- Mr. Lucky’s Night Club
- Mr. Magoo’s
- Labor Temple
- Nic ‘O’ Lake Records
- Jet Records
- Studios
  - Moon Sound Studio
  - Sound 80
  - Cookhouse Studio
  - Kay Bank
  - Owen Husney’s Studio
  - A.S.I. Studio
- Churches – offered a safe space for performance
  - Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
- Bethune Park (near Phyllis Wheatley Community Center) for festivals, Battle of the Bands
- Schools – fostered music programs
  - Bryant Junior High School
  - Minneapolis Central High School
- Dakota Jazz Club
- Capri Theater
- Club Malibu
- Minneapolis Auditorium
- Marigold Ballroom
- Jet-A-Way
- Sam’s/First Avenue
- Peacock Alley
- Fine Line Music Café





Figure 15. Prince Rogers Nelson<sup>15</sup>



Figure 16. Rockie Robbins (courtesy of Hennepin County Library Special Collections)

- Art
  - Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery (MAAHMG)
    - Coventry Royster Cowens – co-founder and museum manager
    - Tina Burnside – co-founder and curator and development team lead, civil rights attorney and writer
    - Started at grassroots level, hope to grow over the years
    - Four artists-in-residence, one history fellow, youth curator program, a destination point in Minneapolis

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<sup>15</sup> Katz, Jeff. "Prince." Minnesota Historical Society, Accessed January 30, 2022. <http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10780380>.

- Place to display community’s narrative and art
  - Board members: Verlena Flourney Matey-Keke, Clarence Jones, Jack Rainey, Jr.
- Memorialize the Movement – ongoing initiative to collect and preserve the plywood protest art created in response to the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis on May 25, 2020
  - Leesa Kelly – founder and executive director
  - Wide range of mural artists, history being created right before our eyes
- Juxtaposition Arts
  - Founded by Roger and DeAnna Cummings and Peyton Russell
- Key People
  - Charles Chamblis – photographer
  - Seitu Jones – multi-disciplinary artist and community organizer
    - Planning building in St. Paul with studio, living space, and archive/library – hope this will be a model for others to document and save their work
  - Syl Davis – artist and first director of The Way
- Architecture and the Built Environment
  - Only 2 percent of licensed architects in the U.S. are Black
  - Clint Hewitt – landscape architect and faculty, Associate Vice President of Planning at University of Minnesota
    - Scholar’s Walk
    - David M. Lilly Plaza
    - Weisman Art Museum (landscape)
  - Archie Givens, Sr. – real estate agent, nursing home operator, first African American staff member of the Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority, later its first African American commissioner, first Black millionaire in Minnesota. His wife, Phebe Givens, was considered Minnesota’s Black Florence Nightingale and the first Black woman to be licensed within the state as a nursing home administrator. His daughter, Roxanne Givens Copeland, continues his legacy in real estate development. His son, Archie Givens, Jr. is CEO and directory of the Legacy and Development Corporation.
    - Tilsenbilt Homes
    - Angelus Nursing Home – first integrated nursing home in state
    - Willows Nursing Home
    - One other nursing home (625 16th Street East)
  - Lorenzo D. Williams
    - Sought to advance social justice through building projects

- Formed Williams/O'Brien Associates Inc. in 1962
- Zion Baptist Church
- Findley Place housing development – unique cluster-housing design
- Bethune/Grant Park urban renewal project
  - Parkview Apartments
- Plymouth Avenue redesign
- Matthews Park Cooperative housing development
- Luther T. Prince residence
- Chateau Student Housing Co-op
- First Plymouth National Bank
- North Community YMCA
- Holland Hi-Rise
- Personal residence (2720 West River Parkway)
- Jay W. Tyson
  - Redesign at Minneapolis Community and Technical College
  - Public housing developments in north Minneapolis
  - Century Plaza Building
  - President of the Planning Commission (1974)
  - Started own firm in 1977
  - Apartment Building (5754 Sander Drive)
  - Apartment Building (814 11th Avenue Southeast)
  - Apartment Building (702 6th Avenue Southeast)
  - Personal residence (1724 James Avenue South)
- Lonnie O. Adkins
  - Minneapolis Model City urban renewal project
  - Bethune/Grant Park urban renewal project
    - Cecil Newman Courts (City View apartments) and Cecil Newman Plaza (as part of Adkins-Jackel Associates)
- 4RM+ULA – owner and managing partner is James Garrett, Jr.
- Design By Melo – Damaris Hollingsworth is Principal Architect
- LSE Architects – Mohammed Lawal is CEO and principal architect, and was recently inducted in the American Institute of Architects College of Fellows

- East Lake Library renovation (2007)
- North Regional Library renovation (2007)
- Blaisdell YMCA renovation (2008)
- Nokomis Library renovation (2011)
- Washburn Center for Children new construction (2015)
- Seward Montessori School renovation/expansion (2016)
- Utepils Brewing adaptive reuse (2016)
- North Market renovation/expansion (2017)
- Webber Park Library new construction (2017)
- Bancroft Elementary School renovation/expansion (2018)
- Regional Acceleration Center / Thor Building new construction (2018)

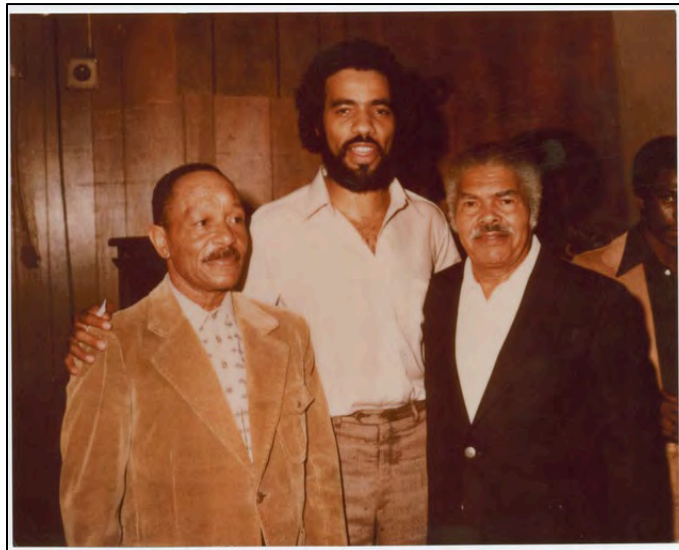


Figure 17, Bobby Lyle (center) and A.B. Cassius (right)<sup>16</sup>

## 7. Segregation, Discrimination, Civil Rights, and Reclamation

- Civil Rights and Activism
  - Union organization
  - Discrimination in hotels, restaurants, property ownership
  - History of voter suppression
  - School desegregation
  - Civil rights movement

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<sup>16</sup> Chamblis, Charles. "Bobby Lyle." Minnesota Historical Society. Accessed January 30, 2022. <http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=11460392>.

- Tension with MPD
- Harassment of prominent Black women (Vivian Jenkins Nelsen, Judge LaJune Lange, among others)
- January 28, 1963 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. visit to Minneapolis, speech at Northrop Auditorium
- 1966-67 Plymouth Avenue street violence
- 1969 takeover of Morrill Hall at the University of Minnesota by students, protesting treatment of African American students and lack of an African American Studies department
- 1969 lawsuit to integrate the MFD
- Ron Edwards – community advocate, active in KMOJ Radio, Minneapolis Urban League, Minneapolis Civil Rights Commission, MFD Oversight Committee
- 1970 Oliver Lyle (brother of Bobby Lyle) frequently stopped by police on his way to work and filed a lawsuit with ACLU and won
- 1991 justice for workers during the Embassy Suites 11 (Mel Reeves)
- Mid-1990s integration of Minneapolis and suburban school districts (Mel Reeves)
- 2015 4th Precinct occupation after Jamar Clark’s murder
- Police killings of Black men (Tyclen Nelson, Terrence Franklin, Jamar Clark, Philando Castile, George Floyd, Daunte Wright, Winston Smith)
- 2020 Black Lives Matter and protests following the murder of George Floyd
  - Community organized patrol of Black cultural sites to defend against White supremacy
- Campaigns to save important sites (Hiawatha Golf Course, MLK Park, Minneapolis North High School)
- Take a Knee Nation (Mel Reeves)
- Mothers March (Mel Reeves)
- 21 Days of Peace – focus on gun prevention, getting guns off the streets, saving lives (Rev. Russell)
- Voter registration drives – people died to give African Americans the right to vote, it’s important for people to now vote
- Carson Pirie Scott boycott (involvement from Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder)
- Sites of Conscience
  - George Floyd Square
  - The Way (former location)

### Potential Threats to Resources

- Redevelopment

- New development
- Gentrification
- Erasure of stories

## Conclusion

- Types of historic designation
  - National Register of Historic Places
  - Minnesota State Register of Historic Places
  - City of Minneapolis Local Landmarks
- Social and economic benefits of historic preservation
  - Funding sources and incentives for historic preservation
  - Historic preservation laws and regulations, and potential for adoption of a local historic preservation ordinance
  - Partnership assessment and priorities
- Priorities for future work
- Additional research needs

## 5.0 LIST OF POTENTIAL SITES OF SIGNIFICANCE

The following pages include a table of over 200 potential sites of significance associated with African Americans in Minneapolis, created by Erin Que based on research by Judge Lange. Their locations, when known, are depicted on the maps in Appendix C, created by Molly McDonald. This list is not exhaustive and should continue to be refined as the long-term project progresses. In tandem with the maps, this list can be used to identify high-concentration areas of places associated with the African American community. It can also be used as a framework to identify individual places and potential districts worthy of local landmark designation and/or NRHP nomination. Not all properties on this list may meet the criteria for local landmark designation and/or NRHP nomination individually, but collective listings may reveal themselves.

### Methodology

#### Research

The consultant team started with a review of known local landmarks in Minneapolis and places listed on the NRHP in Minneapolis that are associated with African Americans or African American history. This process identified six local landmarks (five individual and one district) and four NRHP-listed properties explicitly associated with African Americans or African American history. During the course of this project, a seventh local landmark was designated, Fire Station No. 24. At present, the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) does not capture areas of significance (i.e. Ethnic Heritage) in its statewide inventory of properties and could not provide additional information about places in Minneapolis associated with African Americans. SHPO staff Denis Gardner and Ginny Way shared anecdotal information about several places that have been studied and reviewed previously.

During the community engagement sessions, the consultant team took notes as speakers and attendees shared information about places where important events occurred and places/areas where African Americans lived, worked, socialized, etc. Simultaneously, Judge Lange conducted research to supplement the information shared during the sessions and provide a more comprehensive picture across all areas of African American daily life in Minneapolis. Erin Que used city directories, historical newspapers, aerial photographs, and Sanborn fire insurance maps to refine addresses and clarify whether or not a building was still standing.

The following sources were essential to the creation of this substantial list:

- Judge Lange’s lived experiences, memory, and research related to key people and places throughout Minneapolis
- Tracey Gibson’s research on the historical locations of AME churches in Minneapolis
- Angela Rose Myers’ research on places associated with protest and activism
- Kristen Zschomler’s research to develop the “Prince, 1958-1987” Multiple Property Documentation Form, with support from Barbara Howard and Jessica Berglin

- This resource can be used to understand places where other Black musicians also performed, recorded, etc.
- Bobak Ha’Eri’s research on Black architects and development of the Docomomo US/MN [Modern Registry](#)
- Locations identified in the “Minneapolis Music History, 1850-2000” historic context

## Mapping

When the list was largely complete, Molly McDonald used ArcMap to develop a map of the sites and areas identified as potential sites of significance. She cross-referenced the spatial relationship between the properties and parcels (provided by Hennepin County data) to identify the build year of each property based on current city records. She also cross-referenced the spatial relationship between the properties and in-house SHPO data (taken from a circa 2016 database) in search of any matches that would indicate the property has already been inventoried and possibly evaluated for eligibility for listing in the NRHP. Due to budget constraints, it was not possible to retrieve and cross-reference current SHPO data for the entire city of Minneapolis. Additionally, because there are some geospatial discrepancies in the data, it is possible that more properties on this list have been inventoried in the SHPO database. The map reflects all locations that have been identified to date. It does not prioritize the list of potential sites of significance. However, areas with a greater density of individual sites as well as polygonal areas should be considered as potential historic districts.

## Site Visit

On January 17, 2022, Judge Lange and Erin Que conducted a site visit in north Minneapolis, in particular along Plymouth Avenue North and West Broadway Avenue; and south Minneapolis, in particular along 38th Street East and Snelling Avenue. Photographs were taken of a portion of the properties on the list. Due to time and budget constraints, all properties could not be photographed, but Google streetview was used to provide contemporary photographs of each site with a known address/location. Historical photographs of several properties, including those that are no longer standing, were found on the Minnesota Historical Society and the Hennepin County Library websites. Photographs are included in Appendix D.

## How to Read the Table and Use the Map

### Map ID

This is an arbitrary number that was assigned from south to north prior to the site visit on January 17, 2022. If properties were identified after the site visit, they were given the next available number in numerical order. Use the Map ID to find the place on the map. Areas are labeled instead of numbered.

### Property Name

Each property is given a name to describe a significant person who lived or lives there, an organization that occupied or occupies the place, or a broad name to describe an area. Each property is likely associated with other names, which are not listed here.



## Address

The property's address may reflect its current address or the historical address as found in newspaper or city directory records. Areas are identified by the area's boundary streets and/or key streets associated with the area. In rare cases, properties may be identified only by an intersection because a more precise location has not yet been identified.

## Current Historic Status

This field identifies whether a property is listed on the NRHP, designated as a local landmark, or has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP by SHPO. In some cases, properties are listed or eligible for listing in the NRHP for other reasons not related to African American heritage.

## SHPO Inventory Number

Properties with a SHPO inventory number were found in the SHPO database. The naming system locates them in Hennepin County (HE) and the City of Minneapolis (MPC). The number is assigned in the order they are entered into the database.

## Neighborhood

This field identifies the current neighborhood in which the property is/was located based on parcel data.

## Build Year

This field was populated primarily by parcel data, which is generally accurate. Notably, a build year of 1900 is generally considered inaccurate and used as a placeholder by the City of Minneapolis. In some cases, the consultant team was able to refine the build year based on other information or sources. However, there may be some inaccuracies. Additionally, the build year does not necessarily reflect the year(s) in which a person lived there, or an organization occupied the place, or an event occurred.

## Property Type/Area 1

For this field, properties were identified by their primary use. The property types identified on the maps in Appendix C are grouped and color-coded by related areas as follows, and more specifically identified on in the table:

- Art, Media, Museum, Performing Arts
- Commerce, Medical, Professional
- Community Planning and Development, Education, Landscape, Municipal
- Funerary, Religion
- Military
- Residential
- Social, Social History

## Areas 2, 3, and 4

Additional areas of significance were identified for many properties according to the NRHP areas of significance. As the long-term project continues, more areas of significance will likely be identified for each property. In addition to the list above, the following areas are also identified:

- Architecture
- Civil Rights
- Law
- Politics/Government
- Recreation
- Significant Individual

## Non-Extant

If a property is no longer standing or no longer exists, there is a Y in this column, which stands for Yes.

## Notes

This field captures a high-level reason for the inclusion of this property on the list, based on the consultant team's current research efforts.

Map ID	Property Name	Address (or general location)	Current Historic Status	SHPO Inventory Number	Neighborhood	Build Year	Property Type / Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Non-Extant	Notes
1	Fort Snelling	200 Tower Avenue	NRHP-listed	HE-FSR-0074		1819	Military	Social History				Early Black community from enslaved laborers at the Fort and free Blacks arrived via boat at Fort Snelling
2	Apartment Building	5754 Sander Drive			Wenonah	1961	Residential	Architecture				designed by Black architect Jay W. Tyson
3	Prince Residence and Studio	5215 France Avenue South			Fulton	1941	Residential	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			summer 1978-79
4	Nokomis Library	5100 34th Avenue South		HE-MPC-4568	Keewaydin	1969	Education	Architecture				2011 renovation by LSE Architects
5	Moon Sound Studio	4937 28th Avenue South		HE-MPC-19330	Keewaydin	1912	Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			Prince recording studio in the first half of 1976
6	Minnehaha Park - Deer Pen	4749 46th Avenue South	located within NRHP-listed Minnehaha Historic District		Hiawatha	1850	Landscape	Recreation				area for gatherings with space for kids to run around
7	New Mount Calvary	3859 Fremont Avenue North			Webber - Camden	1929	Religion					Baptist church
8	Arthur and Edith Lee House	4600 Columbus Avenue South	NRHP-listed; Local Landmark	HE-MPC-9739	Field	1923	Residential	Civil Rights	Significant Individual			1931-33 occupancy by the Lee family in a White neighborhood, major event in history of housing discrimination
9	Hiawatha Park/Golf Course	4553 Longfellow Avenue	Contributing property to determined NRHP eligible Grand Rounds Historic District		Ericsson	1933	Landscape	Recreation				place for Black residents to play golf, develop skills
10	Fire Station No. 24	4501 Hiawatha Avenue	Local Landmark	HE-MPC-7413	Hiawatha	1907	Municipal	Civil Rights	Significant Individual			all-Black fire station from 1907-12 due to MFD segregation practices, provided opportunity for Black participation in public service
11	St. Thomas Episcopal Church	4400 4th Avenue South		HE-MPC-4408	Regina	1960	Religion					one of the first Black Episcopal churches in the state
12	New Beginnings Baptist Tabernacle	4301 1st Avenue South		HE-MPC-4842	King Field	1910	Religion					Baptist church

Map ID	Property Name	Address (or general location)	Current Historic Status	SHPO Inventory Number	Neighborhood	Build Year	Property Type / Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Non-Extant	Notes
13	New Covenant Church of God in Christ	4254 15th Avenue South		HE-MPC-9736	Northrop	1951	Religion					church location from 1988-present
14	Angelus Home	4544 4th Avenue South			Regina	1959	Residential	Medicine				the first integrated nursing home in Minnesota, built by Archie Givens, Sr.
16	James and Myrtle Thomas Home / Judge LaJune Lange Childhood Home	4055-57 2nd Avenue South			Bryant	1924	Residential	Significant Individual	Law			home of civil rights advocates and community pillars
17	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park	4055 Nicollet Avenue			King Field	0	Landscape	Civil Rights	Recreation			important park for South Minneapolis African Americans, was bisected by a court decision, almost became a dog park
18	AB Cassius Home	4026 Clinton Avenue			Bryant	1905	Residential	Politics	Significant Individual			home of the Mayor of Black Minneapolis
19	Nacirema Club	3949 4th Avenue South		HE-MPC-4886	Bryant	1934	Commerce	Performing Arts				Black-owned venue
20	Bancroft Elementary School	3829 13th Avenue South		HE-MPC-4691	Bancroft	1912	Education	Architecture				2018 renovation/expansion by LSE Architects
21	Lena O. Smith House	3905 5th Avenue South	NRHP-listed, Local Landmark	HE-MPC-4887	Bryant	1912	Residential	Civil Rights	Significant Individual			home of pioneering Black female lawyer and civil rights advocate
22	Benjamin Mchie Childhood Home	3945 3rd Avenue South			Bryant	1946	Residential	Significant Individual				home of founder of the African American Registry
23	Seward Community Co-Op Friendship Store	317 38th Street East			Bryant	2016	Religion					site of Sabathani Baptist Church, named to honor the history
24	Macedonia Baptist Church	3801 1st Avenue South			King Field	1910	Religion					Baptist church
25	Taystee Freeze	3800 3rd Avenue South			Bryant	1931	Commerce					first Black-owned ice cream shop, owned by Tollie Flippin
27	Greater Sabathani Mission Baptist Church	3805 3rd Avenue South		HE-MPC-4391	Bryant		Religion				Y	original church site

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28	Whitlock Family Home	3854 Clinton Avenue South			Bryant	1900	Residential	Significant Individual				community pillars, Lewis Whitlock, Jr. owned a dry cleaning business, Beverley Whitlock was a photo librarian, kids involved in music/theater
29	Solomon Hughes, Sr. House	3716 4th Avenue South			Central	1909	Residential	Significant Individual				home of prominent Black golfer, childhood home of Joyce and Tony Hughes
30	Jet Records	3803-3805 4th Avenue South		HE-MPC-4400	Bryant	1908	Commerce	Performing Arts				record store for Black Minneapolitans, also a church at one point (part of Black Wall Street)
31	38th & Chicago / George Floyd Square	38th Street East & Chicago Avenue			Bancroft		Landscape	Site of Conscience				Site of the murder of George Floyd, community healing space and memorial
32	New Covenant Church of God in Christ	810 38th Street East			Powderhorn Park	1910	Religion					church location from 1973-83
33	Schofield's Soda Shop	3759 4th Avenue South			Central	1900	Commerce					Black-owned business
34	Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church	2600 38th Street East		HE-MPC-4695	Standish	1938	Religion					church location since 2007, important community institution
35	God's Revelation	3751 17th Avenue South		HE-MPC-4483	Powderhorn Park	1922	Religion					Baptist church
36	Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder Building	3744 4th Avenue South	Local Landmark	HE-MPC-4847	Central	1958	Commerce	Civil Rights	Significant Individual	Media		Black-owned newspaper headquarters since 1958
37	Dreamland Café	3755 4th Avenue South		HE-MPC-4885	Central	1900	Commerce					Black-owned venue
38	Sabathani Community Center (site of Bryant Junior High School)	310 38th Street East	Determined NRHP Eligible	HE-MPC-4390	Central	1922	Social	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			many significant individuals went to school here, and the community center is an important institution
39	Galilee Missionary Baptist	3701 14th Avenue South		HE-MPC-4455	Powderhorn Park	1900	Religion					Baptist church
40	Harry Davis Home	3621 Portland Avenue			Central	1914	Residential	Politics	Recreation	Significant Individual		first Black major part candidate for mayor, civil rights advocate, son Harry involved in community institutions and golf

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41	36th Street Branch Library / Hosmer Branch	347 36th Street East	NRHP-listed, Local Landmark	HE-MPC-4687	Central	1916	Education					important public library, history of support for African Americans in South Minneapolis
42	St. James African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church Building	3600 Snelling Avenue	Local Landmark	HE-MPC-4254	Howe	1959	Religion	Significant Individual				first African American congregation in Minneapolis and Minnesota, location since 1958
43	Lewis Whitlock III Home	3500 Portland Avenue South			Central	1900	Residential	Significant Individual	Performing Arts			his adult home, prominent dancer and member of the theater community, cultural envoy for the State Department
44	Spiritual Life Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church	2014 36th Street East		HE-MPC-4688	Corcoran	1920	Religion					Baptist church
45	Purple Rain house	3420 Snelling Avenue			Howe	1913	Residential	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			Prince filming location 1983
46	Blaisdell YMCA	3335 Blaisdell Avenue			Lyndale	1961	Social	Architecture				2008 renovation by LSE Architects
47	Findley Place	3015 Pillsbury Avenue			Lyndale	1977	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Williams/O'Brien Associates, medium-density, 89-unit housing development with a unique cluster-housing approach
48	East Lake Library	2727 Lake Street East			Longfellow	1976	Education	Architecture				2007 renovation by LSE Architects
49	New Covenant Church of God in Christ	301 Lake Street East		HE-MPC-7771	Central	1901	Religion					one-time church location shared with Southside Medical Center, Minnesota Tenants Union, Make and Sell Boutique, and the Collective Carpentry.
50	Nic 'O' Lake Records	2 Lake Street West			Whittier		Performing Arts				Y	key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes
51	Club Malibu	334 Lake Street East		HE-MPC-14060	Phillips West	1926	Performing Arts					key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes
52	Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery	2945 Cedar Avenue South	NRHP-listed, Local Landmark	HE-MPC-4123	East Phillips	1900	Landscape	Significant Individual				Resting place for African American soldiers and other early prominent individuals
53	Mr. Lucky's, Magoo's, and Mattie's BBQ	2935 Nicollet Avenue			Whittier		Performing Arts				Y	key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes

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54	Moon Sound Studio	2828 Dupont Avenue			Lowry Hill East		Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual		Y	Prince recording studio, late 1976 to 1977
55	Dr. Robert S. Brown Residence	2839 Portland Avenue			Phillips West		Residential	Significant Individual			Y	first home of first Black physician in Minnesota, starting in 1899
56	NAACP	2817 Chicago Avenue			Midtown Phillips		Social				Y	first location of NAACP, when founded in 1914
57	Lorenzo D. Williams Residence	2720 West River Parkway			Cooper	1925	Residential	Architecture				home of prominent Black architect, who made Modernist additions
58	Cookhouse Studio	2541 Nicollet Avenue South			Whittier	1966	Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			Prince recording studio, December 1975-January 1976
59	Kay Bank	2541 Nicollet Avenue			Whittier	1966	Performing Arts					key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes
60	Sound 80	2709 25th Street East	NRHP-listed	HE-MPC-3949	Seward	1970	Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			significant recording studio
61	Matthews Park Cooperative	2419 25th Avenue South			Seward	1976	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Williams/O'Brien Associates across 3 sites
62	Matthews Park Cooperative	2423 26th Avenue South			Seward	1976	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Williams/O'Brien Associates across 3 sites
63	Matthews Park Cooperative	2419 24th Street East			Seward	1976	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Williams/O'Brien Associates across 3 sites
64	Luther T. Prince Residence	3521 24th Street West			Cedar – Isles – Dean	1967	Residential	Architecture	Significant Individual			home of prominent Black engineer-turned-businessman, designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams
65	Seward Montessori School	2309 28th Avenue South		HE-MPC-4538	Seward	1966	Education	Architecture				2016 renovation/expansion by LSE Architects
66	Thornton Jones "Pharaoh Black" Home	Minneapolis Central neighborhood (not on map)			Central		Residential	Significant Individual				home of one of the first Black DJs to make it big in Minneapolis
67	St. Peter's AME Church Parsonage	2205 Elliot Avenue				1900	Religion					early 1950s location
68	St. Peter's AME Church	914 22nd Street East			Ventura Village		Religion				Y	earlier church location, destroyed by fire

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69	Minnesota Council of Churches	122 Franklin Avenue West		HE-MPC-18033	Steven's Square – Loring Heights	1962	Religion	Significant Individual				association with AME church through Presiding Elder Stacey L. Smith
70	Apostolic Faith Mission	2415 Riverside Avenue		HE-MPC-4252	Cedar Riverside	1910	Religion				Y	church location from 1910 to at least 1936
71	American Artists Studio/Owen Husney's studio	430 Oak Grove Street	NRHP-listed	HE-MPC-0570	Loring Park	1924	Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			Prince recording studio located in this building (non-extant)
72	The Flame	1523 Nicollet Avenue	Determined not NRHP eligible	HE-MPC-7959	Loring Park	1937	Performing Arts					key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes
73	Minneapolis Auditorium	1301 2nd Avenue South			Loring Park		Performing Arts				Y	key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes
74	Dr. Robert S. Brown Residence	608 East 14th Street			Elliot Park		Residential	Significant Individual			Y	home of prominent Black physician as of 1916
75	Bethesda Baptist	1118 8th Street South		HE-MPC-0371	Elliot Park	1964	Religion					one of oldest congregations, founded in 1887
76	Marigold Ballroom	1336 Nicollet Avenue			Loring Park		Performing Arts				Y	key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes
77	Century Plaza Building	1101 3rd Avenue South			Downtown West	1932	Professional	Architecture				designed by Black architect Jay W. Tyson
78	Mixed Blood Theatre	1501 4th Street South	Determined NRHP Eligible	HE-MPC-4636	Cedar Riverside	1887	Performing Arts					opportunities for Black actors/theater professionals
79	Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs	301 19th Avenue South			University of Minnesota	1985	Education					location of Roy Wilkins Center and Josie R. Johnson Community Room, space for community and activism
80	Curtis Hotel	327 10th Street South			Downtown West		Social History	Civil Rights			Y	employed Black waiters, who organized in a union under A.B. Cassius
81	Minneapolis Community and Technical College	1501 Hennepin Avenue		HE-MPC-3379	Loring Park	1976	Education	Architecture				re-design led by Black architect Jay W. Tyson, unknown which building



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82	King Solomon's Mines	114 9th Street South	operated from Foshay Tower, which is NRHP-listed, Local Landmark (Exterior and Interior)		Downtown West	1967-68	Commerce	Performing Arts				first downtown R&B club
83	Dr. Brown's Office	1202 Hennepin Avenue			Loring Park		Professional	Significant Individual			Y	three generations of Dr. Browns worked here
84	Minneapolis Armory	500 6th Street South	NRHP-listed, Local Landmark	HE-MPC-0359	Elliot Park	1935	Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			Prince filming location 1981
85	Morrill Hall	100 Church Street Southeast			University of Minnesota	1975	Education	Social History				location of 1969 takeover/protest by students
86	Minneapolis Athletic Club	615 Second Avenue	Determined Not NRHP Eligible	HE-MPC-7873	Downtown West	1914	Social History	Civil Rights				employed Black workers, Nellie Stone Johnson helped organize Local 665 of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union here
87	Colored Men's Railroad Club	212 11th Avenue South		HE-MPC-9839	Downtown East	1900	Social	Significant Individual				location as of 1920, also location of one of Ida Dorsey's brothels
88	Jet-A-Way	654 2nd Avenue South			Downtown West		Performing Arts				Y	key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes
89	Orpheum Theatre	910 Hennepin Avenue	Local Landmark (Exterior and Interior)	HE-MPC-16561	Downtown West	1921	Performing Arts					world debut of <i>The Lion King</i> , launching point for Black cast members, Prince shows, involvement of Sharon Sayles-Belton to avoid teardowns
90	Armory	10 Church Street Southeast			University of Minnesota	1939	Education	Social History				location of 1902 gala ball for National Afro-American Council Meeting, attended by W.E.B. DuBois, Booker T. Washington, Ida B. Wells
91	Pantages Theatre	710 Hennepin Avenue	Local Landmark, Interior only	HE-MPC-16555	Downtown West	1916	Performing Arts	Civil Rights				refused to seat Lena O. Smith, she refused to get up
92	Sam's/First Avenue	701 1st Avenue North		HE-MPC-0482	Downtown West	1936	Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			association with Black musicians, including Prince
93	Huntley House	326 17th Avenue Southeast			University of Minnesota	2002	Education					a Living Learning Community for African American men
94	Utepils Brewing	225 Thomas Avenue North		HE-MPC-7507	Harrison	1940	Commerce	Architecture				2016 adaptive reuse by LSE Architects

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95	St. James African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church Building (5th location)	314 15th Avenue South			University of Minnesota		Religion				Y	church location from 1917 until highway expansion
96	Border Methodist Episcopal Church	18 4th Street South			Downtown West		Religion				Y	first location from 1918-23, later merged into Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church
97	The Taste Show Lounge	14 5th Street North		HE-MPC-16265	Downtown West	1901	Performing Arts				Y	key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes
98	Minneapolis Glendale Seventh-day Adventist Church	1138 Glenwood Avenue		HE-MPC-8126	Sumner – Glenwood	1950	Religion					Seventh-day Adventist church
99	Washburn Center for Children	1100 Glenwood Avenue			Sumner – Glenwood	2014	Medical	Architecture				2015 new building by LSE Architects
100	Atrium Apartments	314 Hennepin Avenue	Considered Not NRHP Eligible	HE-MPC-19304	Downtown West	1972	Residential					home to many African Americans, including Nellie Stone Johnson
101	Border Methodist Episcopal Church	95 Border Avenue North			North Loop		Religion				Y	second location from 1923-56, then merged into Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church
102	Peacock Alley	220 5th Street North			Downtown West		Performing Arts				Y	key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes, demolished for highway construction
103	Chateau Student Housing Co-op	425 13th Avenue Southeast		HE-MPC-3136	Marcy Holmes	1973	Residential	Architecture				designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Williams/O'Brien Associates
104	Amos Lee and Mary Ellen Johnson Home	3rd Avenue North near 1st Street			Downtown West		Residential	Significant Individual			Y	early members of free Black community
105	Nicollet Hotel	235 Hennepin Avenue South			Downtown West		Commerce	Social History			Y	refused to serve Black customers, Lena O. Smith took on the case
106	Fine Line Music Café	318 1st Avenue North	Located within Local Historic District		Downtown West	1887	Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			Prince performance 1987, interior non-extant

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107	KMOJ	501 Bryant Avenue North			Sumner – Glenwood		Media	Commercial			Y	station location in 1984
108	KMOJ	810 5th Avenue North			Sumner – Glenwood	2006	Media	Commercial			Y	station location in 1978
109	First Church of God in Christ	518 Lyndale Avenue North			North Loop		Religion				Y	location in a former synagogue (Keneseth Israel) from 1948-58
110	Prince Rogers Nelson Childhood Home	539 Newton Avenue North			Harrison	1904	Residential	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			one of Prince's childhood homes
111	Regal Tavern	546 Olson Memorial Highway			North Loop		Performing Arts				Y	key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes, demolished for highway construction
112	Monitors Club	South Minneapolis (not on map)					Social					important social organization
113	International House	514 11th Avenue Southeast		HE-MPC-7164	Marcy Holmes	1905	Residential	Education	Social History			segregated cooperative housing for Black males
114	Wayman AME Church	1221 7th Avenue North	Considered NRHP Eligible	HE-MPC-8290	Near – North	1967	Religion	Architecture				church location since 1967, notable architecture, designed by White architect Harry E. Gerrish
115	Zion Baptist Church	621 Elwood Avenue North		HE-MPC-7572	Near – North	1968	Religion	Architecture				designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams
116	Cecil Newman Plaza	703 Emerson Avenue North			Near – North	1970	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lonnie O. Adkins as part of Adkins-Jackel Associates
117	Winslow House Hotel	55 Prince Street Southeast			Nicollet Island – East Bank	1856-57	Commerce				Y	Emily O. Goodridge Grey and Ralph Toyer Grey lived here when they helped Eliza Winston gain her freedom
118	Prince Rogers Nelson Childhood Home	2620 8th Avenue North	Determined NRHP Eligible	HE-MPC-10020	Willard – Hay	1957	Residential	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			one of Prince's childhood homes
119	St. James African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church Building (2nd location)	1st Avenue Southeast and 2nd Street			North Loop		Religion				Y	storefront church location
120	Apartment Building	814 11th Avenue Southeast			Marcy Holmes	1969	Residential	Architecture				designed by Black architect Jay W. Tyson

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121	First Church of God in Christ	810 Elwood Avenue North		HE-MPC-8080	Near – North	1926	Religion					current church location since 1958 in a former synagogue (Tifereth B'nai Jacob Synagogue)
122	Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House	809 Aldrich Avenue North			Sumner – Glenwood		Social	Significant Individual			Y	essential community institution
123	St. James African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church Building (3rd location)	411 5th Avenue			Marcy Holmes		Religion				Y	storefront church location
124	Phyllis Wheatley Community Center	1301 10th Avenue North		HE-MPC-7807	Near – North	1970	Social	Community Planning and Development				built to serve the educational, social, and recreational needs of the African American population in North Minneapolis during the 1960s and 1970s, part of urban renewal, replacement for Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House
125	Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School	919 Emerson Avenue North		HE-MPC-9893	Near – North	1970	Education	Community Planning and Development				built to serve the educational, social, and recreational needs of the African American population in North Minneapolis during the 1960s and 1970s, part of urban renewal
127	Bethune Park	1304 10th Avenue North		HE-MPC-7900	Near – North	1970	Landscape	Community Planning and Development				built to serve the educational, social, and recreational needs of the African American population in North Minneapolis during the 1960s and 1970s, part of urban renewal, location of Spike Moss' music festival
128	Apartment Building	720 6th Avenue Southeast			Marcy Holmes	1964	Residential	Architecture				designed by Black architect Jay W. Tyson
129	Vivian Jenkins Nelsen Home	1025 Thomas Avenue North		HE-MPC-7633	Willard – Hay	1910	Residential	Significant Individual	Social History			home of a social worker active in Phyllis Wheatley, co-founder of Inter-RACE
130	Lincoln Middle School	2131 12th Ave North		HE-MPC-8291	Near – North	1922	Education	Significant Individual				many significant individuals went to school here

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131	Woodard Funeral Home	1103 Lyndale Avenue North			Near – North		Funerary				Y	first African American funeral home, operated by McDuff Woodard in late 1920s
132	Blue Note	622 11th Avenue North			North Loop		Performing Arts				Y	key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes, demolished for highway construction
133	Parkview Apartments Building No. 2	1121 12th Avenue North			Near – North	1971	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams in Grant Park urban renewal area
134	Parkview Apartments Building No. 3	1221 Banneker Avenue North			Near – North	1971	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams in Grant Park urban renewal area
135	Parkview Apartments Building No. 4	1201 Banneker Avenue North			Near – North	1971	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams in Grant Park urban renewal area
136	University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC)	2001 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North	1976	Community Planning and Development					meeting location for many important community coalitions
137	The Way Community Center	1925 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North		Social	Performing Arts			Y	important community center, association with many Black performers, was razed and a police station was built over it
138	Townhomes	1405 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North	1974	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams
139	Minnesota African American Heritage Museum & Gallery	1256 Penn Avenue North			Near – North	2018	Museum	Art				only museum dedicated to African American heritage, important community institution
140	Regional Acceleration Center / Thor Building	1256 Penn Avenue North			Near – North	2018	Commerce	Architecture				2018 mixed-use building by LSE Architects
141	Apartments & Townhouses	1501 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North	1974	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Plymouth Avenue North housing development

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142	Apartments & Townhouses	1611 Plymouth Avenue North		HE-MPC-8246	Near – North	1974	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Plymouth Avenue North housing development
143	Apartments & Townhouses	1701 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North	1974	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Plymouth Avenue North housing development
144	Apartments & Townhouses	1815 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North	1974	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Plymouth Avenue North housing development
145	Estes Funeral Chapel	2201 Plymouth Avenue North			Willard – Hay	2018	Funerary					has served Black community for decades
146	Stair Step Foundation	2115 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North	2018	Social History					community organization founded in 1992
147	Dr. Thomas Johnson clinics	Plymouth and Queen Avenues North			Willard – Hay		Professional				Y	prominent Black physician's office location from 1966-88
148	First Plymouth National Bank	2000 Plymouth Avenue North			Willard – Hay	1971	Commerce	Architecture				designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams, was the only Black-owned bank
149	Minneapolis Urban League	2100 Plymouth Avenue North			Willard – Hay	2001	Social					important community organization
150	Bible Based Baptist	2100 Plymouth Avenue North			Willard – Hay	2001	Religion					Baptist church
151	Apartment Building	1516 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North	1974	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Plymouth Avenue North housing development
152	Apartment Building	1414 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North	1974	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Plymouth Avenue North housing development
154	Cozy Bar	522 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North		Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual		Y	venue owned by Jimmy Fuller
155	Apartments & Townhouses	1300 Irving Avenue North			Near – North	1974	Residential	Architecture	Community Planning and Development			designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Plymouth Avenue North housing development
156	Minneapolis North High School	1500 James Avenue North		HE-MPC-8160	Near – North	1972	Education					many significant individuals went to school here

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157	NuWay Baptist Church	1530 Russell Avenue North			Willard – Hay	1919	Religion					Baptist church
158	St. James African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church Building (4th location)	8th Avenue South and 4th Street			Downtown West	1892	Religion				Y	new building for church in 1892, but railroad expansion forced them to move, they didn't get much money for their land, had to rent locations for awhile
159	Greater Mt. Vernon Missionary Baptist Church	1800 DuPont Avenue North			Near – North	1894	Religion					Baptist church
160	A.S.I. Studio	711 West Broadway Avenue			Near – North		Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual		Y	Prince recording studio in early 1976, key location associated with R&B, funk, & blues scenes
162	Sammy's Avenue Eatery	1101 West Broadway Avenue			Hawthorne	1890	Commerce					restaurant and fixture of community since 2012, owned by Sammy McDowell
163	Breaking Bread Café	1210 West Broadway Avenue			Jordan	1903	Commerce					restaurant and agent for social change since 2015, founding chef is Lachelle Cunningham
164	North Community YMCA	1711 West Broadway Avenue			Willard – Hay	1975	Social	Architecture				designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams as part of Williams/O'Brien Associates
165	Juxtaposition Arts	2007 Emerson Avenue North			Jordan	1901	Social	Art	Significant Individual			non-profit youth art and design education center, founded by Roger and DeAnna Cummings and Peyton Russell
166	Capri Theater	2027 West Broadway Avenue			Willard – Hay	1925	Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual			Prince shows among others
167	Riverview Supper Club	2319 West River Road			Hawthorne		Commerce	Performing Arts	Significant Individual		Y	venue owned by Jimmy Fuller and Dr. Thomas Johnson
168	KMOJ	2123 West Broadway Avenue			Willard – Hay	1914	Media	Commercial				station location since 2010
169	Wilmington Hotel	1518 3rd Avenue South			Loring Park		Commerce	Social History			Y	off-limits to Black people

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170	Memorialize the Movement	1500 Jackson Street Northeast	located within NRHP-listed Northrup King Complex	HE-MPC-3788	Logan Park	1916	Art					current storage/archiving location of plywood murals created after the murder of George Floyd
171	New Salem Missionary Baptist Church	2507 Bryant Avenue North		HE-MPC-8039	Hawthorne	1964	Religion					Baptist church
172	The Holland Hi-Rise	1717 Washington Street Northeast		HE-MPC-2147	Logan Park	1970	Residential	Architecture				designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams
173	True Vine Missionary Baptist Church	2639 Thomas Avenue North		HE-MPC-8265	Willard – Hay	1925	Religion					Baptist church
174	New Bethel Baptist Church	1115 30th Avenue North		HE-MPC-8306	Hawthorne	1912	Religion					Baptist church
175	Berean Baptist	704 30th Avenue North			Hawthorne	2003	Religion					Baptist church
176	The Purpose Church	3001 Russell Avenue North		HE-MPC-8255	Jordan	1955	Religion					Baptist church
177	North Regional Library	1315 Lowry Avenue North			Jordan	1972	Education	Architecture				2007 renovation by LSE Architects
178	Fellowship Missionary Baptist	3355 4th Street North			McKinley	2003	Religion					Baptist church
179	Bobby Lyle Childhood Home	34th Street East & 4th Avenue South			McKinley		Residential	Significant Individual				home of musician Bobby Lyle
180	Crystal Lake Cemetery	3816 Penn Avenue North			Webber – Camden	1986	Funerary					resting place for various prominent African Americans
181	North Market	4414 Humboldt Avenue North			Webber – Camden	1958	Commerce	Architecture				2017 renovation/expansion by LSE Architects
182	Webber Park Library	4440 Humboldt Avenue North			Webber – Camden	2016	Education	Architecture				2017 new building by LSE Architects
183	David Brady Childhood Home (possible location)	308 39th Street East			Bryant	1912	Residential	Significant Individual	Performing Arts			band David Brady and the Stars was popular in the community and contributed to Minneapolis Sound
184	St. Peter's AME Church Parsonage (former)	3756 5th Avenue South			Central	1915	Religion	Residential				new parsonage for church, from 1950s to 1980s



Map ID	Property Name	Address (or general location)	Current Historic Status	SHPO Inventory Number	Neighborhood	Build Year	Property Type / Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Non-Extant	Notes
185	Rockie Robbins Home	40th Street East and 2nd Avenue South			Bryant		Residential	Performing Arts				home of musician Rockie Robbins, had one of the earliest major recording contracts and hit songs
186	St. James African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church Building (1st location)	6th Street and 2nd Street			Downtown West		Religion				Y	first house of worship for the oldest Black congregation in Minneapolis and in Minnesota
187	First Church of God in Christ	6th and Lyndale Avenue North			North Loop		Religion				Y	first church location for a group of African Americans who arrived from Oklahoma in 1923
188	Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church	5100 James Avenue North	Local Landmark	HE-MPC-8173	Shingle Creek	1920	Religion					one of the earliest African American churches in North Minneapolis
189	Joanna Salon of Beauty	615 38th Street East			Bryant	1922	Commerce					beauty salon owned by Joanna Holbrook Barnett
190	Ardena Flippin House	3943 2nd Avenue South			Bryant	1915	Residential	Significant Individual				pioneer in emergency medicine
191	Grocery store	3752 3rd Avenue South			Central		Commerce				Y	community asset
192	Grocery store	3601 4th Avenue South			Central		Commerce				Y	community asset
193	Stewart Memorial Church	116 32nd Street East	NRHP-listed, Local Landmark	HE-MPC-4358	Lyndale	1909	Religion					Redeemer Missionary Baptist Church worshipped here in the mid-20th century
194	Southside Urban League Office	411 38th Street East			Bryant		Social				Y	important community organization
195	Lakewood Cemetery	3600 Hennepin Avenue South	Chapel is Local Landmark and NRHP-listed		East Harriet	1872	Funerary					many prominent African Americans buried here
196	New Life Seventh-Day Adventist Church	2309 Plymouth Avenue North	part of determined NRHP eligible Homewood Historic District	HE-MPC-7598	Willard – Hay	1908	Religion					Seventh-day Adventist church
197	Minneapolis Urban League	2050 Plymouth Avenue North			Willard – Hay		Social				Y	important community organization
198	Barber Shop	1918 Plymouth Avenue North			Willard – Hay	1971	Commerce					community asset

Map ID	Property Name	Address (or general location)	Current Historic Status	SHPO Inventory Number	Neighborhood	Build Year	Property Type / Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Non-Extant	Notes
199	Cecil Newman Courts	1146 Emerson Avenue North			Near – North	1972	Residential					designed by Black architect Lonnie O. Adkins as part of Adkins-Jackel Associates
202	Estes Funeral Chapel (former)	1401 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North		Funerary				Y	first location of funeral home that has served the community for decades
203	Lillian Anthony House	1015 Washburn Avenue North	part of determined NRHP eligible Homewood Historic District	HE-MPC-7624	Willard – Hay	1938	Residential	Significant Individual				first civil rights director, Black-owned since the 1960s
204	Willows Nursing Home	6130 Lyndale Avenue South			Windom	1965	Residential	Medicine				owned and operated by Archie Givens, Sr.
205	Archie Givens House	5701 Clinton Avenue South			Diamond Lake	1966	Residential	Significant Individual				home of first Black millionaire in Minnesota, prominent real estate agent, developer, and nursing home administrator
206	Archie Givens House	4248 3rd Avenue South			Regina	1955	Residential	Significant Individual				home of first Black millionaire in Minnesota, prominent real estate agent, developer, and nursing home administrator
207	Nursing Home	625 16th Street East			Elliot Park	1970	Residential	Medicine				owned and operated by Archie Givens, Sr.
209	Prince Hall Masonic Temple	3832 4th Avenue South			Bryant	1957	Religion	Social				spiritual center and social space
210	Greater St. Paul Church of God in Christ	4001 4th Avenue South		HE-MPC-4404	Bryant	1948	Religion					South Minneapolis church
211	St. Leonard of Port Maurice Catholic Church	3949 Clinton Avenue		HE-MPC-4059	Bryant	1941	Religion					only Black Catholic church
212	Cassius Club	207 3rd Street South			Downtown West						Y	owned by A.B. Cassius, located here until 1958
213	Coventry Royster Cowens Childhood Home	4200 Portland Avenue South			Regina	1930	Residential	Significant Individual				co-founder and museum manager of MAAHMG
214	St. Peter's AME Church	401 41st Street East		HE-MPC-4701	Bryant	1952	Religion					location of significant AME church, has 1889 cornerstone from older church
215	Ted Cook's 19th Hole BBQ	2814 38th Street East		HE-MPC-9708	Standish	1916	Commerce					long-time BBQ restaurant, community asset

Map ID	Property Name	Address (or general location)	Current Historic Status	SHPO Inventory Number	Neighborhood	Build Year	Property Type / Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Non-Extant	Notes
216	Beauty salon	3700 4th Avenue South			Central	1909	Commerce					community asset
217	Glenwood Funeral Home	1312 Glenwood Avenue			Harrison	1961	Funerary					community asset
218	Commons at Penn	2201 Golden Valley Road			Willard – Hay	2015	Residential					funded by NBA player Devean George to rethink affordable housing
219	Jay W. Tyson Residence	1724 James Avenue South			Lowry Hill	1958	Residential	Architecture	Significant Individual			architect's home, still under family ownership
220	Parkview Apartments Building No. 1	1201 12th Avenue North			Near – North	1970-71	Residential	Architecture				designed by Black architect Lorenzo D. Williams in Grant Park urban renewal area
221	Cassius Bar	318 3rd Street South			Downtown West		Commerce				Y	owned by A.B. Cassius, located here from 1958-83
222	Archie Givens, Jr. House	72 Groveland Terrace		HE-MPC-8847	Lowry Hill	1908	Residential	Significant Individual				significant in real estate development and philanthropy, like his father
223	Elks Lodge	1614 Plymouth Avenue North			Near – North	1968	Social					significant social organization
224	John Francis Wheaton House	1011 28th Street East			Midtown Phillips		Residential	Significant Individual	Politics/ Government		Y	first African American graduate of U of M law school, and first elected to MN House
225	Givens Ice Cream Bar	Olson Highway and Lyndale Avenue North			North Loop		Commerce	Significant Individual			Y	Archie Givens, Sr. first business venture
226	Jimmy Jam and James "Cornbread" Harris Home	4100 Portland Avenue South			Bryant	1925	Residential	Significant Individual	Music			home of two contributors to the music industry (identified by Kristen Zschomler)
227	Morris Eugene Day Home	2024 Upton Avenue North			Willard – Hay	1941	Residential	Music				home of noted musician (identified by Kristen Zschomler)
228	William "Hollywood" Doughty Home	801 River Avenue North (*address has not been verified, not on map)					Residential	Music				home of noted musician (identified by Kristen Zschomler)
229	Sharon Sayles Belton Home	3848 Oakland Avenue South			Bryant	1924	Residential	Significant Individual				home during tenure as City Council member and Mayor of Minneapolis
230	Solomon Hughes, Sr. Home	3553 4th Avenue South			Central	1900	Residential	Significant Individual				home of prominent Black golfer, childhood home of Joyce and Tony Hughes
231	Commercial Building	3801 4th Avenue South		HE-MPC-4399	Bryant	1908	Commerce					grocery store, dry cleaners, church, barber shop (part of Black Wall Street)

Map ID	Property Name	Address (or general location)	Current Historic Status	SHPO Inventory Number	Neighborhood	Build Year	Property Type / Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Non-Extant	Notes
	38th & Clinton	38th Street East & Clinton Avenue			Bryant		Residential	Significant Individual				many prominent African Americans grew up here
	38th Street Corridor	38th Street East, esp. Nicollet Avenue to Chicago Avenue			King Field / Bryant		Commerce	Residential				cultural corridor, mix of commercial, residential, and institutional uses
	38th Street-Nicollet Commercial Node	38th Street East and Nicollet Avenue			King Field							long-time commercial node with community assets
	Black Wall Street	corner of 38th Street East and 4th Avenue South			Bryant		Commerce					key intersection with Black-owned café, delicatessen, newspaper headquarters, and shops, Minneapolis Urban League
	Girard Terrace East / University Towers and Townhouses	555 Girard Terrace, 525 Humboldt Avenue North, and 1315 Olson Memorial Highway			Near - North	1961-64	Residential					housing development
	Glenwood Homes Project	around 4th and 5th Avenues North, between Girard Terrace and Lyndale Avenue North			Near - North	c. 1960	Residential				Y	housing development
	Minneapolis Central High School	4th Avenue South and 34th Street East			Central	1976	Education					many significant African Americans went to school here, especially musicians/performers, only gym remains from original building
	Minneapolis Model City urban renewal project	4th Avenue South between 32nd and 34th Streets			Bryant		Community Planning and Development	Architecture				Black architect Lonnie O. Adkins involved in planning
	Near North neighborhood	Penn Avenue to the west, Hwy 55 to the south, Emerson / I-94 / river to east, Broadway to north			Near - North		Residential	Community Planning and Development				significant residential area for African Americans
	Plymouth Avenue Business District	Penn Avenue North and Plymouth Avenue North			Near - North		Commerce					centered on Plymouth and Penn but extended farther along Plymouth, many Black businesses

Map ID	Property Name	Address (or general location)	Current Historic Status	SHPO Inventory Number	Neighborhood	Build Year	Property Type / Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Non-Extant	Notes
	Seven Corners	Washington, 15th Avenue, 18th Avenue, and Cedar Avenue			Cedar Riverside		Residential					residential area available to African Americans due to restrictive covenants
	Shingle Creek neighborhood	bounded by 49th Avenue North, Humboldt Avenue North, 53rd Avenue North, and Xerxes Avenue North			Shingle Creek		Residential					early African American settlement
	Snelling Avenue Neighborhood	Snelling Avenue between 36th and 46th Streets East			Howe / Hiawatha		Residential	Community Planning and Development				early 20th century African American neighborhood
	Stevens Avenue and 2nd Avenue	Stevens Avenue and 2nd Avenue South			Windom / Diamond Lake		Residential	Community Planning and Development			Y	demolition of houses to build Hwy 62 / Crosstown
	Sumner Field Homes	Bounded by Olson Memorial Highway on south, North Eleventh Avenue on north, North Emerson on west, & I-94 corridor on east	Determined Eligible	HE-MPC-8238	Near - North	1938	Residential	Community Planning & Development			Y	constructed by the WPA as the first federally subsidized homes in Minnesota, demolished in 1998
	Tilsenbilt Homes Historic District	4th Avenue South & 5th Avenue South, between 39th and 47th Streets East	Local Historic District		Bryant		Residential	Civil Rights	Significant Individual			first privately developed interracial housing project in Minneapolis, and one of the first housing projects in the country to offer FHA-insured mortgages to buyers of all races, Archie Givens, Sr. was realtor
	West Broadway and North Penn Commercial Area	West Broadway and Penn Avenue		HE-MPC-12102	Jordan / Willard - Hay		Commerce					concentration of commercial businesses associated with the Black community, extended farther along Broadway

Map ID	Property Name	Address (or general location)	Current Historic Status	SHPO Inventory Number	Neighborhood	Build Year	Property Type / Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Non-Extant	Notes
	Willard Homewood Neighborhood	West Broadway Avenue to north, Irving/James/Knox, Penn Avenue to east, Hwy 55 to south, Xerxes to west			Willard - Hay		Residential	Community Planning and Development	Significant Individual			investment in older housing stock, George Nelsen and Van White led the effort, founded Willard Homewood Organization

## 6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE ACTIONS

A key takeaway from the community engagement sessions is that it is important for a community to know its own history and how you fit in the story, and you need to learn how to shape the narrative about where you live. As the City of Minneapolis continues forward with this multi-phase project, it is important to approach heritage preservation in Minneapolis through the lens of diversity, equity, and inclusion. This may require modification or reconsiderations of existing practices and regulations.

The following recommendations consider feedback from the community engagement sessions in addition to the consultant team's experiences, observations, and expertise. Implementation of these recommendations will require collaboration between the City of Minneapolis, community members and organizations, and professionals from a variety of fields. Continuing to involve the community is essential.

### Preservation Framework

- Revisit requirements of physical historic integrity for local landmark designation. Due to property ownership restrictions, displacement, fires, and lack of resources, African American businesses, churches, and other organizations had to rent space and move frequently. Their occupation may have been temporary yet still meaningful. Additionally, as property owners, they may not have had the means to maintain properties.
- Consider a process for designating intangible cultural heritage for places that retain significant associations and memories but no longer have a physical imprint or have been significantly altered.

### Existing Documentation

- Review existing NRHP nominations to expand narratives and/or revise historic district boundaries
  - Stewart Memorial Church (HE-MPC-4358, 116 32nd Street East) is listed under Criterion C; the nomination does not address Criteria A or B and potential historical significance associated with various congregations who have occupied this building (including Redeemer Missionary Baptist Church).
  - University of Minnesota Old Campus Historic District (HE-MPC-3046) and Northrup Mall Historic District (HE-MPC-3166) to include the experience of African Americans on this campus
  - Fort Snelling (HE-FSR-0074, 200 Tower Avenue) to include the stories of enslaved African Americans
  - St. Anthony Falls Historic District (SHPO number unknown) to include the lives of early Black settlers
- Review eligibility arguments for determined eligible properties to expand narratives
  - Wayman AME Church (HE-MPC-8290, 1221 7th Avenue North) is currently determined eligible under Criterion C and should also be considered under Criterion A

- Revisit NRHP eligibility for key sites/areas:
  - West Broadway Avenue Historic District (HE-MPC-12102)
  - Atrium Apartments (HE-MPC-19304, 314 Hennepin Avenue)
- Review existing local landmark designations to expand narratives
  - St. James AME Church (HE-MPC-4254, 3600 Snelling Avenue) does not fully capture the congregation's history

## New Designations/Nominations

- Develop strategic goals for designating local landmarks associated with the African American community each year, such as:
  - Bryant Junior High School/Sabathani Community Center (HE-MPC-4390, 310 38th Street East) (a top priority)
  - Hiawatha Golf Course (4553 Longfellow Avenue)<sup>17</sup>
  - Black Wall Street (intersection of 38th Street East and 4th Avenue South)
  - St. Peter's AME Church (HE-MPC-4701, 401 41st Street East)
- Develop strategic goals for nominating places associated with the African American community to the NRHP each year, such as:
  - Bryant Junior High School/Sabathani Community Center (HE-MPC-4390, 310 38th Street East) (a top priority)
  - Hiawatha Golf Course (4553 Longfellow Avenue)
  - St. Peter's AME Church (HE-MPC-4701, 401 41st Street East)
- Pursue Multiple Property Documentation Forms (MPDFs) to document larger groups of resources that are located across the city
  - Properties designed by and/or associated with Lorenzo D. Williams
  - Places associated with protest and activism within the African American community
  - Black houses of worship in Minneapolis
  - Places associated with the development of the Minneapolis Sound

## Community Engagement

- Engage with community members and property owners along 4th Avenue South between the 36th Street Branch Library / Hosmer Branch (HE-MPC-4687, 347 36th Street East) and St. Peter's AME Church (HE-MPC-4701, 401 41st Street East) to discuss the possibility of a historic district that captures many key places associated with the African American community.

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<sup>17</sup> On March 1, 2022, The Cultural Landscape Foundation enrolled the Hiawatha Golf Club as a Landslide nationally significant cultural landscape that is threatened and at-risk.



- Continue the conversation with more members of the African American community with in-person, neighborhood-based events (when appropriate from a public health standpoint)
- Partner with community members to document their history through oral interviews, written narratives, etc.
- Engage with property owners to educate them about the local designation and NRHP nomination processes and discuss avenues for pursuing local designation or NRHP nomination.
- Develop heritage preservation workshops for community members to actively engage in the documentation and preservation of significant places.

## Public History

- Develop a web-based map to identify and document sites related to African American heritage (see [DOCOMOMO US/MN](#)'s Modern Registry and the [East at Main: APIA Mapping Project](#) as examples)
- Develop an app-based African American history tour, potentially in partnership with the Minnesota African American Museum Heritage and Gallery
- Design and install interpretive signs to identify individual places or corridors of significance, particularly where important places have been lost
  - Example: sign outside Arthur and Edith Lee House (4600 Columbus Avenue South)
  - Example: Wayside (outdoor) exhibits along Lake Street with historical photographs and information
  - Possible locations:
    - The Way (1925 Plymouth Avenue North)
    - Dr. Brown's Office (1202 Hennepin Avenue)
    - Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House (809 Aldrich Avenue North)
    - Curtis Hotel (327 10th Street South)
- Partner with local museums and institutions to develop and showcase exhibits
- Partner with the [African American Registry](#) and [Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder](#) to identify and publicly share more stories

Our consultant team included a retired State of Minnesota judge, human rights advocate, and Black History preservationist; a community engagement specialist; an architectural historian; a law student; and a Geographic Information System (GIS) specialist. By combining our different perspectives and expertise, we were able to produce a robust document that can guide the City of Minneapolis and the African American community for years to come.

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# **APPENDIX A: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEETING AGENDAS AND PRESENTATIONS**



Minneapolis African American Community Engagement

**Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 6:30pm – 8:30pm**

Meeting will be held online: Zoom

Agenda

**6:30**      **Open Link** – Sounds of Blackness Sound

**6:35**      **Welcome** –

City of Minneapolis, Robert Skalecki, City Planner,  
Historic Preservation

Lead Organization Lange Johnson Development, Judge  
LaJune Lange, Retired, Partner

Erin Que, Sr. Architectural Historian for 106 Group

Shonice Pooniwala, J.D. Candidate 2023  
University of Minnesota Law School and  
a researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development

Introductions of panel members – **use bios from** Eventbrite:

(Antonia Wilcoxon)

**Mr. Gary Hines is the director of Sounds of Blackness.** Jazz, Blues, Spirituals, Rock & Roll, R&B, Gospel, Hip-hop & Soul. They have performed for Kings, Queens, Presidents, Ambassadors at Concert Halls, Colleges, Schools, Corporations & Festivals all over the World. Their Life-Changing Top 10 Single & Video "ROYALTY" was also Nominated for 2 NAACP Image Awards and 2 Stellar Awards! Sounds of Blackness latest Singles - "SICK & TIRED" and now, "TIME FOR REPARATIONS" Are the Anthems of Today's Movement for Justice & Equality! Sounds of Blackness Glorify God by Uplifting All People Through Black Music!

**Mr. Harry Spike Moss** – prefers to be designated as a freedom fighter and a peacemaker. He is the former Director of The Way and City, Inc. He trained and performed with Minneapolis based musical groups locally and nationally. One of the groups he helped create was called The Family. Spike also provided a structured environment at The Way and mentors for Prince, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis in their early teen years.

**Ms. DeSha Russell** – graduated with highest honors from Meridian High School, MS in 1998. Studied Psychology at the University of Southern Mississippi from 1998-2002. After receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology, she completed her Masters of Science degree in Christian Counseling from William Carey University in 2006. Ms. Russell's journey of life-long learning and serving others began early, being born into the ministry. She is a prominent member of the Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church choir group.

Ms. Russell has also done a number of solo projects including Dred Scott Historical Remembrance, MN Association of Black Lawyers Foundation and New Hope Jeremiah Project, Elsie River, South Africa.

Our thanks for the presence of these panel members this evening to comment on the following:

**6:45**      **Focus Question:** What do most residents know about the contributions of African Americans to the Music, Venues of Performances, and the Early Founders in the city of Minneapolis? What would you like for them to learn? (Antonia Wilcoxon)

Thank you again for lending your knowledge, wisdom and history to this evening's panel.

**7:45**      We have the following **Survey Questions, which we invite you to participate from your computer. There are three questions, after we see the responses, we will have some time to discuss:**

- Is it important to document, honor and preserve these contributions? (Yes, No)
- How do you think we should we preserve these contributions? (Recordings, statues, music hall of fame in Minneapolis)

- How would you like to show the next generation the contributions? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Music History Tours)

**8:00**      **Review Survey Results/Debrief** – High points of discussion, what was your experience having this conversation?

Would you like to be included in future communications about this project? If so, please provide your email address, in the chat box.  
Thank you

Our next session is scheduled for

**8:25**      **Final Comments: Next Steps** (Judge Lange)

**8:30**      **Adjourn**

Courtesy of Hennepin County Library Special Collections



Rockie Robbins

Source: <https://news.inverhills.edu/blog/black-student-union-hosts-spike-moss/>



Spike Moss



Gary Hines

Courtesy of Gary Hines



TJ Jones

Courtesy of Hennepin County Library Special Collections

# SOUNDS OF BLACKNESS



Courtesy of Gary Hines





Source: <https://news.inverhills.edu/blog/black-student-union-hosts-spike-moss/>

Desha Russell



Courtesy of DeSha Russell



Minneapolis African American Community Engagement

**Tuesday, October 19, 2021, 6:30pm – 8:30pm**

Meeting will be held online: Zoom

Agenda

**6:30 Open Link –**

**6:35 Welcome –**

My name is Antonia Wilcoxon, Consultant with Equity Strategies, and your facilitator. Thank you for being here tonight. This the second of a series of Minneapolis African American Community Engagement. A citywide community engagement for a Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study. This project is funded by the City of Minneapolis.

Mr. Robert Skalecki, City of Minneapolis, City Planner, Historic Preservation. Would you like to speak a little about this project? Thank you,

City of Minneapolis, Robert Skalecki, City Planner,  
Historic Preservation

We are a joint group of three organizations coming together, and I would like to invite Judge LaJune Lange, lead Organization Lange Johnson Development to say a few words

Lead Organization Lange Johnson Development, Judge  
LaJune Lange, Retired, Partner

Ms. Erin Que is the senior Architectural history for the 106 Group here to introduce herself and say a few words,

Erin Que, Sr. Architectural Historian for 106 Group,

Lastly, certainly not least, our researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development

Ms. Shonice Pooniwala, J.D. Candidate 2023  
University of Minnesota Law School and  
a researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development

It is my pleasure to introduce you to tonight's panelist for the theme: Family home, leisure and customs of African Americans, customs that became part of America's identity.

Introductions of panel members —:  
(Antonia Wilcoxon)

**Ms. Vivien Jenkins Nelson** is the co-founder (with her late husband George) of INTER-RACE, a diversity think tank located at Augsburg College in Minneapolis. She is nationally recognized as a diversity practitioner, trainer, planner and researcher. Ms. Jenkins Nelson speaks to thousands of people each year on leadership, change, and diversity. Vivian Nelson was a Bush Leadership Fellow at Harvard University and a former Director of Administration at the Hubert Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota and served as Co-President of the MN League of Women Voter's Board. She has authored eleven books, many articles and essays.

**Mr. Harry W. Davis Jr. was** a golfer at Hiawatha for the last 20 years, and a native Minneapolis resident for 75 years, Harry Davis has followed the plan for the future of our beloved Hiawatha Golf Course. Mr. Harry Davis has a family legacy in Minnesota of 153 years and has a very special interest in maintaining an 18-hole course at Hiawatha for the community. Inner-city youth had little opportunity to play golf, except at Hiawatha, because of cost and availability. Harry Davis has also have had the pleasure of using the golf course from his youth going back to 1957 when he was 11 years old and had the opportunity to meet Joe Louis, the legendary Boxing Champion of the World, who made an appearance at Hiawatha for young people, and showed him the art of the game, along with various golf shots. What a wonderful experience for young boys at that time.

**We have asked the panel members to comment on the following question: Each will have 25 minutes to comment.**

**6:45**

**Focus Question:**

What do residents in Minneapolis know about the history of African American family home and customs that became a part of America's identity? What were beloved activities that children engaged in, what chores did their families

depended on to preserve their garden harvests, hunting game and fishing? What about activities like golf, ice skating, baseball, football and boxing?

Vivian, could you please also comment on holiday traditions, special foods, neighborhood gatherings and barbecues? Thank you.

What do we know about games and storytelling passed down from one's ears to the next, passing down the identity of what it truly means to be African American?

**7:45 Survey (Antonia Wilcoxon)**

- Is it important to document, honor and preserve these events, and histories? (Yes, No)
- How should we preserve these places and people's histories? (Recordings, statues, Museum in Minneapolis)
- How would you like to show the next generation these histories? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Tours of Historic Homes)

**8:00 Review Survey Results/Debrief – High points of discussion, what was your experience having this conversation?**

Would you like to stay engaged in our next session?

**8:25 Final Comments: Next Steps (Judge Lange)**

**8:30 Adjourn**



# Minneapolis African American Community Engagement

Citywide Community Engagement for a Minneapolis African American  
Historic and Cultural Context Study

City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development  
(funder)

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## **Vivian Jenkins-Nelsen**

**Owner, The Hypatia Group, Inc.  
Co-president, Diversity Institute,  
Inc.**

**Co-founder, INTER-RACE**

**Awarded the Presidential  
Volunteer Service Award from  
President Barack Obama**



Source: <https://spokesman-recorder.com/2016/02/03/vivian-jenkins-nelson-modern-day-rennaissance-woman/>



**Vivian Jenkins-Nelsen**  
INTER-RACE Institute, Augsburg University

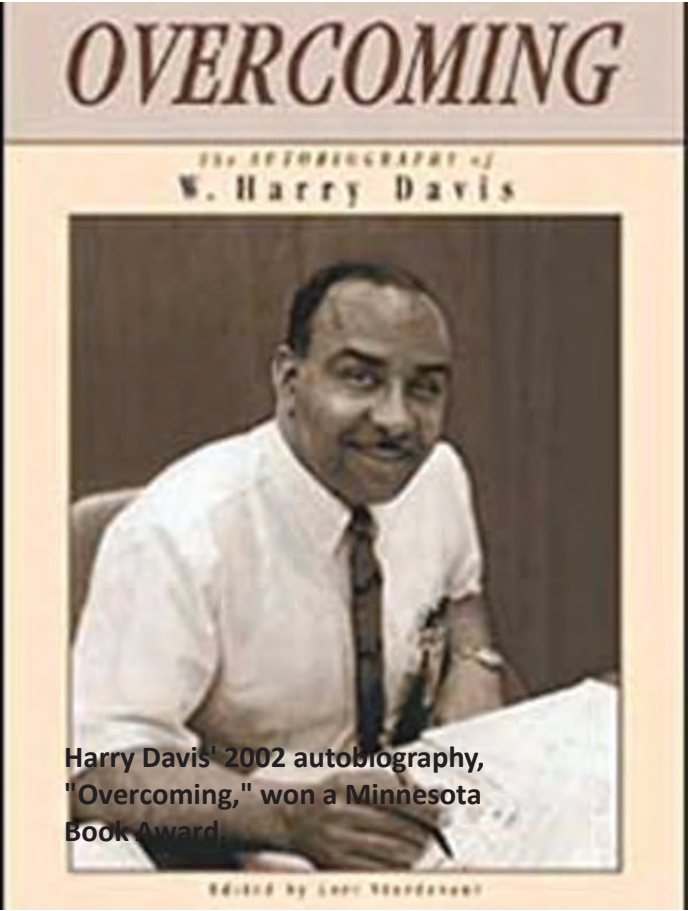
Source: <https://lwvmppls.org/civic-buzz-race-can-we-talk/>





Harry Davis served on the Minneapolis school board for 20 years and founded the Minneapolis Urban Coalition

Source: <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2006/08/11/harrydavisobit>



Harry Davis' 2002 autobiography, "Overcoming," won a Minnesota Book Award

Photo Courtesy of Afton Press

## Harry Davis Childhood Home



© RMLSMN

Source: [https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/3621-Portland-Ave\\_Minneapolis\\_MN\\_55407\\_M83486-25117](https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/3621-Portland-Ave_Minneapolis_MN_55407_M83486-25117)

**Lena O. Smith, Minnesota's first African-American female attorney Also a real estate agent, her interest in housing led to a landmark court case for a black family buying a home in a South Minneapolis neighborhood.**

(Courtesy of Minnesota Historical Society)

She fought for the equality of her clients to live in white neighborhoods. After attending Northwestern College (now part of William Mitchell College of Law), Smith opened her own firm and became a prominent civil-rights attorney and activist in the 1920s and '30s.

She helped found the Urban League branch in Minneapolis in 1925 and was the first female president of the local chapter of the NAACP in 1935.



# Trailblazing Black Minnesotans



Source: <https://www.twincities.com/2016/02/09/15-trailblazing-black-minnesotans-you-should-know-more-about/>

A portrait of John Frank Wheaton, created in 1899 by St. Paul photographer Charles Zimmerman. In 1898, Wheaton became the first black person elected to the Minnesota Legislature. A graduate of Howard University and the University of Minnesota Law School, Wheaton served a single year in office, representing Minneapolis' Kenwood neighborhood and what's known today as Eden Prairie, Edina and Excelsior.



He introduced the 1899 civil-rights statute that guaranteed people of all races access to saloons, which previously had been able to exclude customers based on race. Wheaton twice represented Minnesota at the Republican National Convention. (Courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society)



Willie Gertrude Brown, about 1926 (MNHS Collection)



Gertrude Brown with children and Phyllis Wheatley House, about 1924 (MNHS collection)



Ethel Ray Nance, Blanche Mason, and Willie Brown, about 1926 (MNHS Collection)

Nance (right) was the Assistant Head Resident of Phyllis Wheatley and the first Black policewoman in Minneapolis. Brown is in the foreground.

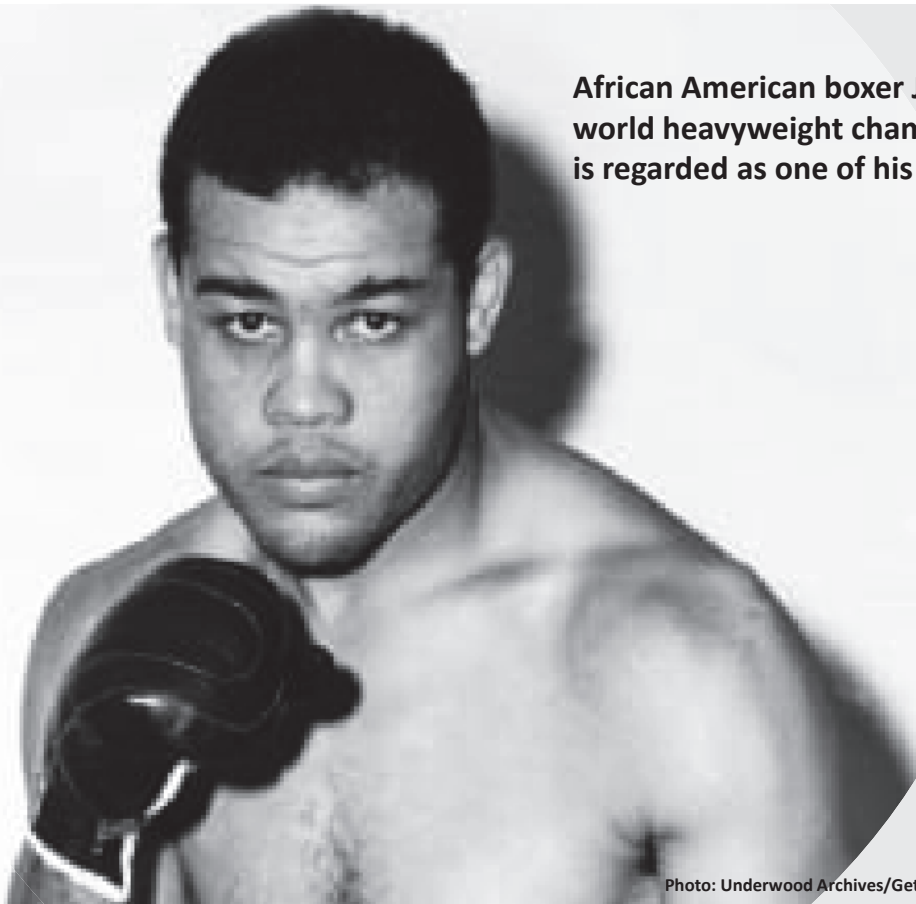
**Golf star Tiger Woods and his father, Earl, stopped in Minneapolis to lend moral support and a few golf pointers to youngsters and their parents living in the inner city.**

**The men chose Minneapolis on Sunday as one of five stops this year for a Tiger Woods Foundation Junior Golf Clinic.**





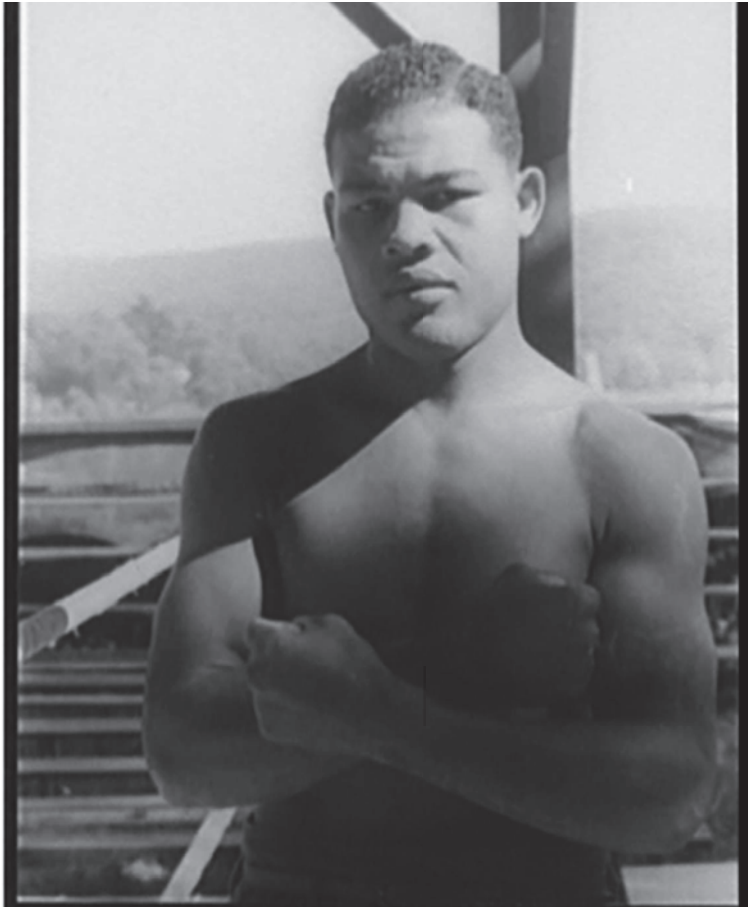
**African American boxer Joe Louis, who reigned as world heavyweight champion from 1937 until 1949, is regarded as one of his sport's all-time greats.**



**Photo: Underwood Archives/Getty Images**



**Louis speaks to a crowd in Italy before an exhibition match. He fought roughly 100 exhibition matches during his time in the army. The National WWII Museum.**



**Many nicknames were bestowed upon Louis during his career, but the most popular was the Brown Bomber.**

Photo by Carl Van Vechten. Courtesy of the Library of Congress.



Nellie Stone Johnson was born in Lakeville, the Minnesota farm girl grew up to become a major influence in the civil-rights and labor movements and an inspirational supporter of higher education. Johnson helped organize the DFL Party in the 1940s, campaigned for Hubert Humphrey and many others, and became the first African-American elected to a citywide office in Minneapolis in 1945. (Pioneer Press: Ginger Pinson)



Minneapolis African American Community Engagement

**Tuesday, October 26, 2021, 6:30pm – 8:30pm**

Meeting will be held online: Zoom

Agenda

**6:30 Open Link –**

**6:35 Welcome –**

My name is Antonia Wilcoxon, Consultant with Equity Strategies, and your facilitator. Thank you for being here tonight. This the second of a series of Minneapolis African American Community Engagement. A citywide community engagement for a Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study. This project is funded by the City of Minneapolis.

Mr. Robert Skalecki, City of Minneapolis, City Planner, Historic Preservation. Would you like to speak a little about this project? Thank you,

City of Minneapolis, Robert Skalecki, City Planner,  
Historic Preservation

We are a joint group of three organizations coming together, and I would like to invite Judge LaJune Lange, lead Organization Lange Johnson Development to say a few words

Lead Organization Lange Johnson Development, Judge  
LaJune Lange, Retired, Partner

Ms. Erin Que is the senior Architectural history for the 106 Group here to introduce herself and say a few words,

Erin Que, Sr. Architectural Historian for 106 Group,

Lastly, certainly not least, our researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development

Ms. Shonice Pooniwala, J.D. Candidate 2023  
University of Minnesota Law School and  
a researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development

It is my pleasure to introduce you to tonight's panelist for the theme: Places of Worship where African Americans left their mark.

Introductions of panel members –:  
(Antonia Wilcoxon)

### **Rev. Doctor Tracey Gibson**

Reverend Dr. Tracey Gibson is the Senior pastor of St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church in Minneapolis, the oldest black church in the state of Minnesota. Prior to this appointment, Rev. Dr. Tracey was the pastor of St. Mark African Methodist Episcopal Church in Duluth, MN.

Rev. Dr. Tracey is active in the community and volunteers for several organizations. She serves on the Advisory Board for School Readiness Learning Academy and is a proud member of the Board of Trustees for Luther Seminary. Passionate about empowering women, she also served on the non-profit board, Women of Hope. Tracey is a Lifetime member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Rev. Dr. Tracey Gibson completed a Master of Divinity in 2014 and a Doctor of Ministry in 2019 both from Luther Seminary.

She currently works for Andersen Window and Doors as the Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer for the company. Prior experience includes the State of Minnesota under two administrations both Governor Dayton and Governor Walz. She spent 30 years at Cargill, Inc. where she held various positions in the Financial Risk Management Platform, Global Treasury, and Global Inclusion and Diversity and Corporate Affairs.

Rev. Dr. Tracey has been married to Daryl Gibson for 31 years and they have two grown children, Theodore, and James. They support Tracey in all her endeavors. She lives by the motto, Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me". Rev. Dr. Tracey Gibson has a heart for people.

### **Rev. Doctor Billy G. Russell**

At the tender age of 18, Dr. Billy G. Russell gave himself to God and has walked strong upon that path ever since. He

received a Bachelors of Science Degree in Physical Education with a minor in Earth Science from University of Southern, MS, Hattiesburg, MS; Master's Degree in Education Administration from William Carey College, Hattiesburg, MS; Masters Degree in Christian Counselor, Faith Seminary, Tacoma, WA; and a doctorate degree in Strategic Leadership, Tacoma, WA. Pastor Russell also attended New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, LA, and Reform Theological Seminary, Jackson, MS. He has received an honorary doctorate from St Thomas Christian University, Jacksonville, FL.

Dr. Russell has served as pastor since 1982. He also served as school administrator for more than 20 years.

Singing has always been a passion of Dr. Russell since he was 5 years old. He is a song writer and recording artist. Dr. Russell have recorded six projects, which have reached hearts around the country.

Dr. Russell served as Senior Pastor of Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN for more than 20 years. He was blessed to retire in April 2021. During his tenure he was been blessed and guided by the Holy Spirit to move the physical location of the church from a smaller location to a facility with a sanctuary which seats more than 600 congregants, multiple classrooms, larger kitchen, and multipurpose rooms, and that houses a K-6 charter school with an average of 125 students.

Dr. Russell's vision "winning the world for Christ, with love," led Greater Friendship MBC to partner with community organizations, other community ministries, student tutoring programs, and with Project Recovery and Re-Entry programs. Through Pastor Russell's vision of community, a branch of Faith Bible Institute has been established with more than 30 graduates with a Biblical Studies diploma. A partnership has been established with Northwestern Bible Institute, which also brings Bible studies to the community.

Dr. Russell was honored to serve as president of Minnesota Baptist State Convention for 8 years. He also served on the Sabathani Community Center board, Urban League as board member, Here's Life Inner City advisory board, and Isaiah Transportation and Financial Equity Networks.

**We have asked the panel members to comment on the following question: Each will have 25 minutes to comment.**

**6:45 Focus Question:**

What do residents in Minneapolis know about the history of places of worship where African Americans left their mark?

**7:45 Survey (Antonia Wilcoxon)**

- Is it important to document, honor and preserve these places, and their histories? (Yes, No)
  - How should we preserve these places and histories? (Recordings, statues, Museum in Minneapolis)
  - How would you like to show the next generation these histories? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Tours of Historic Homes)
- **Please include this answer in the Chat Box:**
  - **What places in Minneapolis tell important stories of the city's African American/Black history? Please provide any addresses, intersections, places, and/or neighborhoods and a brief note about why this place is important. You can include places that no longer have a physical location.**

**8:15 Review Survey Results/Debrief** – High points of discussion, what was your experience having this conversation?

Would you like to stay engaged in our next session?

**8:25 Final Comments:** Next Steps (Judge Lange)

**8:30 Adjourn**



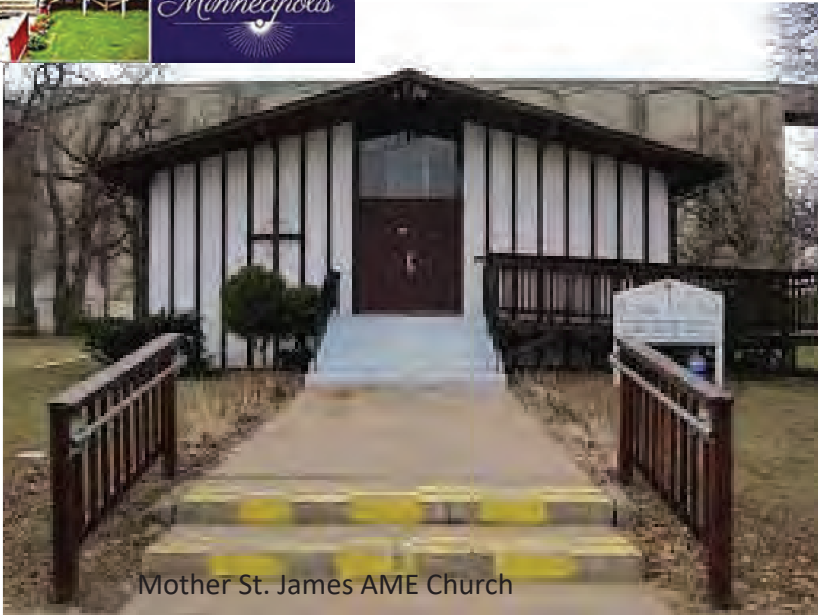


# Minneapolis African American Community Engagement

Citywide Community Engagement for a Minneapolis African American  
Historic and Cultural Context Study

City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development  
(funder)

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/St.JamesAMEMPLS/>



Mother St. James AME Church

Source: <https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/resident-services/property-housing/property-info/landmarks/alphabetical/st-james-ame-church/>



Rev. Dr. Tracey Gibson

Courtesy of Tracey Gibson

## 2021 Women in Business Awards



Rev. Dr. Tracey Gibson

Source: <https://www.bizjournals.com/twincities/news/2021/10/14/2021-women-in-business-tracey-gibson-andersen.html>



Rev. Billy G. Russell

Source: <http://www.pearlsofliving.org/about.html>



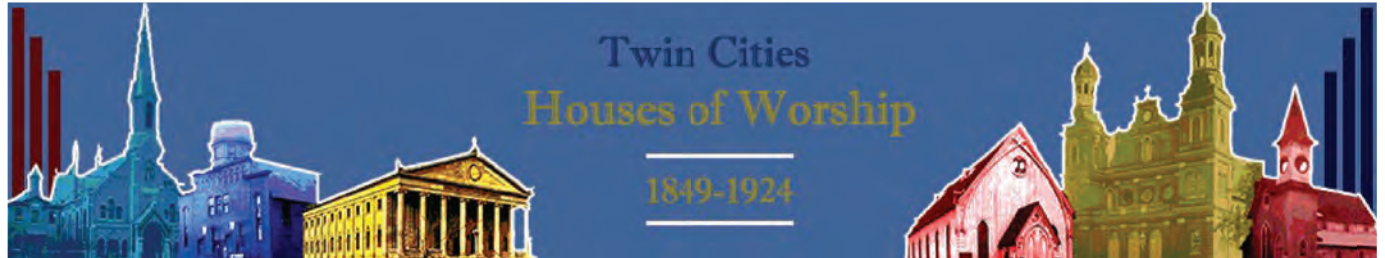
*Greater Friendship*  
*Missionary Baptist Church*  
*Winning The World With Love*

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/greaterfriendshipmbc/>



Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Source: <https://greatfriend.org/media/>



### **Apostolic Faith Mission, Minneapolis**

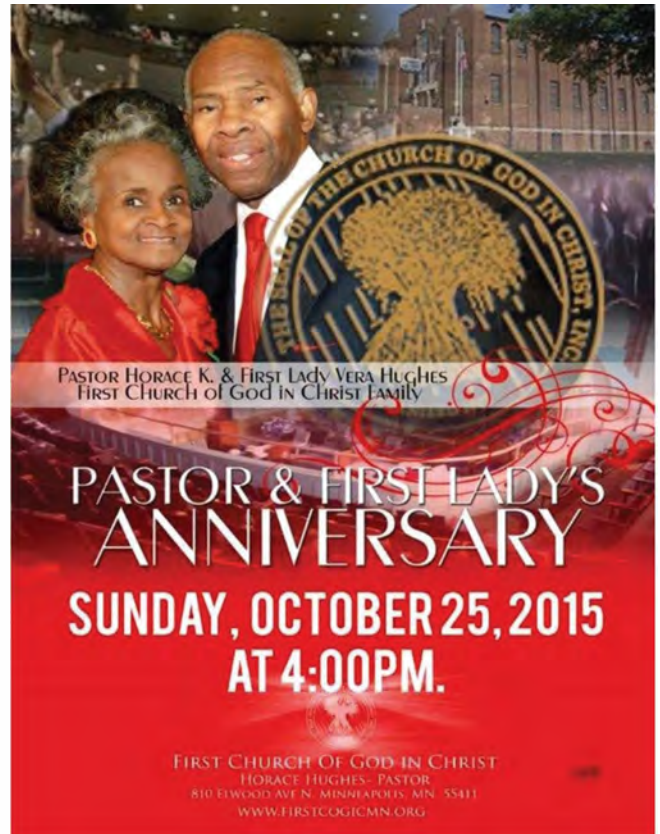
**In Minneapolis, the Pentecostal Apostolic Faith Mission was organized during summer 1907**, initially meeting in the homes of members. In 1908 the group rented halls at Bloomington and Franklin Avenue and later at Lake Street and Chicago Avenue. In 1910, the mission moved to 2415 Riverside Avenue and erected a church building on the site, dedicating it on January 1, 1911. The congregation was located at this address in 1936 when the WPA Report was completed. Focused on mission and revival work, the Apostolic Faith Mission was noted for its tent meetings and the gospel truck that it sponsored. The congregation was led initially by the Reverend Jackson White from 1909-1920, who was succeeded in 1926 by Miss M. Hanson and Mrs. Martha White.

Source: <https://housesofworship.umn.edu/node/282>

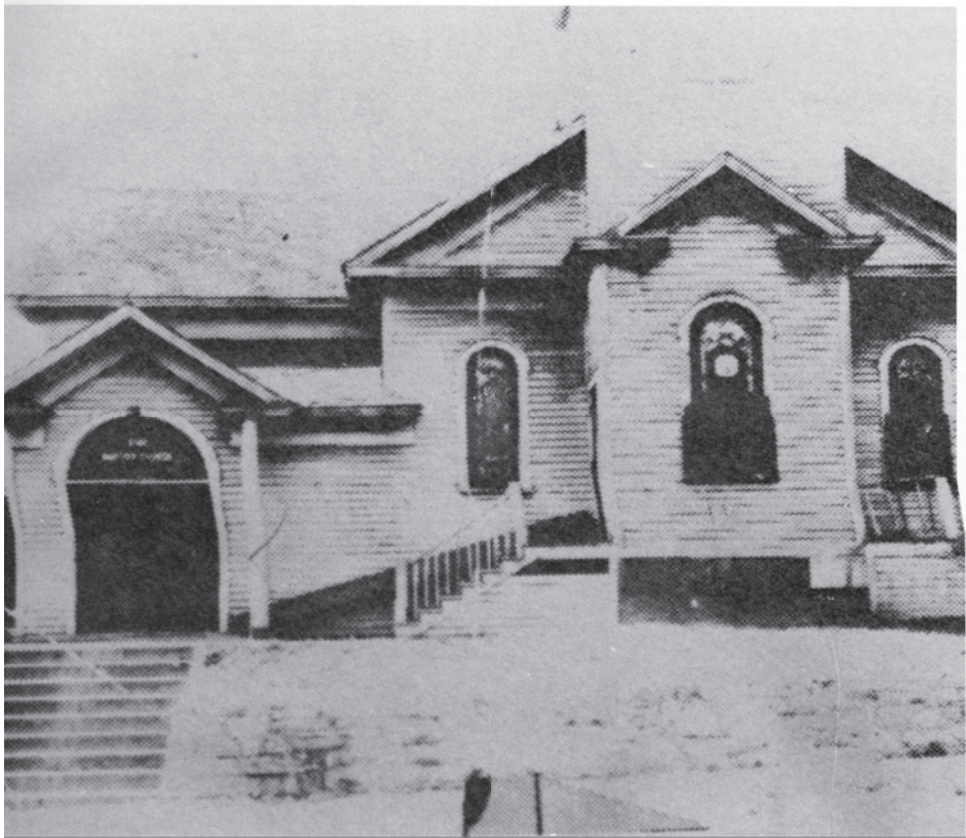


First Church of God in Christ

Source: <https://www.firstcogicmn.org/>



Source: <https://www.firstcogicmn.org/news/news.htm>



Zion Baptist Church, 1906

Source: <https://housesofworship.umn.edu/zion-baptist>



## Rev. Noah Smith, oldest active minister in U.S., passes

He accepted the call to ministry in 1954, first as an evangelist at St. Peter's AME in South Minneapolis, where he later was ordained a minister in 1960, then a pastor at two churches — St. Mark's AME in Duluth and St. James AME, Minneapolis, where he served as senior pastor until his mandatory retirement in 1998. **El-Kati**, who was on the faculty of Macalester College at the time, got to know Rev. Smith when Smith attended the school for his religion degree at in the mid-1980s. "He's the most genteel man I've ever talked to," he recalled.

Smith also received the Sidney Barrow Award in Religion from Macalester in 1986, and later earned his master of divinity degree from United Theological Seminary in 1989 and an honorary doctorate from the school in 2013. At the time of his death, Smith was the oldest living minister in the U.S. still active in ministry. He set the perfect example on how he lived his life," said **Rev. Tracey Gibson**. "I had the honor to sit at his feet and learned from him. I also had the honor of holding his arm" when he needed assistance, which until recently, and despite his advanced age, Rev. Smith rarely asked for it. "I believe I am a better person because of that." ev. Dr. Alphonse Reff, Sr., the pastor of Wayman and St. Paul Minneapolis District presiding elder, called Rev. Smith "his father in the ministry" and always requested that he sit next to him at all meetings where he presided. He left a great legacy both locally and nationally, Reff pointed out.

"Rev. Smith was a great man of faith, a great pastor," said AME Senior Bishop John R. Bryant from his Chicago office, who sent his condolences that were read aloud at last week's services.

"He was one of the great theologians of all time," although he wasn't as well known, stated Reff. "Rev. Smith was a legend in his own time. I am happy to have sat at his feet and get the wisdom that he had. It was a blessing to have him serve on the ministerial staff at Wayman."

Source: <https://spokesman-recorder.com/2015/10/08/rev-noah-smith-oldest-active-minister-u-s-passes/>



### **Dr. Hallie Hendrieth Smith dies at age 99 (Rev. Noah Smith)**

Born and raised on a farm in Orville, Alabama, Smith came to Minneapolis in the early 1950s after her first husband, the late Rev. Martin Hendrieth was assigned as pastor of Wayman AME Church in North Minneapolis. Along with her first lady duties, Smith resumed her teaching career, which first began in the segregated South. She was hired by Minneapolis Public Schools as an elementary school teacher. She was later promoted to principal where she served for 27 years until she retired in 1981. In retirement, she earned her doctorate and served as the founding director of a Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches-operated after-school tutoring program for local students of all ages.

After she met and married her second husband, the Rev. Noah Smith, for 30 years the two were a tag team of sorts, as they served tirelessly in the church — he as a preacher and teacher until his health became a deciding factor. He died last September at age 107. She was a longtime member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and served over the years in many local, district, connectional and global leadership roles. She also was a lifetime member of the AME Women's Missionary Society. She always was willing to speak on church history and educational topics at a drop of a hat.

Source: <https://spokesman-recorder.com/2016/05/04/dr-hallie-hendrieth-smith-dies-age-99/>





Source: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Baptist-Church/True-Vine-Missionary-Baptist-Church-Mpls-MN-USA-189192367771796/-USA-189192367771796/>

Source: Google Street View



Rev. Arthur Agnew



Source: <https://www.unitedstateschurches.com/minnesota/bethesda-missionary-baptist-church-minneapolis/30069>



**Describe the relationship between the people of Minneapolis and the police prior to the death of Mr. George Floyd.**

There has always been tension particularly in the African American community. These tensions between police and community run deep and they go far back. When I came up here as a teenager, I experienced the Minneapolis police department as one of the most brutal in the state toward African Americans. Things have somewhat improved over time, however immediately prior to the killing of Mr. George Floyd, there were still great tensions. At the same time, there also was great hope because of the new police chief. We had hope we were going to see some real change in policing and would not experience police officers just as an occupational force in the community. Instead they would be there to truly protect and serve the community and work with its residents. We believed that over time, we would dispel the “us against them” mentality the police culture seemed to have. We were looking for a cultural shift. A cultural transformation.

Brian Herron is Senior Pastor at Zion Baptist Church in Minneapolis, MN.

Zion Baptist Church exists for the purpose of “being salt and light in a dark sinful world, leading people into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ and drawing them into the Christ centered community the Church.”

Source: <https://churchanew.org/blog/posts/pastor-brian-herron-policing-and-the-church-interview>



Source: <https://thevalemagazine.com/2020/06/10/street-artists-paint-george-floyd-murals/>



Minneapolis African American Community Engagement

**Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 6:30pm – 8:30pm**

Meeting will be held online: Zoom

### Agenda

**6:30 Open Link –**

**6:35 Welcome –**

My name is Antonia Wilcoxon, Consultant with Equity Strategies, and your facilitator. Thank you for being here tonight. This is the third in a series of Minneapolis African American Community Engagement. A citywide community engagement for a Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study. This project is funded by the City of Minneapolis.

Mr. Robert Skalecki, City Planner, Historic Preservation, with the City of Minneapolis, Would you please speak a little about this project? Thank you,

City of Minneapolis, Robert Skalecki, City Planner,  
Historic Preservation

We are a joint group of three organizations coming together, and I would like to invite Judge LaJune Lange, with lead Organization Lange Johnson Development to say a few words

Lead Organization Lange Johnson Development, Judge  
LaJune Lange, Retired, Partner

Ms. Erin Que is the senior Architectural historian for the 106 Group here to introduce herself and say a few words,

Erin Que, Sr. Architectural Historian for 106 Group,

Lastly, certainly not least, our researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development

Ms. Shonice Pooniwala, J.D. Candidate 2023  
University of Minnesota Law School and  
a researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development

Our thanks for our producers of this evening event: Mr. Emory Carter and Mr. Jonathan Carter. They orchestrate the music we hear and the informative slides we will see throughout our meeting tonight.

Thank you all. It is my pleasure to introduce you to tonight's panelists for the theme:

**Minneapolis African American Businesses, Professionals and Social Organizations**

Introductions of panel members —:  
(Antonia Wilcoxon)

**Dr. Rose M. Brewer** is The Morse Alumni Distinguished Teaching Professor and past chairperson of the Department of African American & African Studies, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. She holds affiliate appointments in Gender Women Sexuality Studies and Sociology. She received her M.A and Ph.D. degrees in sociology from Indiana University and did post-doctoral studies at the University of Chicago. A social activist and scholar, Brewer publishes extensively on Black feminism, political economy, social movements, race, class, gender and social change. She is one of the authors of the award-winning book, *The Color of Wealth*, a number of co- edited volumes including *The U.S. Social Forum: Perspectives of a Movement*; *Bridges of Power: Women's Multicultural Alliances* and *Is Academic Feminism Dead? Theory in Practice*. Her work includes more than 80 essays, articles, and refereed publications.

She held the University of North Texas Multicultural Lectureship Award, the Sociologist for Women in Society Feminist Lectureship in Social Change, a Wiepking Distinguished Visiting Professorship at Miami University of Ohio and was a 2013 Visiting Scholar in the Social Justice Initiative, University of Illinois-Chicago. She is a University of Minnesota



College of Liberal Arts Dean's Medalist, a member of the Academy of Distinguished Teachers, a 2013 winner of the American Sociological Association's Distinguished Teaching award, and a Josie R. Johnson Social Justice Award recipient.

**William "Bill" English** has spent most of his adult life in some form of Civic Engagement, Civil Rights/Social Justice advocate/activist, and as an acknowledged "Servant Leader."

Mr. Bill English is a member of the Monitors Club. The Monitors Club was founded in 1955 by two young Black professionals who were living in South Minneapolis, the Monitors Club was born, and the name was chosen as a symbol of their commitment to be watchdogs for the Black community. The Club was organized around three principal areas - civic, financial, and social. Committed to carrying out these mission areas directly within the Twin Cities African American community, the Monitors Club is involved with numerous social and civic community events, including forums with educational and political leaders, collaborations and partnerships with community organizations, and social events that focus on bringing people together to support the Black community.

Community leaders often speak at the club's monthly meetings and members participate in programs that encourage young African Americans to prepare themselves to be active participants in American society and leaders in their own right.

Born and raised in the East St. Louis, IL area where Mr. Bill English attended high school at Lovejoy Illinois. This all-Black Village founded by Slaves who crossed the Mississippi River to escape slavery is one of the oldest Black Towns in the United States. It was there that he was grounded in the notion that we all owe back to our beloved community.

He attended college at Eastern Michigan, Ypsilanti, MI and moved to

Minneapolis MN to take a halfway into grad school. After acceptance he had to drop out and take a job to support his growing family after his wife became bed-ridden during pregnancy

Bill was the first Black Salesman at 3M and he later moved on to Control Data where he was employed for 32 years including 17 as a Vice President of Human Resources and in numerous roles including Chief Diversity Officer and in Sales/Marketing Executive roles. .

Bill has served as the founding Executive Director of Sabathani Community Center, President of the Minneapolis Urban League Board of Directors, Co-Chair of the Coalition of Black Churches/African American Leadership Summit and numerous other non-organizations.

Bill is the recipient of many awards including being elected twice to "Who's Who in Black America, The National Urban League's President's award, Black Futurism's Servant Leader's award, the Minnesota Women's Political Caucus 'Good Guy Award and the Coalition of Black Churches Community Hero award and several others.

Bill had the honor of appearing on the award winning 60 Minutes television program where he was interviewed by Emmy Award winner Mike Wallace.

Bill is married to the love of his life Freddie Davis-English and is the Father of four wonderful children, including William, Jr. (deceased), Ramona English, Dallas TX, Cheryl D. English, Minneapolis and Amber Nicole English-Coleman of Washington D.C.

### **Theartrice ("T") Williams**

Theartrice ("T") Williams, MSW. Independent consultant, former Interim Executive Director Phyllis Wheatley Community Center, Minneapolis School Board member and former Senior Research Associate at Rainbow Research, Inc. specializes in questions of social and distributive justice, with particular emphasis on community economic development and education issues affecting minority

populations. Mr. Williams has been the principal investigator on Rainbow Research evaluations of several local community-based organizations and has conducted program and organizational assessments at the national level.

Following the 1967 street violence on Plymouth Ave., Williams and a colleague were engaged by a group of 14 Minneapolis top corporate executives to explore with the community the value of establishing an urban coalition designed to address issues of race and poverty in Minneapolis. Their work led to the establishment of the Minneapolis Urban Coalition in 1968.

Williams was Minnesota and the nation's first Corrections Ombudsman. He was named to that post by Governor Wendell Anderson in 1972 and served until 1983. In his position he was authorized to investigate prisoner complaints or complaints on his own initiative of any actions of the Department of Corrections.

Williams has taught courses at the Humphrey Institute: Role of the Minority Community in Shaping Educational Reform Policy; Impact of Race on Social Policy Issues. Courses at Augsburg College included: Social Work Practice: Community Organization and Social Policy; Social Work Program Administration and Policy Development and Field Practice; Topics in U.S. History: Minneapolis Urban Crises.

Currently Williams is active with and on the Board of the Civic Caucus and is completing a Minnesota Historical Society supported

history project that focuses on how Minneapolis and Minnesota responded to the Urban Crisis of the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Williams' recognitions and awards include The Bush Foundation Leadership Fellows award; Outstanding Achievement Award, Minnesota Chapter National Association of Social Workers; Outstanding Service in Criminal Justice Award, National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice Award; Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota Service Award, Outstanding Alumni Award University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work.

Williams holds a B.A. degree from the University of Illinois; M.S.W. from the University of Pennsylvania; graduate work at the University of Illinois, University of Chicago, DePaul University Law School and Northwestern University.

His publications include a book and numerous articles in the local daily newspapers, in professional journals, and special reports:

- Williams, Theartrice, *Getting Started: A Handbook for Community-Owned/Community-Based Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program Initiatives*, Rainbow Research 1999.
- Wittstock, Laura and Williams, Theartrice, *Changing Communities Changing Foundations: The Story of the Diversity Efforts of Twenty Community Foundations*, Rainbow Research 1998 (Book).
- *The Role of the Church in Community Development: Two Case Studies*, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs of University of Minnesota, 1992.
- "Limited View of the Settlement House Movement," Book Review, *Foundation News*, March/April 1989.

- A Game Plan for the Future: A Public Forum On Balancing Education and Athletics, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs of University of Minnesota, 1989.
- Early Childhood Education and Child Care : Improving Educational Perspectives for Minority and Disadvantaged Children, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs of University of Minnesota, 1989.
- Venture Capital and Job Development Strategies for the Black Community, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs of University of Minnesota, 1987.

Educational Reform in Minnesota: Implications for Minority Communities, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs of University of Minnesota, 1986.

- "Between the Keeper and the Kept," Trial, March 1976.
- "Minnesota Correctional Ombudsman," Social Work, November 1975.

#### **6:45 Focus Question:**

**We have asked the panel members to comment on the following:**

**What do residents in Minneapolis know about the history of Minneapolis African American Businesses, Professionals and Social Organizations?**

**Each will have 20 minutes to comment.**

**8:15 Survey (Antonia Wilcoxon)** We would like to invite you to participate in a short survey showing up on the screen in a few minutes. We will review the results shortly

- Is it important to document, honor and preserve the people places, and their histories? (Yes, No)
- How should we preserve the people, places and histories? (Recordings, statues, Museum in Minneapolis)
- How would you like to show the next generation these histories? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Tours of Historic Homes)

- Also, could you please include this answer in the Chat Box—Erin, would you like to talk about this question? Thanks!

**What places in Minneapolis tell important stories of the city’s African American/Black history? Please provide any addresses, intersections, places, and/or neighborhoods and a brief note about why this place is important. You can include places that no longer have a physical location.**

**8:20**            **Review Survey Results/Debrief** – High points of discussion, what was your experience having this conversation?

Would you like to stay engaged in our next session?

**8:25**            **Final Comments:** Next Steps (Judge Lange)

**8:30**            **Adjourn**



## Minneapolis African American Community Engagement

Citywide Community Engagement for a Minneapolis African American  
Historic and Cultural Context Study

City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development  
(funder)



## **Dr. Rose Brewer From Tulsa to Minneapolis: Activist Scholar is Rooted in Community**

The academy has an obligation to extend itself in a way that doesn't just advance its own interests. Being a scholar activist means everything I work on at the University of Minnesota has to have a community component.

—Rose Brewer

**Rose Brewer at the Sumner Library  
March, 2020  
Photos by Eric Mueller**

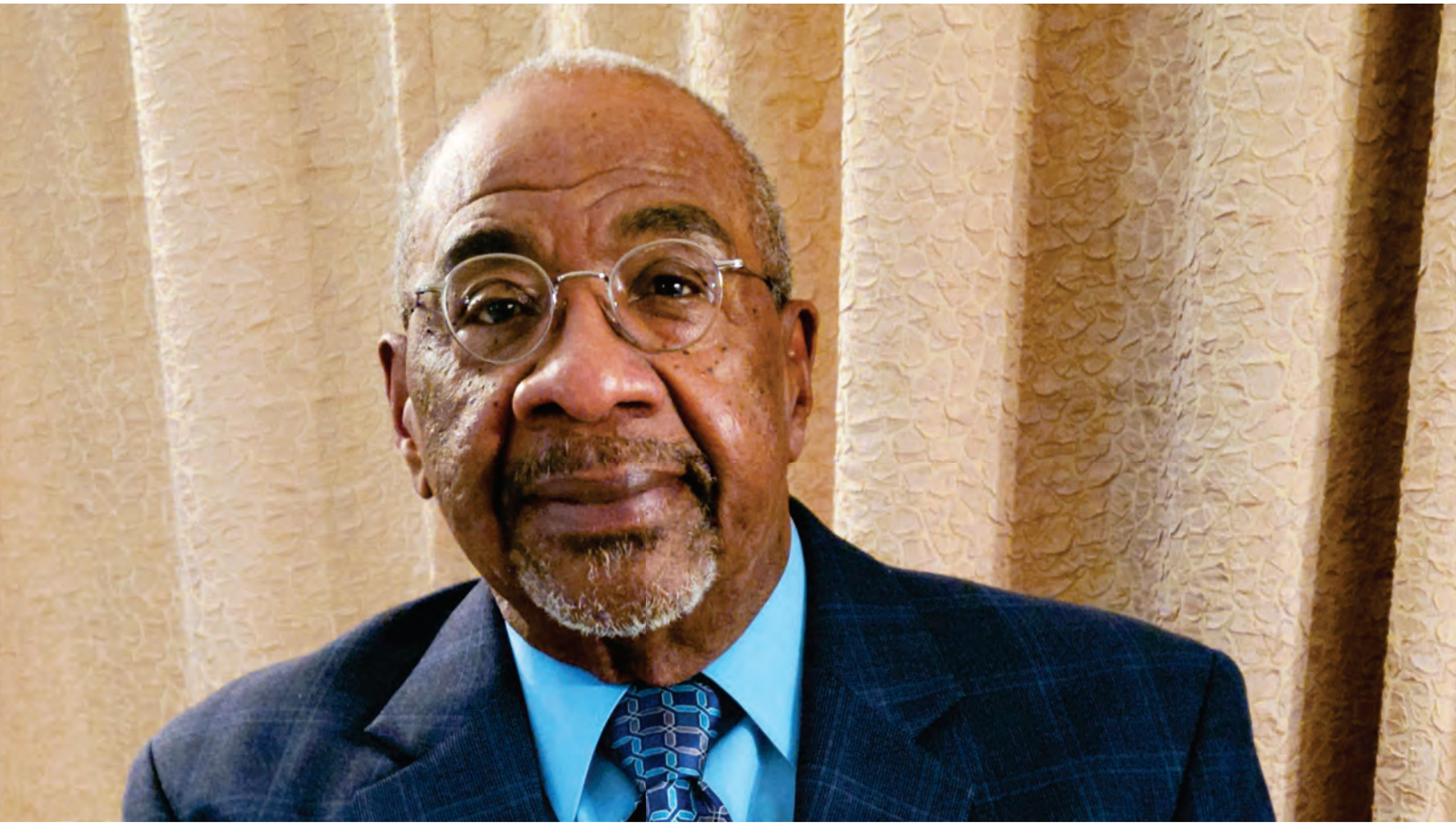
Source: <https://turtleroad.org/2019/03/07/rose-brewer-activist-scholar-rooted-in-community-struggle/>



**Race, class and gender still matter, Brewer said. They challenge our society to think about Americans who are on the less-advantaged side of all three of those divides, those who are poor, female and of color.**



Source: <https://www.minnpost.com/eric-black-ink/2019/09/rose-brewer-on-the-ongoing-struggle-for-real-democracy-in-the-u-s/>



William "Bill" English

Courtesy of Bill English

**According to longtime jobs advocate Mr. Bill English, the Northside Job Creation Team (NJCT), founded in 2013, is nearly halfway to its goal of bringing 1,000 jobs to North Minneapolis by the end of 2017. “I do the work because I love it. I’ve done it before,” said the former Control Data employment equity executive for 32 years in a recent MSR interview at UROC on Plymouth Avenue, a major Northside artery.**



Source: <https://spokesman-recorder.com/2016/12/20/transforming-the-northside-44-groups-collaborate-to-bring-in-living-wage-jobs/>



The Monitors Club harnesses its members' talents and resources to support the educational, political, economic, and social wellbeing of the African American community within the Twin Cities. The club and its foundation bolster the development of our youth by contributing time, expertise, and funds to organizations that provide direct services to African American children and families.

Source: <https://monitorsclub.org/>



• THE MONITORS FOUNDATION

Source: <https://monitorsclub.org/>



Source: <https://monitorsclub.org/portfolio-item/golf-tournament/>



Source: <https://monitorsclub.org/2017/05/31/retreat/>



Source: <https://monitorsclub.org/portfolio-item/club-gallery/>





Lewis King (in center)  
Summit OIC

Source: <https://monitorsclub.org/portfolio-item/holiday-activites/>

**Mr. T. Williams**



Source: <https://thehypatiagroupinc.com/team/williams/>

# Community Forum

## 1960s Street Riots

**“Until lions have their own historians, tales of the hunt shall always glorify the hunter “**

**The decades of the 1960s and 1970s presented Minnesota and the nation with many challenging social, political and economic problems. Some of the events generating those challenges were:**

- **The Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts of 1964-1965**
- **The Street Riots 1965-1970**
- **1968 assassinations of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Senator Robert Kennedy**
- **January 14, 1969 Morrill Hall takeover at University of Minnesota, Minneapolis campus**

# National Response

- President Lyndon B. Johnson convened a group of civic, business, civil rights, religious, nonprofit and public officials in Washington, D.C. to address the urban crisis.
- The President urged these leaders to return to their respective communities and form urban coalitions inclusive of the people and their organizations who are directly affected to develop solutions to the problems of race and poverty.

# Local Response

- Minneapolis responded overwhelmingly to the president's call
- Over 40 people attended the President's convocation
- Following the President's call for forming urban coalitions a group of 14 Minneapolis top corporate executives formed a steering committee to explore forming an urban coalition
- The Steering Committee hired T. Williams and Larry Harris to conduct the study
- Williams and Harris recommend creation of an urban coalition (February 1968)

## Minneapolis Urban Coalition

- The goal of the urban coalition will be to unite and utilize the total resources of our community in attacking the problems of race and poverty
- Board of director of not less than 60 nor more than 100; only organizations could have a board seat; 1/3 of the board members would represent organizations serving the poor and racial minority communities
- All board meetings were open to the public
- Board chair would be a top executive from the founding corporations

# Street Riots / Urban Coalition Legacies

- Major corporations began to change recruitment, promotion and hiring practices (1966)
- The Way, Inc. (1966)
- TCOIC/Summit Academy OIC (1966)
- Pilot City/North Point Wellness Center established (1966)
- Control Data Corp. locates manufacturing plant in North Minneapolis (1967)
- American Indian Movement (AIM) established (1968)
- Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation (GMHC) established (1969)
- Legal Rights Center established (1970)
- Metropolitan Economic Development Association (MEDA) established (1971)
- Operation De Novo established (1971)
- Project for Pride in Living established (PPL) 1972

# Religious Institutions Responses

- Religious institutions represented on Urban Coalition board
- American Lutheran Church launched new program initiatives
  - Committee on Inner City Ministries (CICM-1968)
  - Project Summer Hope (1970)
  - Minority Scholarship and Grants Program (1970)



# Lessons Learned

- Value an inclusive process ... find seats at the table for all who want to be a part of the solution
- Dissatisfaction drives change ... confrontation can be a useful tool
- Make maximum use of existing resources
- Build bridges across racial, cultural and socio-economic divides
- Networking is a critical tool, value and use it often
- Patience is more than a virtue, it's a necessity ... change can be a slow and tedious process, especially if it is to be sustained
- Know the difference between the capacity to confront and the capacity to implement and respect it



Minneapolis African American Community  
Engagement

**Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 6:30pm – 8:30pm**

Meeting will be held online: Zoom

Agenda

**6:30 Open Link –**

**6:35 Welcome –**

My name is Antonia Wilcoxon, Consultant with Equity Strategies, and your facilitator.

Thank you for being here tonight. This is the fifth in a series of Minneapolis African American Community Engagement. A citywide community engagement for a Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study. This project is made possible by a grant from the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund through the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Grants from the fund are designed to advance ongoing preservation activities for historic places representing African American cultural heritage.

The City of Minneapolis hired a consultant team comprised of Lange Johnson Development, Equity Strategies, LLC, and 106 Group to conduct citywide community outreach on the needs and wants of the African American community relative to heritage preservation.

Mr. Robert Skalecki, City Planner, Historic Preservation, with the City of Minneapolis, Would you please speak a little about this project? Thank you,

City of Minneapolis, Robert Skalecki, City Planner,  
Historic Preservation

We are a joint group of three organizations coming together, and I would like to invite Judge LaJune Lange, with lead Organization Lange Johnson Development to say a few words

Lead Organization Lange Johnson Development, Judge  
LaJune Lange, Retired, Partner

Ms. Erin Que is the senior Architectural historian for the 106 Group here to introduce herself and say a few words,

Erin Que, Sr. Architectural Historian for 106 Group,

And our researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development

Ms. Shonice Pooniwala, J.D. Candidate 2023  
University of Minnesota Law School and  
a researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development

Our thanks for our producers of this evening event: Mr. Emory Carter and Mr. Jonathan Carter. They orchestrate the music we hear and the informative slides we will see throughout our meeting tonight.

Thank you all. It is my pleasure to introduce you to tonight's panelists for the theme:

**How can the Minneapolis African American community identify people, places and buildings that are so seared into the Consciousness of the Black Community that there should be formal recognition for future generations and visitors. What should be saved and protected?**

Introductions of panel members –:  
(Antonia Wilcoxon)

### **Ms. TRACEY L. WILLIAMS-DILLARD**

Hard work and dedication to her multi-generational family and family business has always been her main focus. Ms. Williams Dillard has the awesome responsibility of running the day-to-day operations of the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder as well as providing leadership direction to move the business forward. Her vision, passion and commitment to take the newspaper into the future are the main reasons that it continues to this day, more than eight decades since its founding. She has a solid understanding of the beliefs and values of her grandfather, the late Cecil E. Newman, who founded the newspaper in 1934, and she is committed to continuing his legacy.

At the tender age of eight, Ms. Williams Dillard began her work at the paper, working odd jobs including mastering and operating the "Address-O-Graph" machine which sits in the front lobby today. Later she worked as a receptionist and billing clerk and eventually moved on to advertising sales. During this same period, she found time to pursue other areas of interest including chemical dependency counseling. As such, she did an

internship at the Institute of Black Chemical Abuse and attended classes at the Minneapolis Community and Technical College majoring in counseling.

Later, Ms. Williams Dillard moved to Des Moines, Iowa, where she worked in the accounting and human resource departments at Ardan's, a large retail outlet. Ms. Williams Dillard returned to Minneapolis and worked at a Chevrolet dealership as a billing clerk. In 1990, she accepted a full-time position with the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder as an advertising representative and office manager. Since that time, she has focused much of her efforts on strengthening the advertising sales area of the business.

In 2001 Ms. Williams Dillard became the president and chief economic officer of the 85-year-old community newspaper. In 2006 she became owner and CEO of the weekly publication.

In addition to her leadership at the paper, Ms. Williams Dillard has served on several local boards such as the Boys and Girls Club, Minneapolis NAACP, Southside Community Collaborative, African American Aids Project, Twin Cities African American Leadership Forum, TPT Television, Sister Spokesman and Global Women's Network. Tracey was the vice-president of the Minnesota Minority Media Coalition. She is also a member of the board of directors for her newspaper, the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder and is the president of the not-for-profit arm, the Spokesman-Recorder Nonprofit.

In 2006 Tracey started a women's group called "Sister Spokesman" that provides women of color a monthly opportunity to meet, network, learn from a wide range of guest speakers and expert panelists, and promote and support new women-owned business ventures. After fifteen years the group continues to grow with a current monthly attendance averaging 75-100 participants.

One of Ms Williams Dillard proudest accomplishments is having launched the Spokesman-Recorder's annual "Graduation Celebration: A Family Affair," in 1995 which every spring provided a free dinner, inspirational

speakers, and entertainment to graduating seniors of African and African-American descent and their families. This event celebrates the community's youth and their families for achieving their educational milestone and emphasizes to the rest of the community the great importance of education to the future of Black Americans. Thousands of young people and their families have benefited from this annual event, and hundreds of youth have received scholarships to continue their education.

Ms Williams Dillard was involved in kick-boxing as a hobby, is an avid movie watcher, and enjoys bowling, fishing and playing cards. When she is not busy with all of these activities, she enjoys spending quality time with her husband, daughters, and myriad friends at their home in Burnsville, Minnesota.

**Mr. Mel Reeves** is the community editor for the Minnesota Spokesman Recorder, celebrating 85 years as one of the oldest African American newspapers in the US. Mr. Reeves is a human rights activist and journalist. He has been actively involved in struggles to promote social justice and human rights for over 30 years either writing about them organizing or doing both.

He began fighting for racial justice while serving as the Racial Justice Coordinator for Clergy and Laity Concerned and took on issues of race including fighting South African Apartheid.

He fought for school desegregation and was active in pushing the lawsuit in the mid 1990's seeking integration of Minneapolis and suburban school districts.

Helped organize the effort to secure a civilian review board in 1991.

Worked to get justice for the workers during the Embassy Suites 11 in 1991

He organized the effort to get justice for Tycel Nelson who was shot and killed by Minneapolis police officer Dan May in December 1990. And worked to bring justice in a myriad of cases following Nelson's death. More recently was involved in organizing the effort to get justice for Terrence Franklin, Jamar Clarke, Philando Castile, George Floyd, Daunte Wright and Winston Smith.

Created the Take a Knee Nation organization to highlight the problem of police violence, as seen through the families of the victim. In 2018 organized the Take A Knee Conference in Minneapolis the weekend that the Super Bowl was held here highlighting the struggles of a few dozen families.

On the heels of the murder of George Floyd he helped organize the Mothers March which brought in hundreds of families to the Twin Cities to stand in solidarity with George Floyd's family and families who lost a loved one to police violence.

Fought gentrification and the displacement of residents who lived in high rises in what is now known as Heritage Park in 2000.

Worked with the Occupy Movement and eventually Occupy Homes in the Twin Cities which successfully saved many homes from foreclosure.

Worked with activists and alumni to prevent the closing of Minneapolis North High School in 2011

Mr. Reeves has written dozens of articles exposing and highlighting injustices in the Twin Cities.

Wrote a column Mellaneous for the MSR for over 20 years.

Worked as a consultant and organizer with HIRE Minnesota to get the construction industry to hire more POC in publicly funded construction projects.

Was a member of the International Association of Machinists and supported union organizing efforts and stood with fellow workers on dozens of picket lines.

And he has answered the call for help and aided the organizing in dozens of cases involving injustice in the Twin Cities over the years.

**Ms. Angela Rose Myers** graduated from Barnard College of Columbia University in New York City, a Twin Cities Native, she returned to Minneapolis looking to make a change her community through meaningful relationship building, an honest commitment to equality, and empowering young women to be the change they want to see.

Now, Angela Rose is pursuing her Master's Degree in Human Rights at the University of Minnesota.

After being connected with the Minneapolis NAACP, she quickly rose to the position of 2nd Vice-President at the age of 23 then was elected President of the Minneapolis NAACP in November 2020 at 25, making her one of the youngest NAACP Adult Branch Presidents in the Nation. She has worked with and built relationships with many local community groups on issues of Civic Engagement like Minnesota Voice, Black Votes Matter Minnesota, ACER, ACLU Minnesota, national groups like the National Organization For Women and National Action Network. She has travelled around the world engaging scholars on social justice issues and public policy, most notably helping coordinate the 5th World Conference on Remedies to Racial and Ethnic Economic Inequalities in Vitoria, Brazil.

**I would like to share here some of Ms. Myers' reflections on an article she wrote for her alma mater Barnard College: More than a year** after the murder of George Floyd, one of the most common questions I am asked as the president of the Minneapolis NAACP is "How can I make a change?" I did not plan on holding a leadership position during nationwide racial justice protests originating just a few blocks from my home. I had to learn on the ground. In a short period of time, I came to understand police policy, the inner workings of city and state government, and how to organize during a crisis. But as people ask themselves — and me — what they can do to make a difference, I find myself thinking about and sharing my own activism journey more and more.

That journey starts in Minnesota, where I was born and have lived the majority of my life. It's known as a progressive haven with great access to healthcare and an excellent education system. It is also a very white state. According to the 2020 census, Minnesota is 76% white, down from 85% in 2010, and 89% in 2000. Growing up as a Black girl in the Twin Cities, I benefited from my proximity to wealth and to whiteness and oftentimes didn't see its gross systemic racial disparities on display.

In New York, I learned to embrace my Blackness in ways I didn't know I needed. I loved the experience of walking down 125th Street and seeing Black women with their hair in all different styles. I loved my conversations at Barnard in the Africana Studies Department and at BOSS. I wasn't an

activist, but I was involved in the flourishing Black community that Barnard fostered. After graduating in 2018, I moved back to Minnesota with the goal of fostering the same type of community I had at Barnard. I wanted to get “involved” now that I was back home, but I had no idea what that meant or how to best go about contributing. I decided to start by reaching out to organizations that I felt aligned with my values. I connected with elders and community members doing work I admired. And I started in on a type of research that required me to learn through doing and by building genuine relationships with people who’ve been impacted by systemic racism.

I quickly learned what my high school history classes left out. And I came to realize that the early identity of Minnesota was shaped through a war: The U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 led to the largest mass execution documented on our soil — 38 Native Americans were hanged in front of a 4,000-person crowd — and to the murder and displacement of thousands of Native Americans in the months that followed. I learned that the Ku Klux Klan and white supremacist activity flourished in both rural and urban areas of Minnesota in the 1920s. In 1907, an arsonist destroyed Brown’s Chapel African Methodist Episcopal in Hastings, the religious center for Blacks in the area, compelling many to leave the city. The last Black resident of Hastings died in 1954. I learned there were lynchings of Black men in Duluth in the 1920s, which the Minneapolis NAACP documented. And I learned how prosperous Black communities, like those in St. Paul’s Rondo community, were displaced and destroyed by the construction of the I-94 freeway. Learning Minnesota’s racist history — my home’s history — made me an activist because it compelled me to work to change its present and future.

With this knowledge, I also began to notice a pattern of police violence against Black Minnesotans. Since the late 1990s, more than 200 people have been killed at the hands of the police in Minnesota, and of those, many had Black ancestry, according to the *Star Tribune*. I learned their names: Jamar Clark, Philando Castile, Kobe Dimock-Heisler, Winston Smith, Dolal Idd, Travis Jordan, Jaffort Smith, Demetrius Hill, Cordale Handy, Isak Aden, George Floyd, Daunte Wright, among many others. The hardest part was learning these names through their loved ones, many of whom form the group Families Supporting Families Against Police Violence. Meeting these families and learning about my state’s legacy of violence against Black



people made me reexamine Minnesota. It made me reexamine my own assumptions about the status quo of the state's whiteness and the magnitude of its history. And it made me see how cultures, communities, and lives were lost due to white supremacist violence, as well as the often invisible violence that is necessary to maintain "business as usual."

In November 2020, I was elected to lead the Minneapolis NAACP. But there are many forms of activism and community organizing. You can participate in direct services, self-help, education, advocacy, and direct actions. I am not an adept organizer of protests, campaigns, or events. But in my role, I get to help my community by advocating for policies that end police violence.

Our advocacy has meant putting in a lot of legwork toward incremental changes to police accountability. I've worked to create and pass a model policy on police response to First Amendment-protected public assemblies and testified for a bill that would ban peace officers from receiving or maintaining an officer license if they were a member of a group identified as a white supremacist terrorist organization by the FBI. We can push this work further by taking actions such as pressing for time requirements on the release of body camera footage and ending pretextual stops. But we must also work toward larger, more comprehensive policy work that transforms the criminal legal system and abolishes its white supremacist practices that have perpetuated violence and inhumane conditions.

If you would like to make a change in the world, now is the time to start, right where you are. In your community, company, city, or college campus, you have the power to make an impact.

\*\*\*

*Angela Rose Myers '18 is the president of the Minneapolis NAACP and a master's student of human rights at the University of Minnesota.*

**6:45 Focus Question:**

**We have asked the panel members to comment on the following:**

**How can the Minneapolis African American community identify people, places and buildings that are so seared into the Consciousness of the Black Community that there should be formal recognition for**

**future generations and visitors. What should be saved and protected  
How should we save and protect these?**

**Each will have 20 minutes to comment.**

**8:15 Survey** (Antonia Wilcoxon) We would like to invite you to participate in a short survey showing up on the screen in a few minutes. We will review the results shortly

- Is it important to document, honor and preserve the people places, and buildings? (Yes, No)
  - How should we preserve the people, places and buildings? (Recordings, statues, Museum in Minneapolis)
  - How would you like to show the next generation formally recognize this history for future generations and visitors? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Tours of Historic Homes)
- **Also, could you please include this answer in the Chat Box—Erin, would you like to talk about this question? Thanks!**

**What places in Minneapolis tell important stories of the city's African American/Black history? Please provide any addresses, intersections, places, and/or neighborhoods and a brief note about why this place is important. You can include places that no longer have a physical location.**

**8:20 Review Survey Results/Debrief** – High points of discussion, what was your experience having this conversation?

Would you like to stay engaged in our next session?

**8:25 Final Comments:** Next Steps (Judge Lange)

**8:30 Adjourn**



## Minneapolis African American Community Engagement

**Citywide Community Engagement for a Minneapolis African American  
Historic and Cultural Context Study**

**City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development  
(funder)**



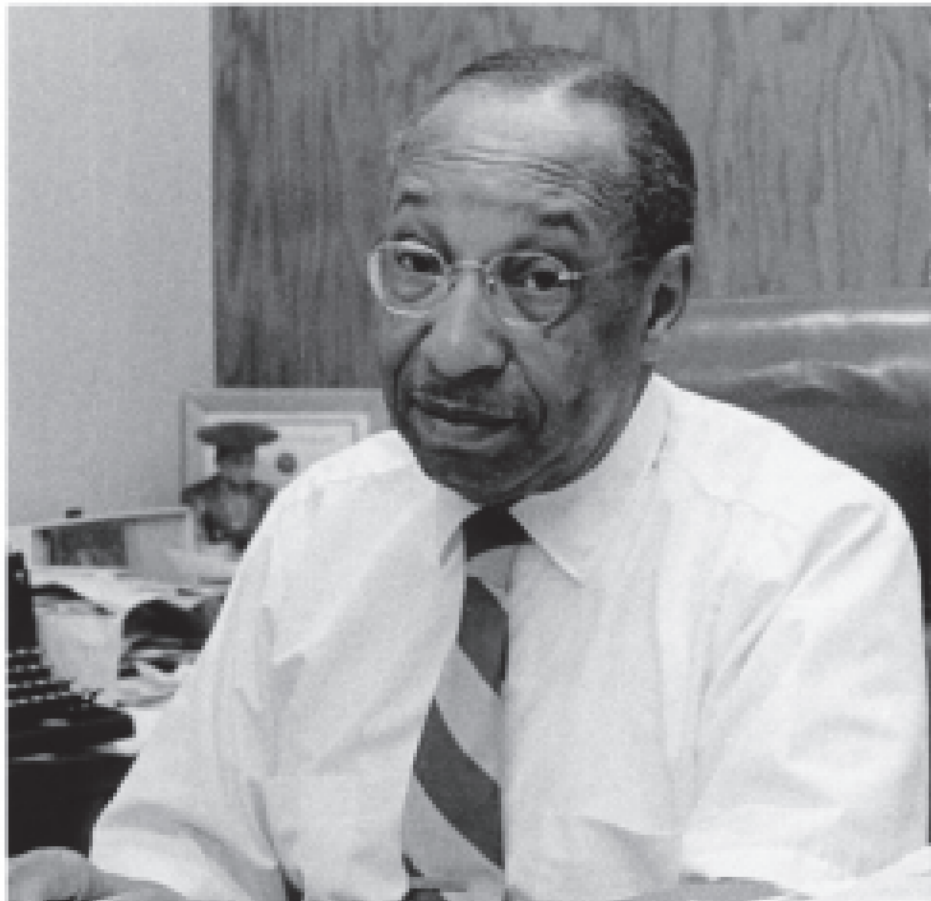
The graphic of MSR founder Cecil E. Newman on the left is currently displayed at the Minneapolis Club downtown. Newman was the first African American to join the club. Today, his granddaughter Tracy Williams-Dillard (right) is the publisher of the MSR and sits at the same desk as her grandfather.


Source: <https://spokesman-recorder.com/about/>

**Cecil Newman was a pioneering newspaper publisher and an influential leader in Minnesota. His newspapers, the *Minneapolis Spokesman* and the *St. Paul Recorder*, provided news and information to readers while advancing civil rights, fair employment, political engagement, and Black pride.**

***In both papers, Newman pledged to “speak out fearlessly and unceasingly against injustices, discriminations, and all imposed inequities.”***

Source: <https://www.mnopedia.org/person/newman-cecil-1903-1976>





- Just half a mile from the Minneapolis intersection where George Floyd died last summer, a small team of journalists covered the story as it evolved from neighborhood news to a global movement. Now the journalists of the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder are covering the trial of Derek Chauvin, the former officer accused of George Floyd's murder. The Spokesman-Recorder is a newspaper for Minnesota's Black community by Minnesota's Black community. It is one of the oldest family-run papers in the country.

- “I watched some of the national news or even in the local news, and maybe they don't feel the Black perspective as we do. And I think the African American perspective is, like - it's like you're living it. It's your daily life. And I don't know that other medias look at it that way. They look at it as news, and we're looking at it as, like, we deal with this daily..”

CEO and publisher, Tracey Williams-Dillard



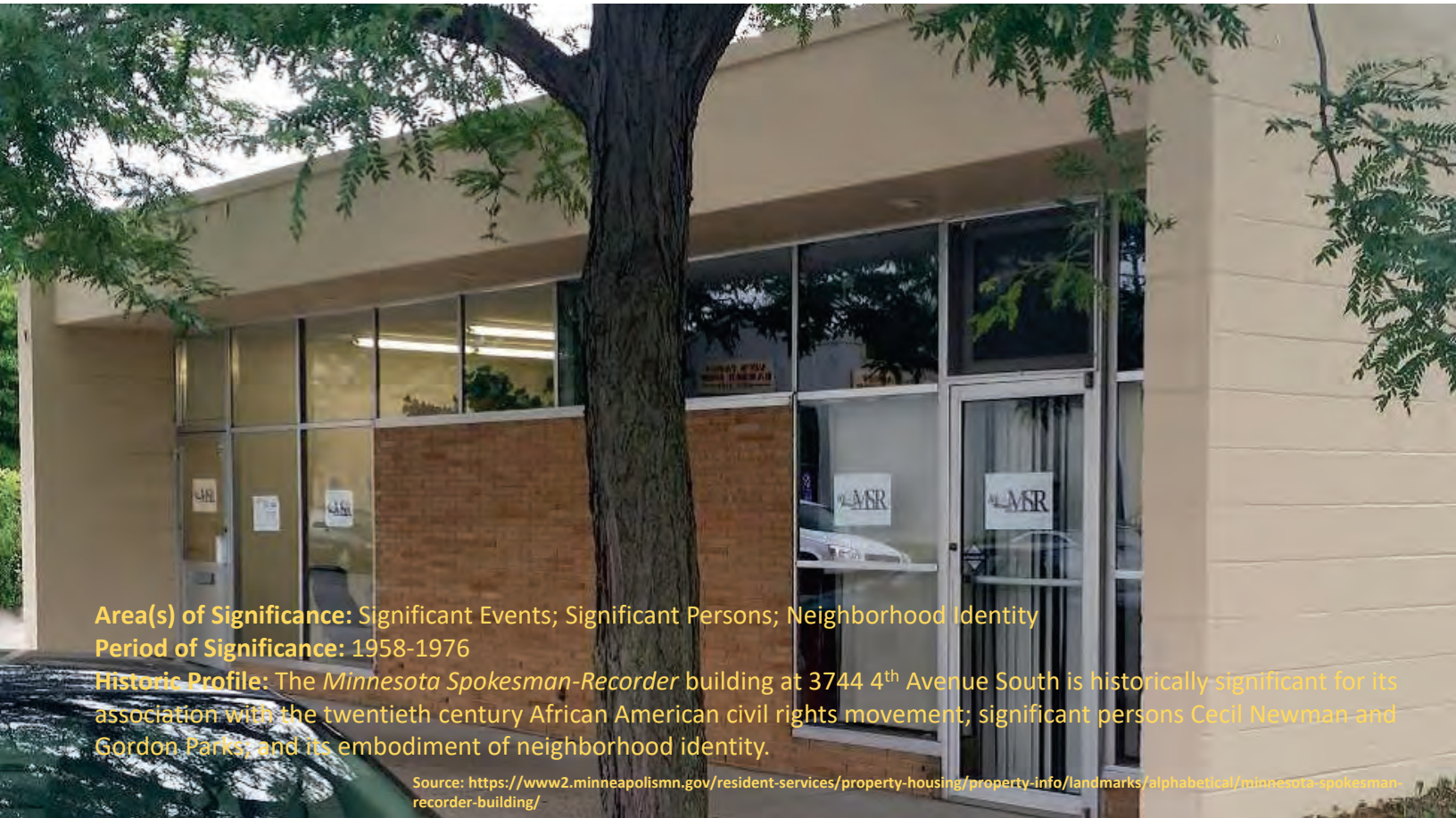


Source: <https://www.bizjournals.com/twincities/news/2021/11/02/black-owned-media-companies-see-little-support.html>



Courtesy of Mel Reeves





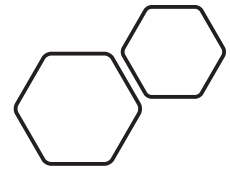
**Area(s) of Significance:** Significant Events; Significant Persons; Neighborhood Identity  
**Period of Significance:** 1958-1976

**Historic Profile:** The *Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder* building at 3744 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue South is historically significant for its association with the twentieth century African American civil rights movement; significant persons Cecil Newman and Gordon Parks; and its embodiment of neighborhood identity.

Source: <https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/resident-services/property-housing/property-info/landmarks/alphabetical/minnesota-spokesman-recorder-building/>



George Perry Floyd, Jr. 1973-2020  
Cause of Death: Murder



Courtesy of Tracey Williams-Dillard



Source: Vasanth Rajkumar, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Floyd#/media/File:George\\_Floyd\\_Tributes\\_Outside\\_Cup\\_Foods\\_Minneapolis.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Floyd#/media/File:George_Floyd_Tributes_Outside_Cup_Foods_Minneapolis.jpg)



Source: Lorie Shaull, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Floyd#/media/File:George\\_Floyd\\_Memorial\\_2020-05-27.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Floyd#/media/File:George_Floyd_Memorial_2020-05-27.jpg)



Source: Chad Davis, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Floyd#/media/File:George\\_Floyd\\_\(49941413868\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Floyd#/media/File:George_Floyd_(49941413868).jpg)

The carriage carrying Floyd's casket to his burial in Pearland, Texas, June 9



[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Floyd](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Floyd)

Source: 2C2K Photography, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Floyd#/media/File:LastmileGeorgeFloydprocession6920-7.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Floyd#/media/File:LastmileGeorgeFloydprocession6920-7.jpg)



'The Way' Community Center, (Minneapolis) Opens September 8, 1966


Source: <https://aaregistry.org/story/the-way-community-center-minneapolis-opens/>

## The Way Opportunities Unlimited was incorporated on this date in 1966

This was a non-profit Minneapolis northside community center. It was established following the racial and economic urban north Minneapolis riots of 1966. Black city leaders came together to create a space in the neighborhood devoted to cultivating racial stability among Black youths. Syl Davis was The Way's first director. Mahmoud El-Kati was the education director and Verlena Matey Keke was the education secretary. After additional unrest in 1967, one of the Way's organizers Dan Pothier created the "Soul Patrol" to allow Blacks to guard the neighborhood streets.

Music was a focus, and the center sported practice spaces that attracted local musicians, Prince, Jimmy Jam Harris, and others. The Way's third and last director was Spike Moss. After being managed by the United Way the agency closed in 1984. Its original building is the site of the Fourth Precinct headquarters of the Minneapolis Police Department. This irony was in the words of El-Kati, "that's more than something symbolic, that's erasure." The precinct was the site of Black Lives Matter protests over the 2015 police killing of Jamar Clark, a Black man.





**After graduating from Barnard College of Columbia University in New York City, Angela, a Twin Cities Native, returned to Minneapolis looking to make a change her community through meaningful relationship building, an honest commitment to equality, and empowering young women to be the change they want to see.**

**Dynamic and powerful speaker**

**Angela often speaks on issues regarding politics, empowerment, change through social justice, and civic engagement. Her perspectives as a young black leader connect across audiences.**

**Now, Angela Rose is pursuing her Master's Degree in Human Rights at the University of Minnesota.**





Photos by  
Angela Rose Myers ensures the future of local civil rights leadership will be bright.

Source: <https://mspmag.com/arts-and-culture/angela-rose-myers-naacp-minneapolis/>



Angela Rose Myers, Community Activist and Researcher

Courtesy of Angela Rose Myers



Minneapolis African American Community  
Engagement

**Tuesday, November 23, 2021, 6:30pm – 8:30pm**

Meeting will be held online: Zoom

Agenda

**6:30 Open Link –**

**6:35 Welcome –**

My name is Antonia Wilcoxon, Consultant with Equity Strategies, and your facilitator.

Thank you for being here tonight. This is the fifth in a series of Minneapolis African American Community Engagement. A citywide community engagement for a Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study. This project is made possible by a grant from the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund through the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Grants from the fund are designed to advance ongoing preservation activities for historic places representing African American cultural heritage.

The City of Minneapolis hired a consultant team comprised of Lange Johnson Development, Equity Strategies, LLC, and 106 Group to conduct citywide community outreach on the needs and wants of the African American community relative to heritage preservation.

Mr. Robert Skalecki, City Planner, Historic Preservation, with the City of Minneapolis, Would you please speak a little about this project? Thank you,

City of Minneapolis, Robert Skalecki, City Planner,  
Historic Preservation

We are a joint group of three organizations coming together, and I would like to invite Judge LaJune Lange, with lead Organization Lange Johnson Development to say a few words

Lead Organization Lange Johnson Development, Judge  
LaJune Lange, Retired, Partner

Ms. Erin Que is the senior Architectural historian for the 106 Group here to introduce herself and say a few words,

Erin Que, Sr. Architectural Historian for 106 Group,

And our researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development

Ms. Shonice Pooniwala, J.D. Candidate 2023  
University of Minnesota Law School and  
a researcher working with the Lange Johnson Development

Our thanks for our producers of this evening event: Mr. Emory Carter and Mr. Jonathan Carter. They orchestrate the music we hear and the informative slides we will see throughout our meeting tonight.

Thank you all. It is my pleasure to introduce you to tonight's panelists for the theme:

Your experience as knowledge preservers of African American Culture it is very critical to Minneapolis as we talk about the challenges of the present, your vision for the future and addressing a history of funding inequality for African American Arts and Culture as well as investments in Historic preservation of African American Art and Culture in Minneapolis.

We know that walls of art have been destroyed and artistic representation of historic places, people and events often garner fleeting recognition. We are interested in your views of sites in Minneapolis that you believe are significant enough to the Black Community to be protected?

**How can the Minneapolis African American community identify works that are so seared into the Consciousness of the Black Community that there should be formal recognition for future generations and visitors. What should be saved and protected?**

Introductions of panel members –:

(Antonia Wilcoxon)

Ms. Coventry Royster Cowens is the Co-Founder, and Museum Manager of the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery.

Ms. Cowens has worked as an assistant director of multicultural programs and services at a Twin Cities university. She also worked in the computer technology industry, academy and social services. Ms. Cowens has volunteered with Camp Friendship and the LTL International Leadership Institute and local African and African American history projects.

**Memorialize the movement** is an ongoing initiative to collect and preserve the plywood protest art that was created in response to the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis on May 25th, 2020.

Our goal is to create a safe and inclusive permanent space for people to reflect on the events that occurred during the summer of 2020 and ensure that we keep this Civil Rights movement going through this art.

Its Founder and Executive Director is **Leesa Kelly**. Ms. Leesa Kelly is a Chicago Native who moved to Minnesota in 2017. When she is not collecting and preserving the plywood murals, she is writing for her blog, leesalives, or facilitating self-care workshops that inspire and encourage BIWOC to center themselves in times of crisis. She believes in dismantling oppressive systems and rebuilding new systems that work for ALL people.

**Seitu Jones** is a multi-disciplinary artist and community organizer known for his large-scale public artworks and environmental design. Working between the arts and public spheres, Jones channels the spirit of radical social movements into experiences that foster critical conversations and nurture more just and vibrant communities from the soil up. He is recognized as a dynamic collaborator and a creative force for civic engagement.

“My work is a testament of radical love for our Beloved Community — the local community, our ancestral community, and the community of innate humanit,” he says about his work.

**6:45 Focus Question: We have asked the panel members to comment on the following:**

**Your experience as knowledge preservers of African American Arts and Culture it is very critical to Minneapolis as we talk about the challenges of the present, your vision for the future and addressing a history of funding inequality for African American Arts and Culture as well as investments in Historic preservation of African American Arts and Culture in Minneapolis.**

**We know that walls of art have been destroyed and artistic representation of historic places, people and events often garner fleeting recognition. We are interested in your views of sites in Minneapolis that you believe are significant enough to the Black Community to be protected?**

**How can the Minneapolis African American community identify works that are so seared into the Consciousness of the Black Community that there should be formal recognition for future generations and visitors. What should be saved and protected?**

**Each will have 20 minutes to comment.**

**8:15 Survey (Antonia Wilcoxon)** We would like to invite you to participate in a short survey showing up on the screen in a few minutes. We will review the results shortly

- Is it important to document, honor and preserve African American Arts and Culture? (Yes, No)
  - How should we preserve African American Arts and Culture? (Recordings, statues, Museum in Minneapolis)
  - How would you like to show the next generation formally recognize the historic preservation of African American Arts and Culture? (African American Registry, Exhibits, Statues or Monuments, Tours of Historic Homes)
- **Also, could you please include this answer in the Chat Box—Erin, would you like to talk about this question? Thanks!**

**What places in Minneapolis tell important stories of the city's African American/Black history? Please provide any addresses, intersections, places, and/or neighborhoods and a brief note about why this place is important. You can include places that no longer have a physical location.**

**8:20 Review Survey Results/Debrief** – High points of discussion, what was your experience having this conversation?

Would you like to stay engaged in our next session?

**8:25**      **Final Comments:** Next Steps (Judge Lange)

**8:30**      **Adjourn**





## Minneapolis African American Community Engagement

**Citywide Community Engagement for a Minneapolis African American  
Historic and Cultural Context Study**

**City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development  
(funder)**

## Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery



The MAAHMG's logo is the West African Adinkra symbol, Dwennimmen, which represents "ram's horns" and means humility and strength. We chose this symbol because it represents the African American story in the United States. Despite enslavement, segregation, discrimination, and other abuses, African Americans have shown grace, perseverance, courage, resistance and resilience.



Courtesy of the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery

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**Coventry Royster Cowens**  
**Co-Founder, Museum Manager**

**Ms. Cowens has worked as an assistant director of multicultural programs and services at a Twin Cities university. She also worked in the computer technology industry, academy and social services. Ms. Cowens has volunteered with Camp Friendship and the LTL International Leadership Institute and local African and African American history projects.**

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Source: <https://www.maahmg.org/leadership/>

**A Celebration of Soulful Dolls: Honoring Our Ancestors and Elders – exhibit by Robin Hickman-Winfield**



Courtesy of the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery

**Unbreakable: Celebrating the Resilience of African Americans in Minnesota**



Courtesy of the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery



Courtesy of the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery



Courtesy of the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery





Courtesy of the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery



## THE ABSENCE OF JUSTICE



Courtesy of the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery

**MEMORIALIZE**



**THE MOVEMENT**

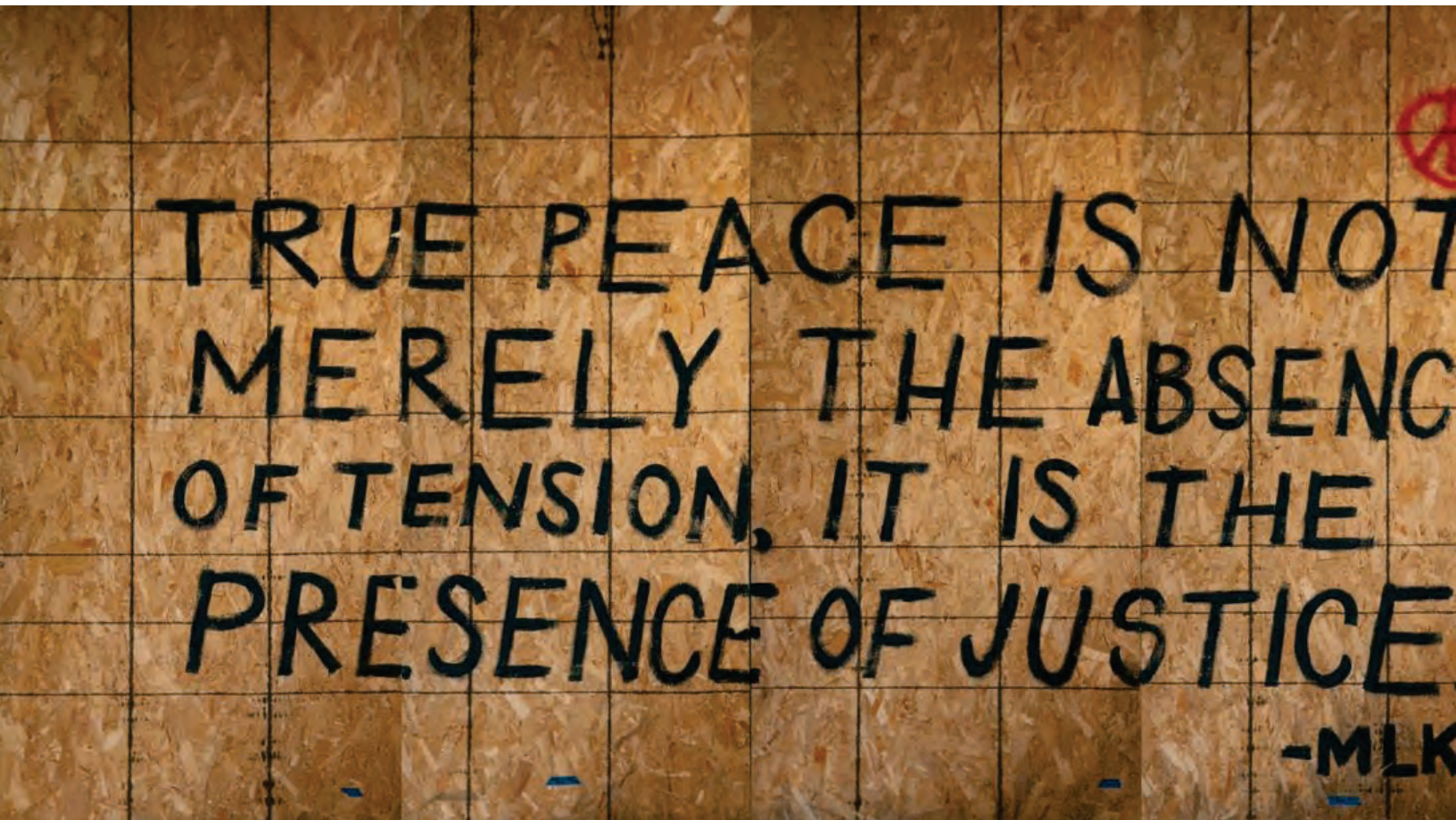


**Leesa Kelly, photographed by Nina Robinson for NPR**

Source: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/40251dcef4db495f9450b2038c9be8c6>



Courtesy of Memorialize the Movement



TRUE PEACE IS NOT  
MERELY THE ABSENCE  
OF TENSION, IT IS THE  
PRESENCE OF JUSTICE

-MLK



Courtesy of Seitu Jones



Courtesy of Seitu Jones





Courtesy of Seitu Jones

**The economic and social disparities between whites and people of color, the continued injustice in the justice system, the higher COVID-19 death rate of people of color during the pandemic and the loss of my own mother last year causes me and others to reflect and take action. Not only do I want you to participate in the process of shaping my legacy, I also want to stop the erasure of African American artists, in particular, and artists of color, in general, by modeling an archival process that is for and by the artist. That is why you will see below a glimpse of a future building that will house my studio, archive and library: The Black Gate. It will also be a space where artists of color from around the world can come to study, make art, and connect with the Frogtown neighborhood, Saint Paul and the Twin Cities.**

•



Courtesy of Seitu Jones



Courtesy of Seitu Jones



#blues4george (2020)

**APPENDIX B: LIST OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS**

Pursuant to the scope of work our team has compiled a working list of collaborators, partners, stakeholders, organizations, and communities that participated and contributed to the engagement effort. This list was used to help facilitate the meetings and develop relationships with the community so CPED can follow up with later phases of this project to measure the success of the engagement and future program efforts. Individuals are categorized by primary interest areas and also have experience with other interest areas.

## Music

**Gary Hines:** founding member of the Grammy Award winning Sounds of Blackness. Director, Mentor and Producer of musical performances at Sabathani, Guthrie and globally.

Sounds members include the Whitlock family, Cynthia Johnson, Ann Nesby

Email [gdennismusic@aol.com](mailto:gdennismusic@aol.com)

**Harry Spike Moss:** Founding member of KMOJ Radio, the Way, Inc. Leo Johnson Drum Corps and the City, Inc. Created community music instruction and performance venues to create a professional environment for young musicians including Prince, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis.

Email [esarty0226@gmail.com](mailto:esarty0226@gmail.com)

**DeSha Russell:** local and national gospel artist. Minnesota State Baptist Convention Choir. Adult and youth performance in Black gospel music.

Email [desharussell1@gmail.com](mailto:desharussell1@gmail.com)

**Yvonne Cheek:** Minnesota Black Music Educators

Email [yvonnecheek@gmail.com](mailto:yvonnecheek@gmail.com)

**Pete Rhodes:** Minnesota Black Music Awards

Email [prhodes.pete@gmail.com](mailto:prhodes.pete@gmail.com)

## Recreation

**Harry Davis, Jr.:** Black sports club supporter. Weekly Black golfer's group at Hiawatha Golf Course. Oral history of the Bronze golf and boxing tournaments, Joe Lewis and Tiger Woods visits to Hiawatha Golf Course. His father coached the US Olympic Boxing Team to multiple gold medals and was the first major party Black candidate for Mayor of Minneapolis.

Email [hbdavis4@msn.com](mailto:hbdavis4@msn.com)

## Black Houses of Worship

**Charvez Russell:** CEO of Friendship Academy of the Arts, Sr Pastor Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, legacy church of Sabathani Baptist Church, Sabathani Community Center and Friendship Coop Store. Active citywide with church and peace initiatives.

Email [brussell@friendshipacademy.org](mailto:brussell@friendshipacademy.org)

**Dr. Tracey Gibson:** Pastor of Minnesota's oldest Black Church, St James AME founded in 1860 in St Anthony

Email [Traceygibson63mn@gmail.com](mailto:Traceygibson63mn@gmail.com)

**Rev. Billy G. Russell:** oversight for sale of former Sabathani church property and creation of healthy food access through Friendship Store. Founder of Pearls of Wisdom, gospel recording artist Pastor of GFMBC for 17 years, brought National Black Baptist Convention to Minneapolis.

Email [bgr1956@aol.com](mailto:bgr1956@aol.com)

**Sharon Garth:** a member of the Botts family. Knowledgeable about the early history of Zion Baptist Church.

Email [sgarth62@gmail.com](mailto:sgarth62@gmail.com)

#### Scholars

**Dr. Rose Brewer:** Professor of African American Studies at the University of Minnesota. Wrote book called "The Color of Money." Member of the Minneapolis Truth and Reconciliation Work Group.

Email [brewe001@umn.edu](mailto:brewe001@umn.edu)

**Dr. William Green:** Professor Augsburg University, Member of the Board of the Minnesota Historical Society, written and published on early Black Settlement in Minnesota.

Email [greenb@augsborg.edu](mailto:greenb@augsborg.edu)

**Dr. Samuel Myers:** Roy Wilkins Center of the HHH Institute at U of M

Email [myers006@umn.edu](mailto:myers006@umn.edu)

**Joseph Waters:** African American firefighters historian. Contributor to Fire Station #24 preservation.

Email [jdwats17@gmail.com](mailto:jdwats17@gmail.com)

**Susan Hunter Weir:** historian Pioneer and Soldiers Cemetery

Email [s-hunt1@umn.edu](mailto:s-hunt1@umn.edu)

**Carolyn Holbrook:** writer and Professor

Email [mtassinfo@gmail.com](mailto:mtassinfo@gmail.com)

**Benjamin Mchie:** founder of the African American Registry. Early family history with U of M School of Nursing.

Email [bem@aaregistry.org](mailto:bem@aaregistry.org)

**Dr. John Wright:** U of M Professor of African American History, Morrill Hall occupant

Email [wriqh003@umn.edu](mailto:wriqh003@umn.edu)



## Community

**Vivian Jenkins Nelsen:** founder of Inter Race, rehearsal pianist for Sounds of Blackness, Social Worker for Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House, Founder of the Hypatia Group. Husband was co-founder of the Willard Homewood Neighborhood Association with Van White.

Email [vjn@inter-raceinstitute.org](mailto:vjn@inter-raceinstitute.org)

**William “Bill” English:** member of the distinguished Monitors Club. Civic leader, Founding Member of Sabathani Community Center.

Email [sonnyenglish@yahoo.com](mailto:sonnyenglish@yahoo.com)

**Theatrice Williams:** Rainbow Research, Urban Coalition, Morrill Hall settlement, Northside Riots, Director of Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House

Email [twill1634@yahoo.com](mailto:twill1634@yahoo.com)

**Tracey Williams Dillard:** Publisher of the Minnesota Spokesman Recorder Newspaper established in 1934 as the authority on Black news and culture.

Email [twilliams@spokes-recorder.com](mailto:twilliams@spokes-recorder.com)

**Mel Reeves** (deceased): writer for Minnesota Spokesman Recorder, community activist

Email [mreeves@spokesman-recorder.com](mailto:mreeves@spokesman-recorder.com)

**Charles Rucker:** President African American Firefighters Association

Email [ruckce@hotmail.com](mailto:ruckce@hotmail.com)

**Angela Myers:** Past President Minneapolis NAACP

Email [angelarosemyers@gmail.com](mailto:angelarosemyers@gmail.com)

**Jonathan Carter:** member of the Monitors mens group

Email [jcartermn@gmail.com](mailto:jcartermn@gmail.com)

**Jack Jackman:** Black businesses and the Nacirema Club

Email [mnblackpages@aol.com](mailto:mnblackpages@aol.com)

**Dr. Ardena Flippin:** pioneer Emergency Room Physician

Email [ardenaflippin@sbslobal.net](mailto:ardenaflippin@sbslobal.net)

**Sharon Sayles Belton:** political history in Minneapolis

Email [sharon.sayles-belton@thomsonreuters.com](mailto:sharon.sayles-belton@thomsonreuters.com)

## Arts and Culture

**Coventry Cowens:** co-founder of the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery

Email [ccowens@maahmg.org](mailto:ccowens@maahmg.org)

**Vusumuzi Zulu:** Founding Member of the Black Storytellers Alliance

Email [vuzu@blackstorytellers.com](mailto:vuzu@blackstorytellers.com)

**Leesa Kelly:** public art Curator of George Floyd Memorial Murals

Email [leesa@memorializethemovement.com](mailto:leesa@memorializethemovement.com)

**Vuyiswa Nyirenda:** early history of the Lion King rehearsals and production in Minneapolis.

Email [vuyiswaa@yahoo.com](mailto:vuyiswaa@yahoo.com)

**Seitu Jones:** artist with ties to Sabathani and multiple generations in Minnesota.

Email [seitu@seitujonesstudio.com](mailto:seitu@seitujonesstudio.com)

**Mankwe Ndos:** nationally recognized musical performer

Email [mankwendosisings@gmail.com](mailto:mankwendosisings@gmail.com)

**Daniel Bergin:** film and television Director on the Black Community

Email [dbergin@tpt.org](mailto:dbergin@tpt.org)

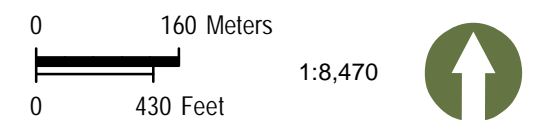
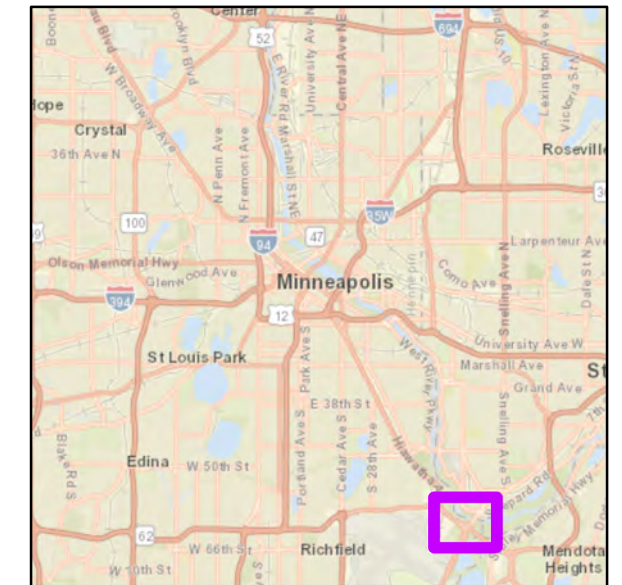
## **APPENDIX C: MAP OF POTENTIAL SITES OF SIGNIFICANCE**

# Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study

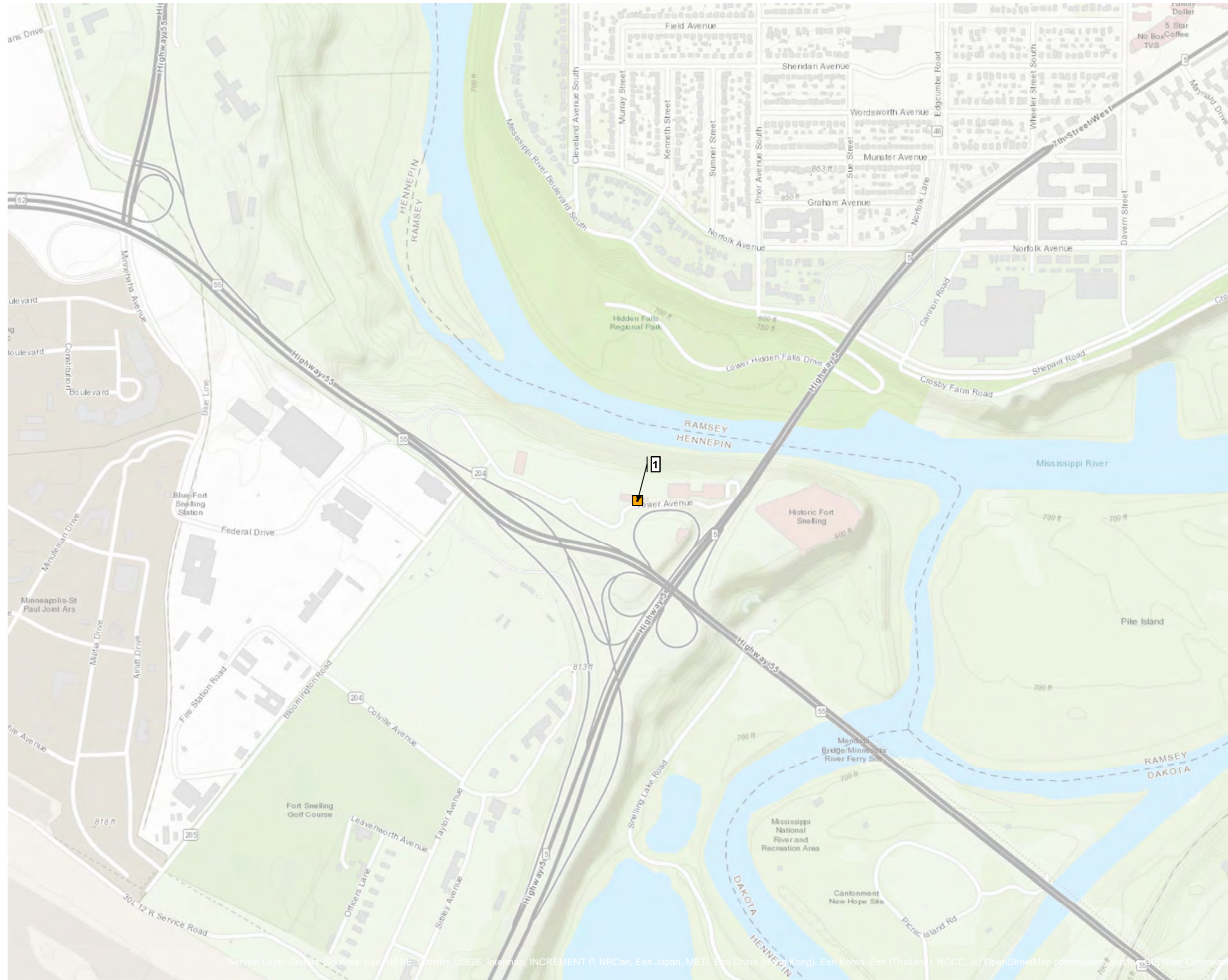
## Citywide Community Engagement

Minneapolis, Minnesota

- Art; Media; Museum; Performing Arts
- Commerce; Medical; Professional
- Community Planning and Development; Education; Landscape; Municipal
- Military
- Funerary; Religion
- Residential
- Social; Social History
- Circle Symbol Indicates Non-Exant Property



Potential Sites of Significance



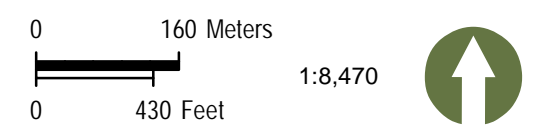
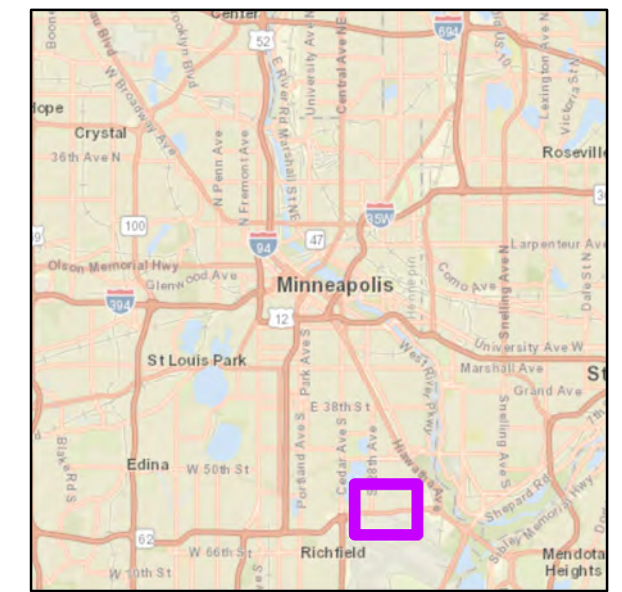
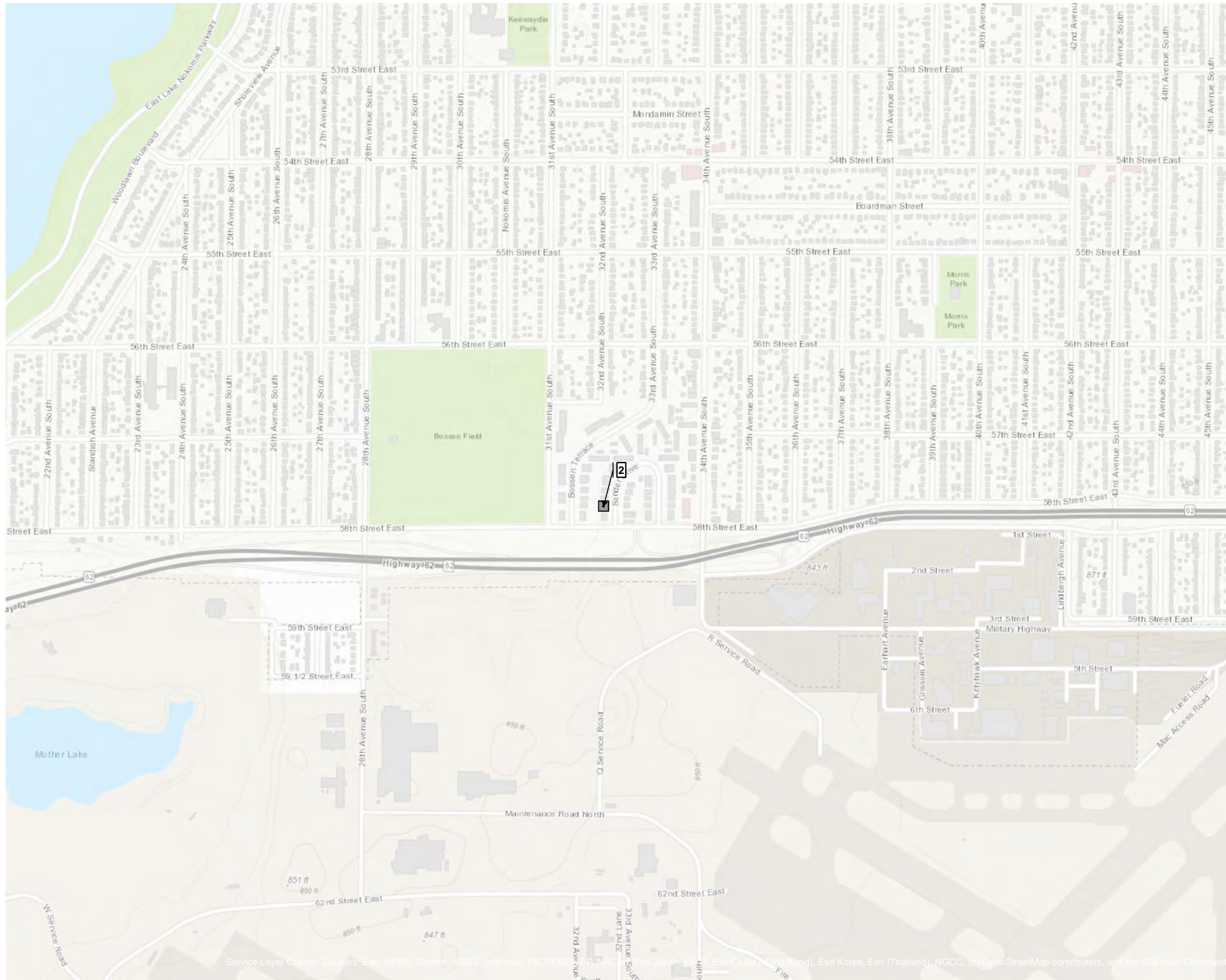
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

# Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study

## Citywide Community Engagement

Minneapolis, Minnesota

- Art; Media; Museum; Performing Arts
- Commerce; Medical; Professional
- Community Planning and Development; Education; Landscape; Municipal
- Military
- Funerary; Religion
- Residential
- Social; Social History
- Circle Symbol Indicates Non-Extant Property



Potential Sites of Significance

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCA, Esri Japan, MEL, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

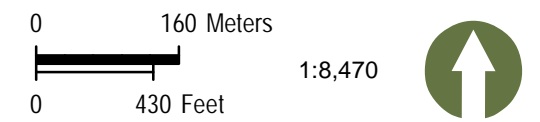
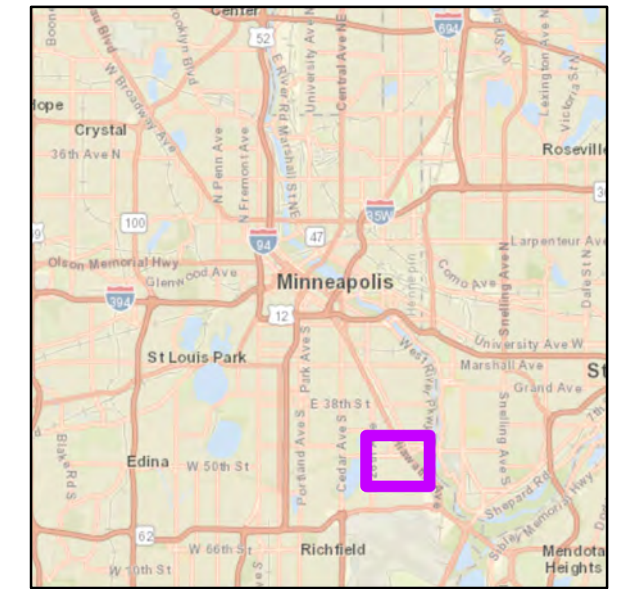
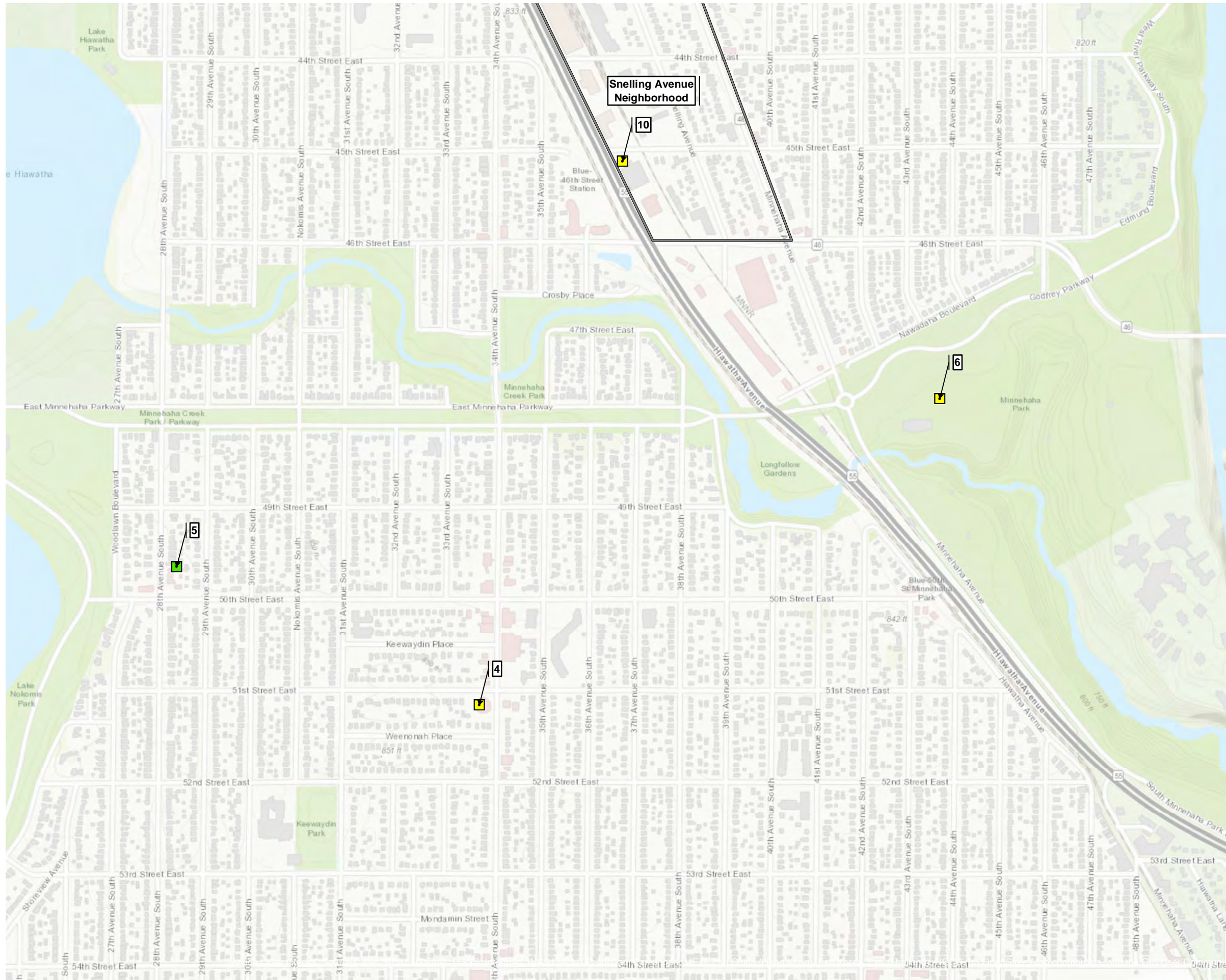


# Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study

## Citywide Community Engagement

Minneapolis, Minnesota

- Art; Media; Museum; Performing Arts
- Commerce; Medical; Professional
- Community Planning and Development; Education; Landscape; Municipal
- Military
- Funerary; Religion
- Residential
- Social; Social History
- Circle Symbol Indicates Non-Extant Property

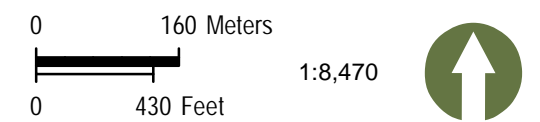
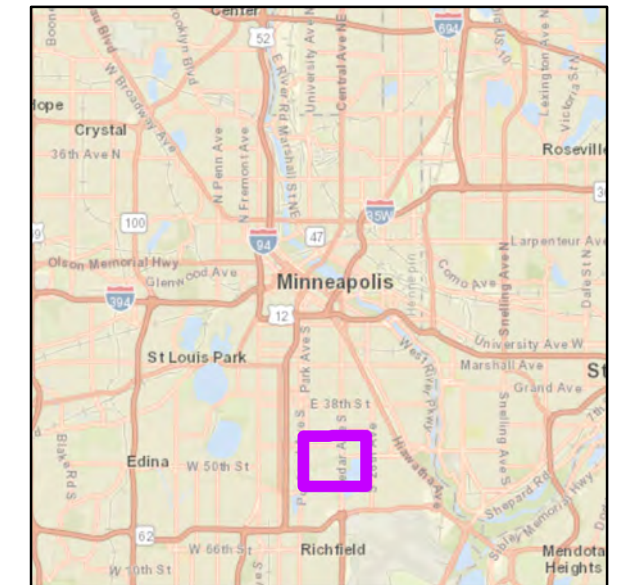
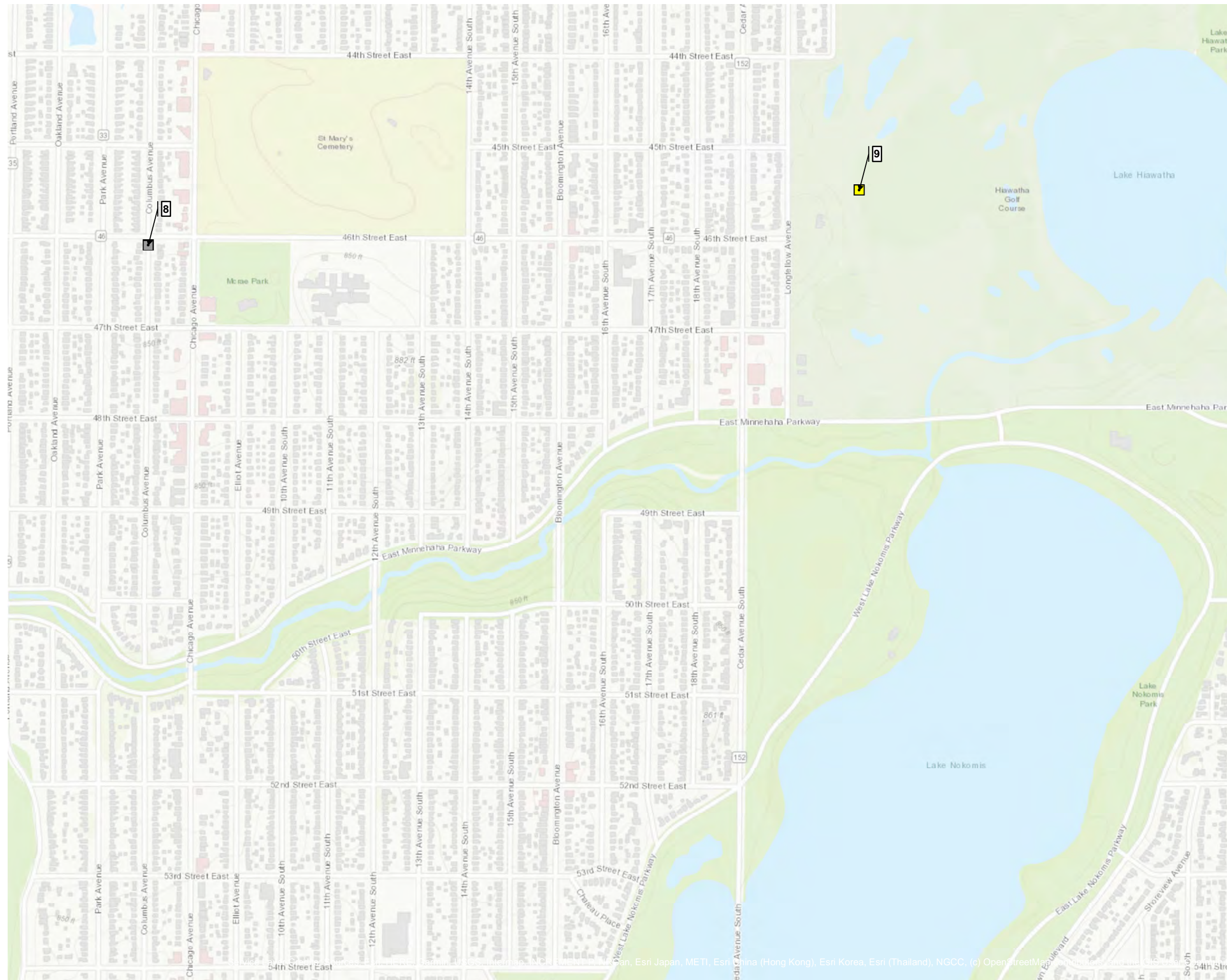


Potential Sites of Significance

# Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study Citywide Community Engagement

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Potential Sites of Significance

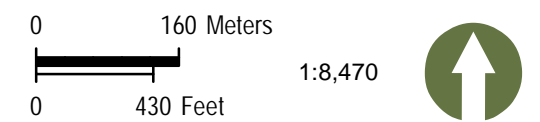
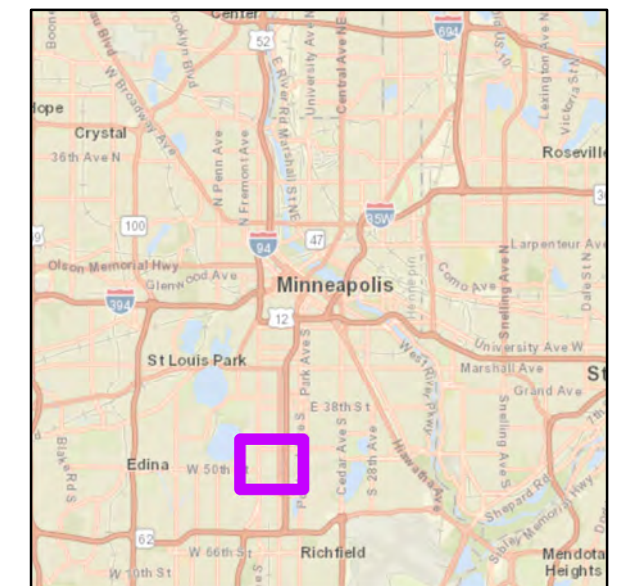


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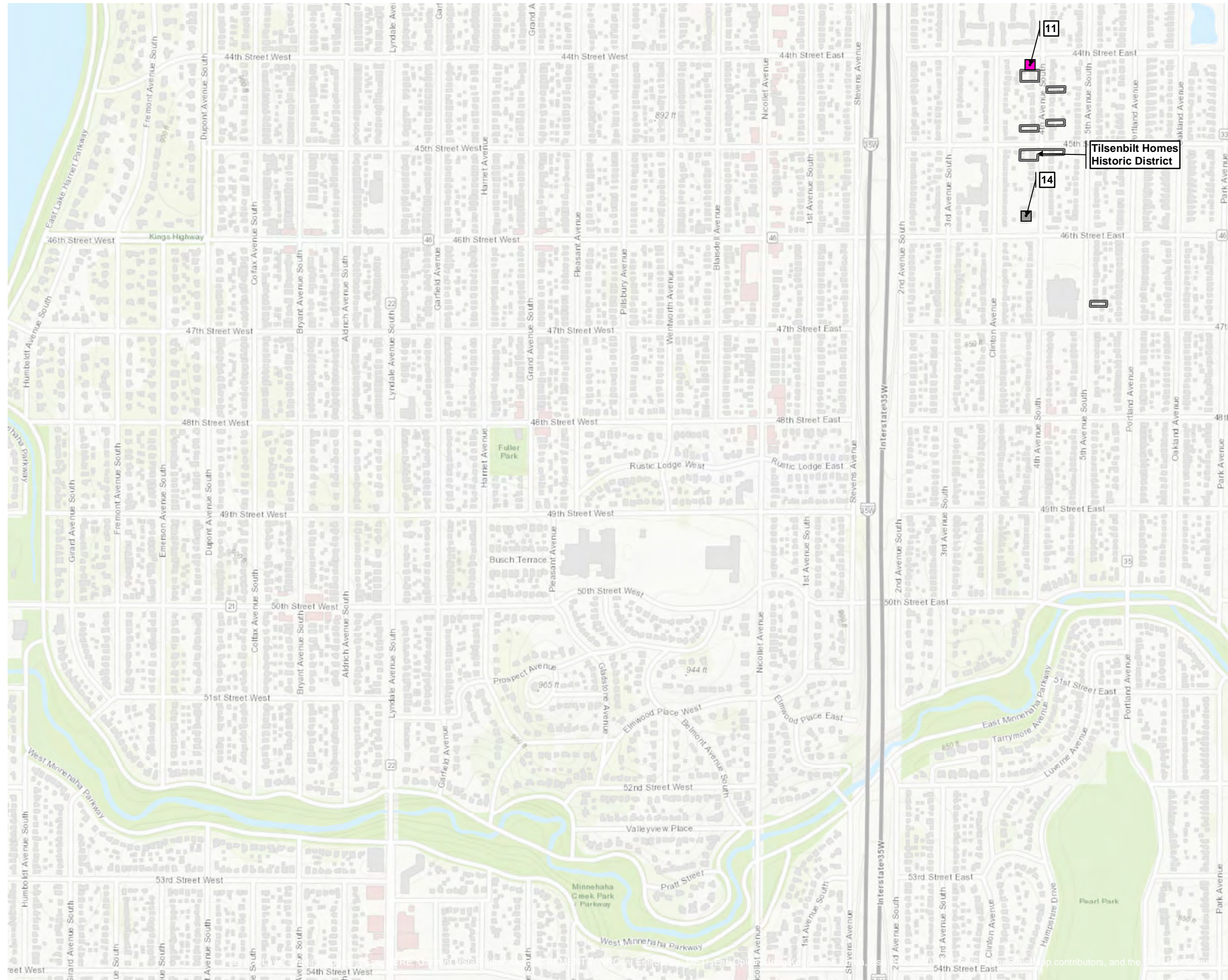
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Potential Sites of Significance

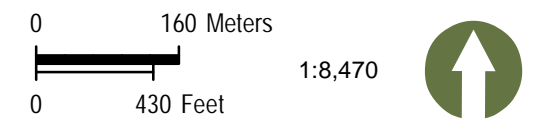
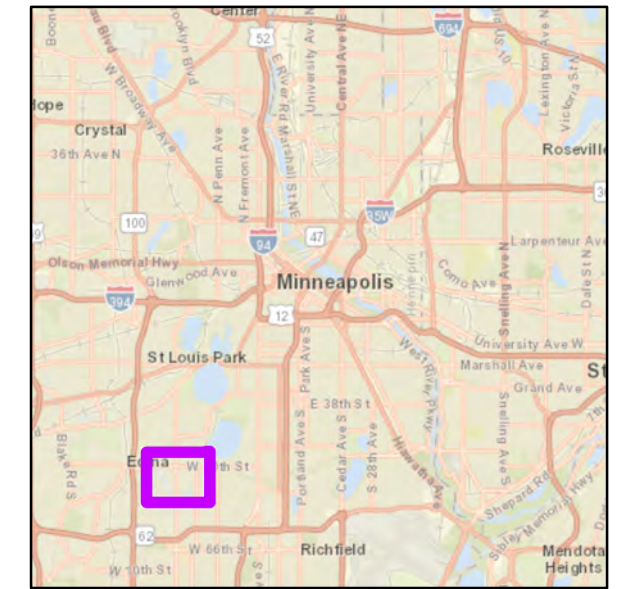
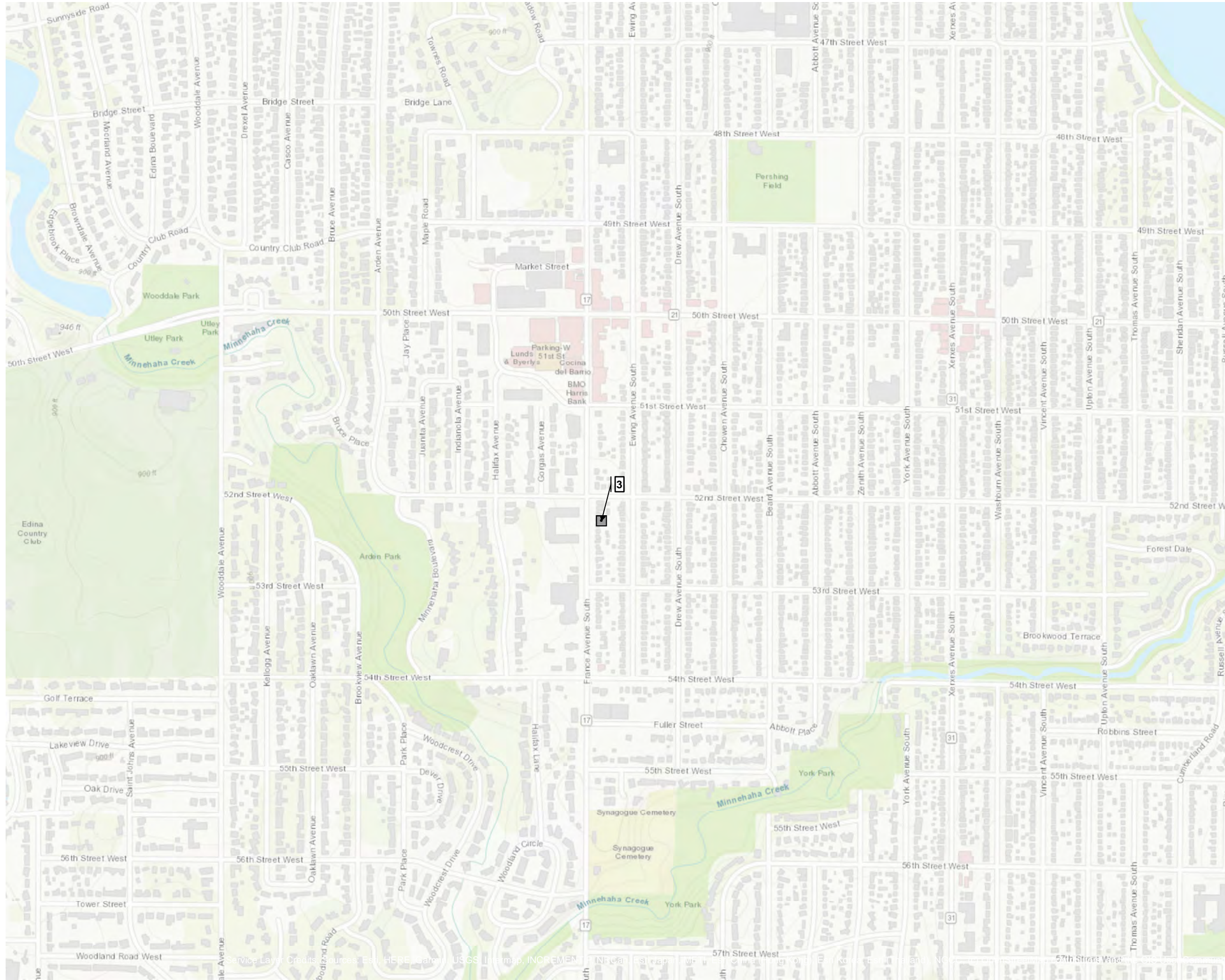


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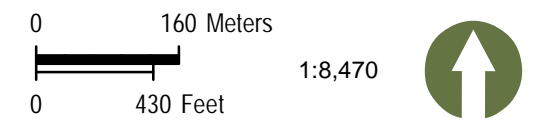
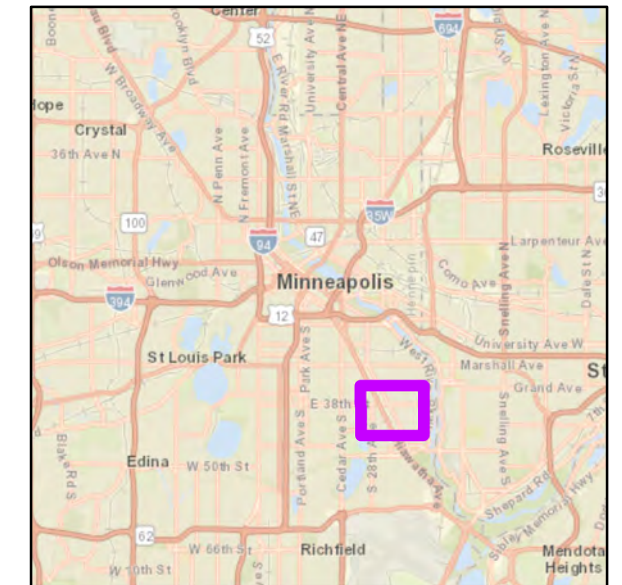
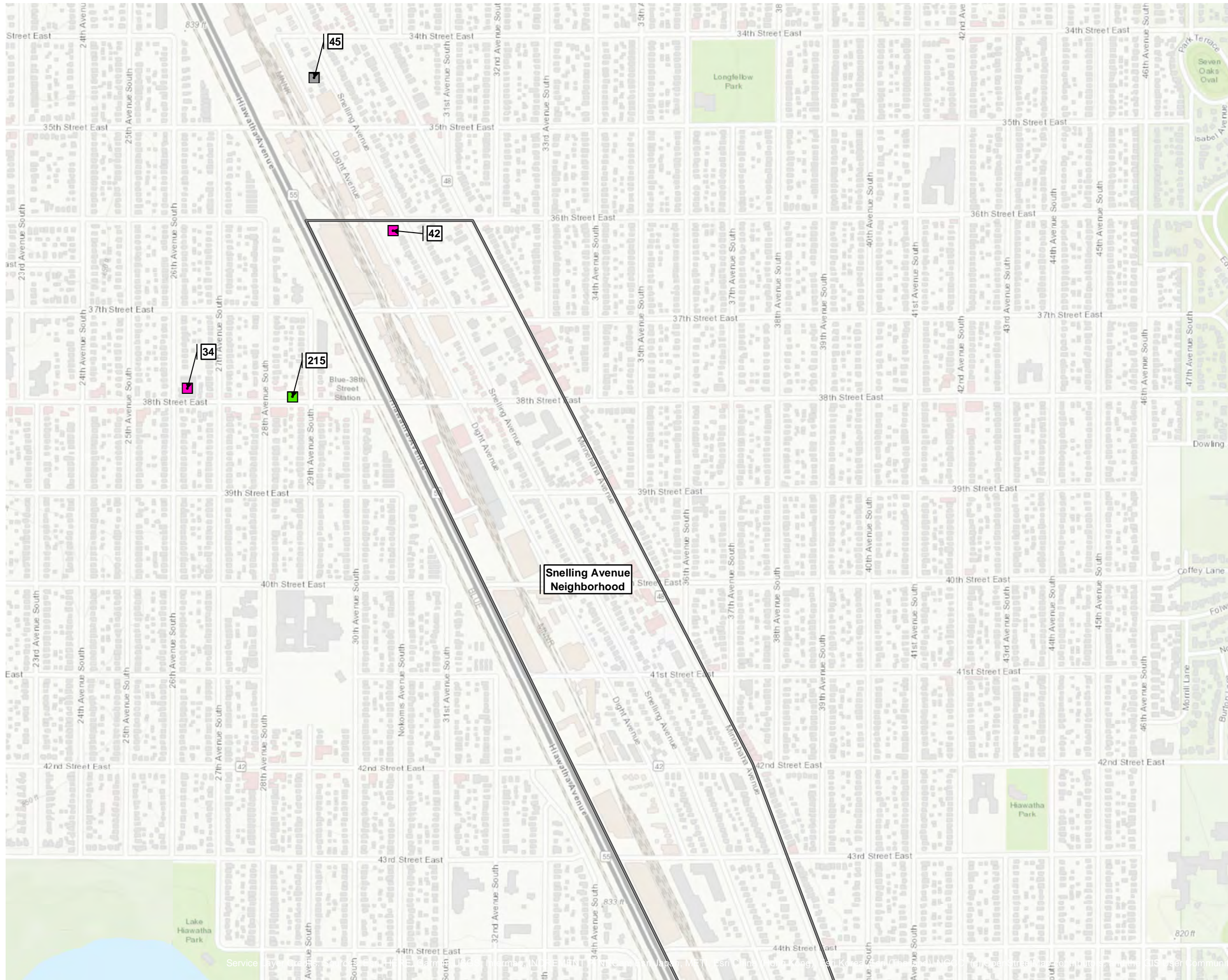
Potential Sites of Significance

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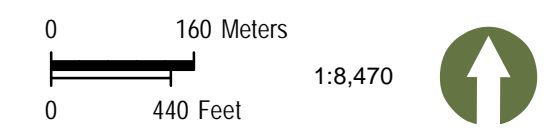
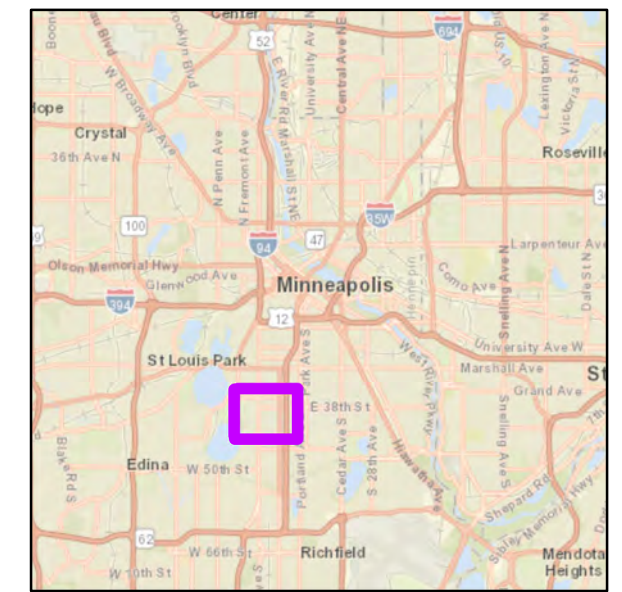


# Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study

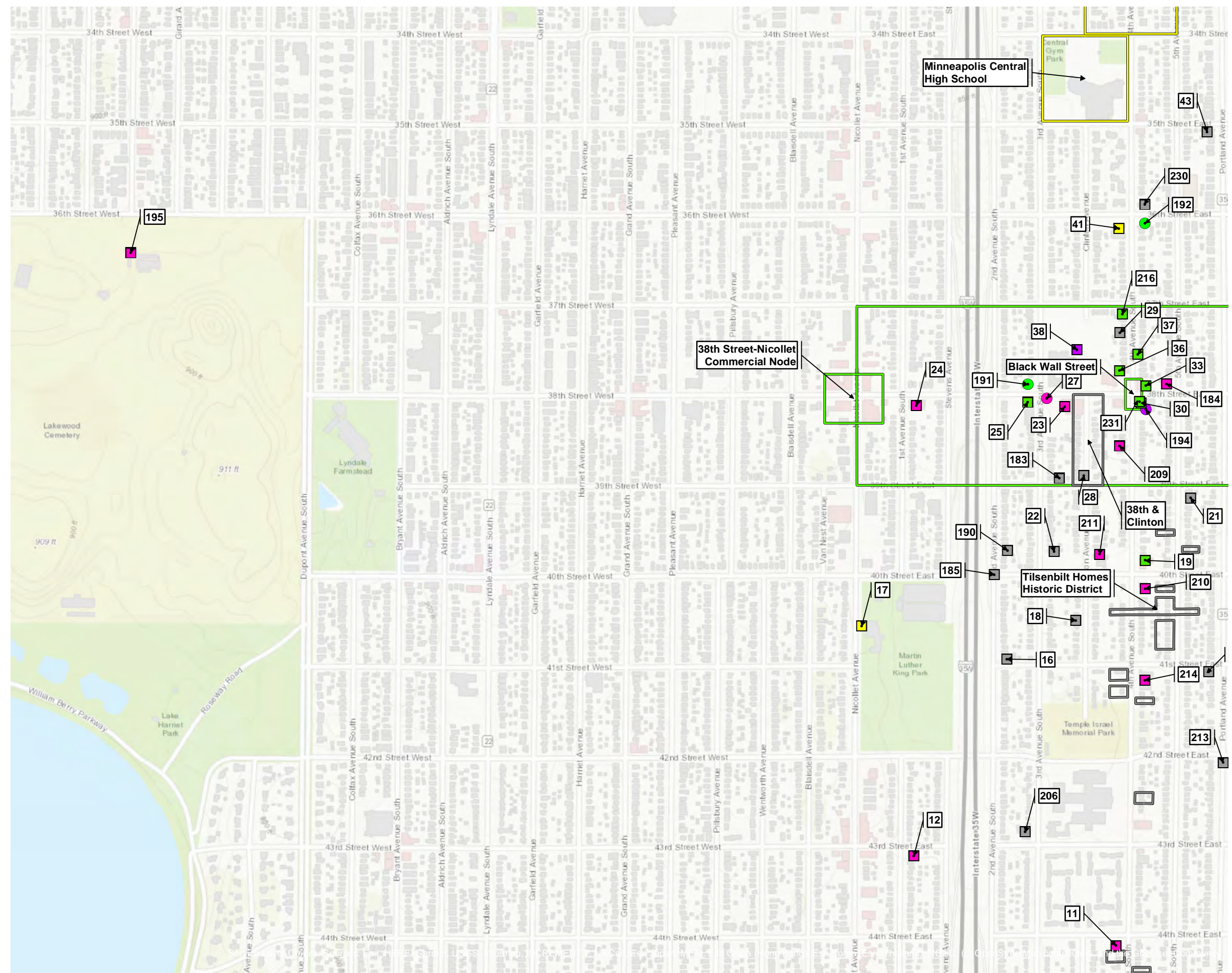
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Potential Sites of Significance



Source: 106 Group

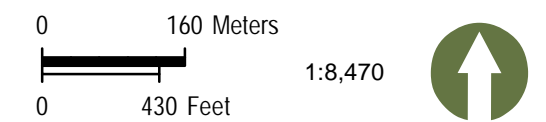
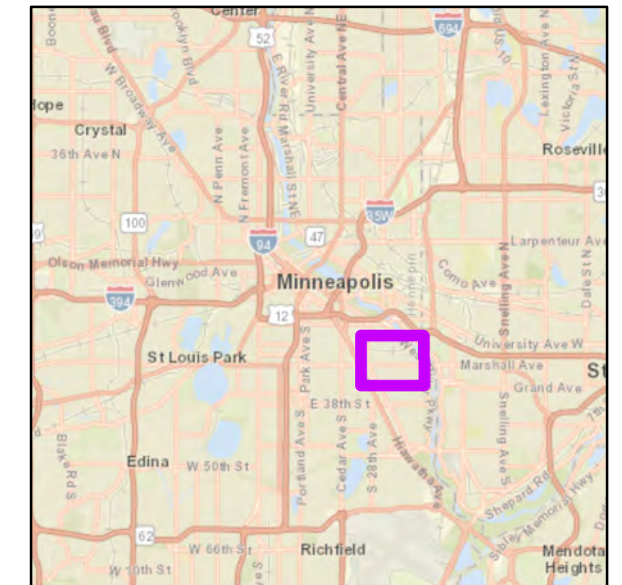
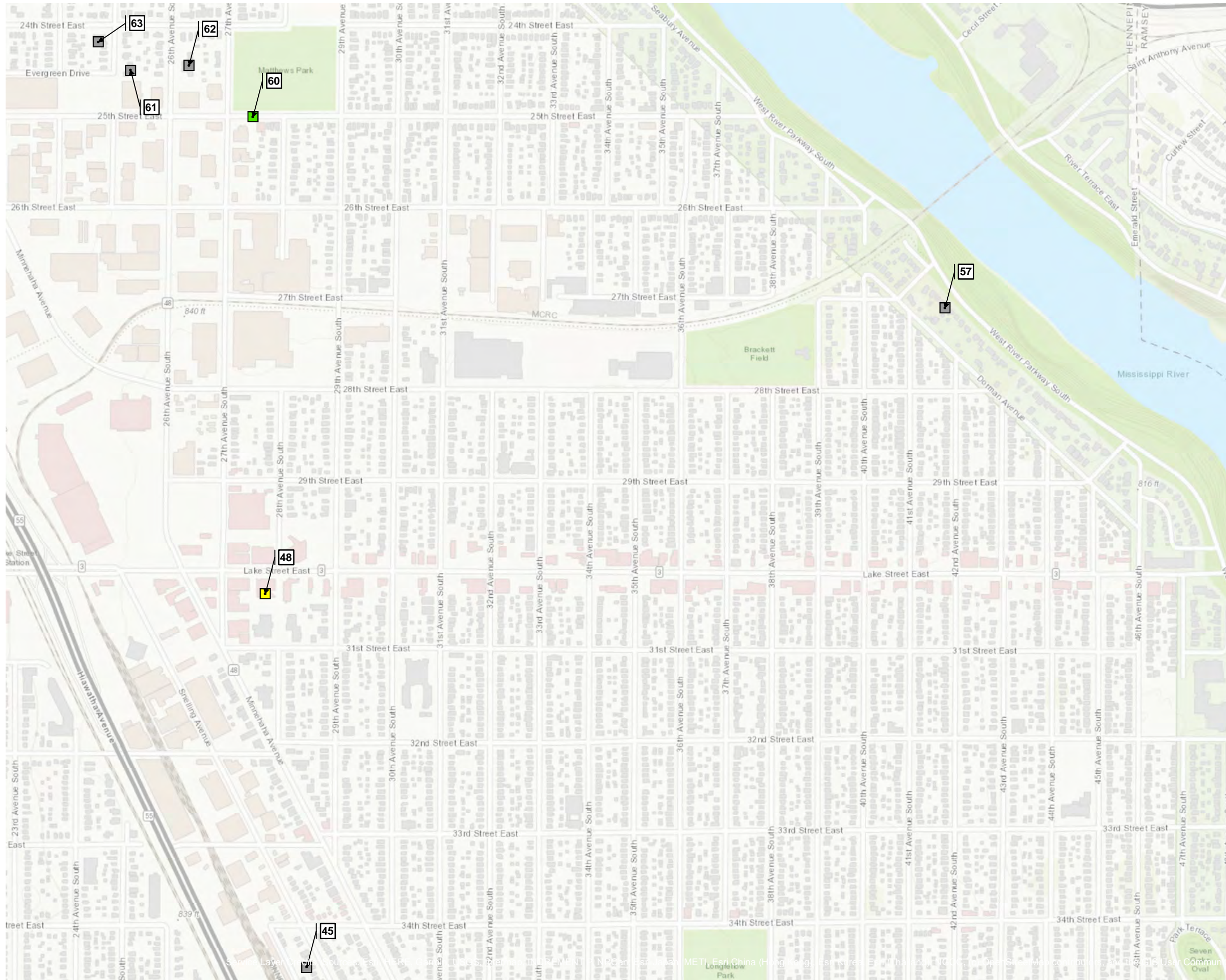
Map Produced by 106 Group 3/29/2022

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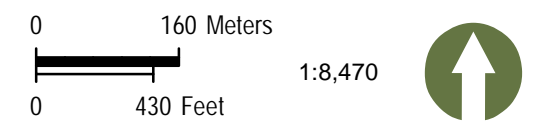
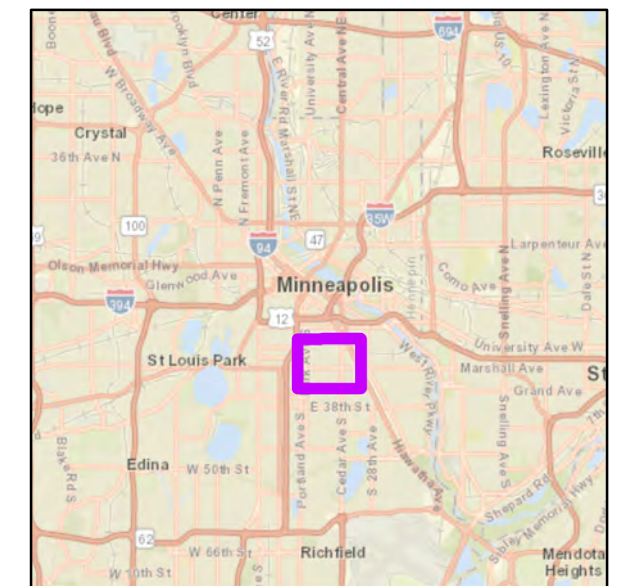
Potential Sites of Significance

# Minneapolis African American Historic and Cultural Context Study

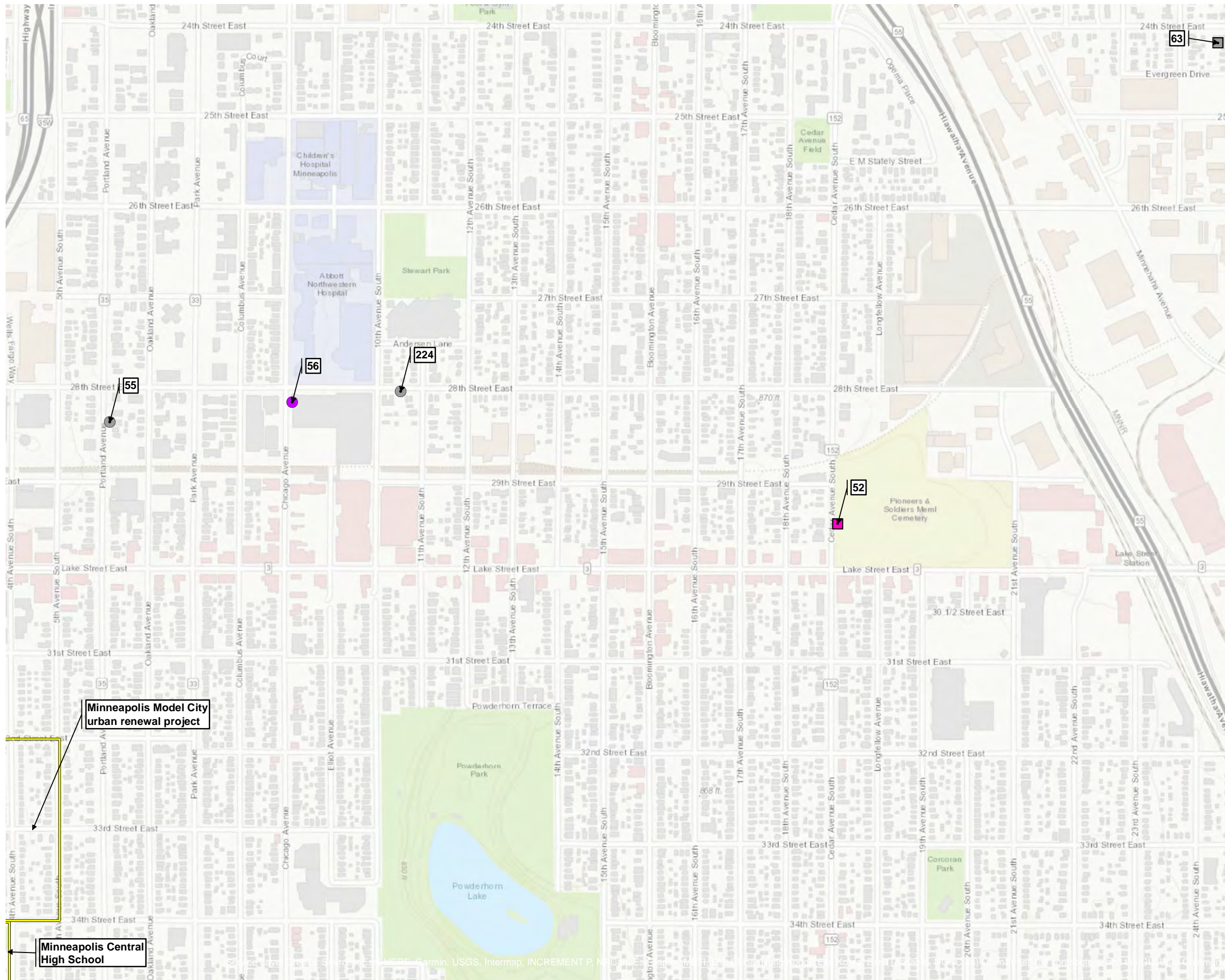
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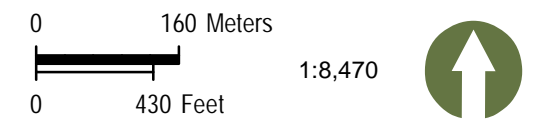
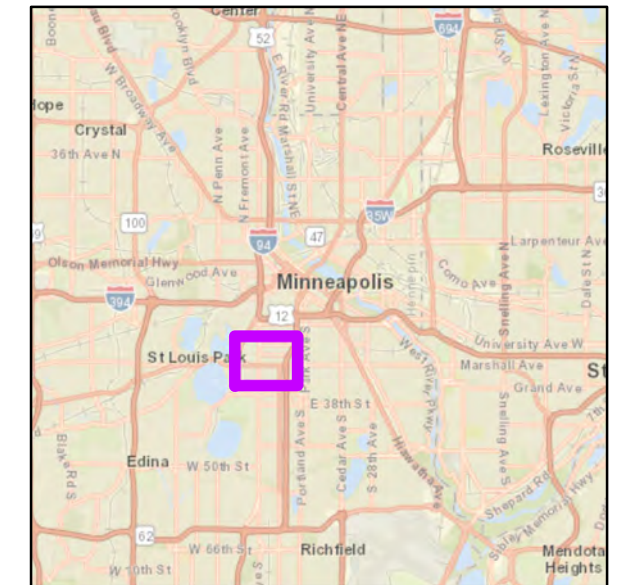
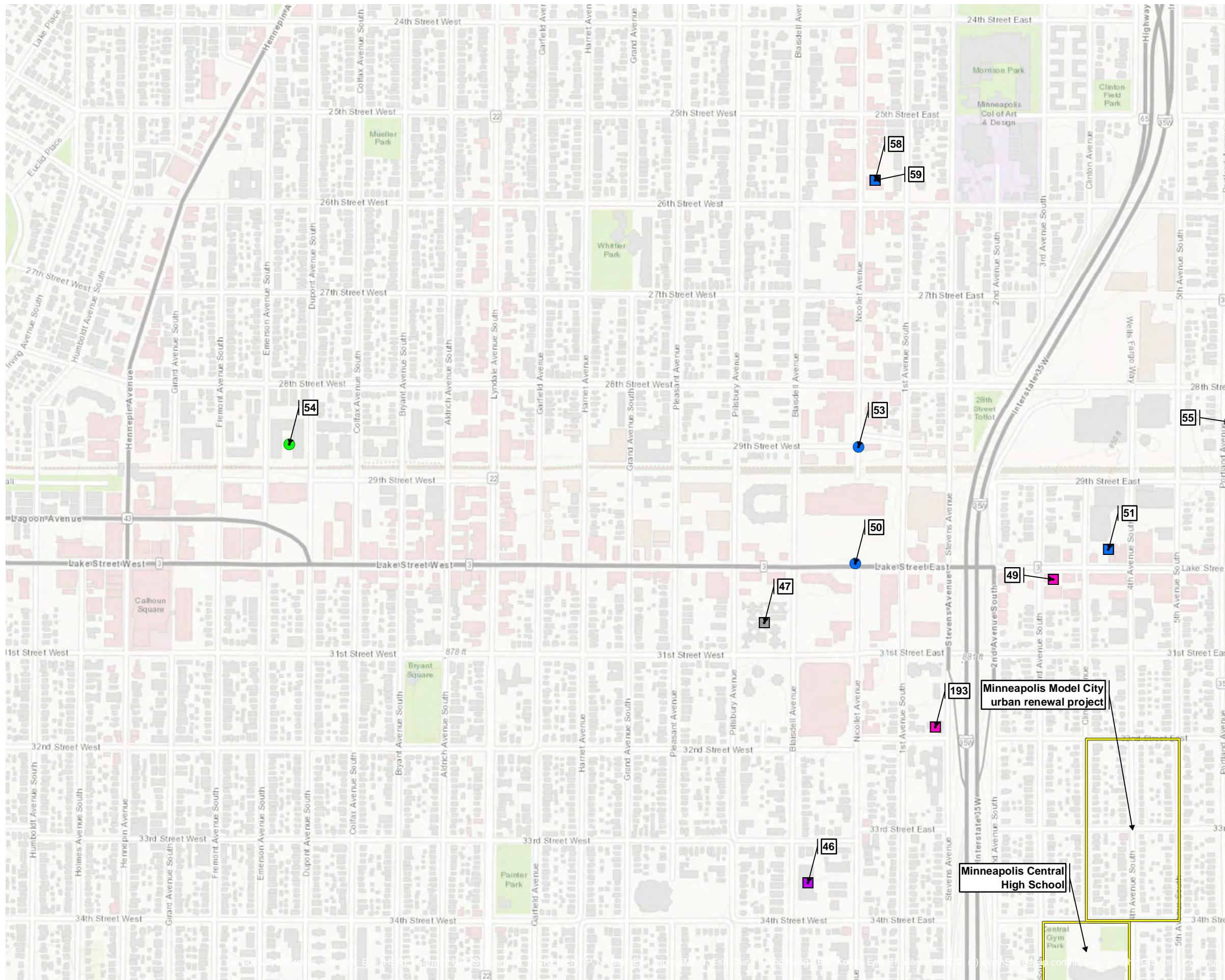


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Potential Sites of Significance

Minneapolis Model City urban renewal project

Minneapolis Central High School

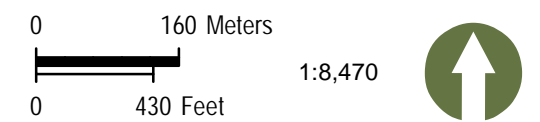
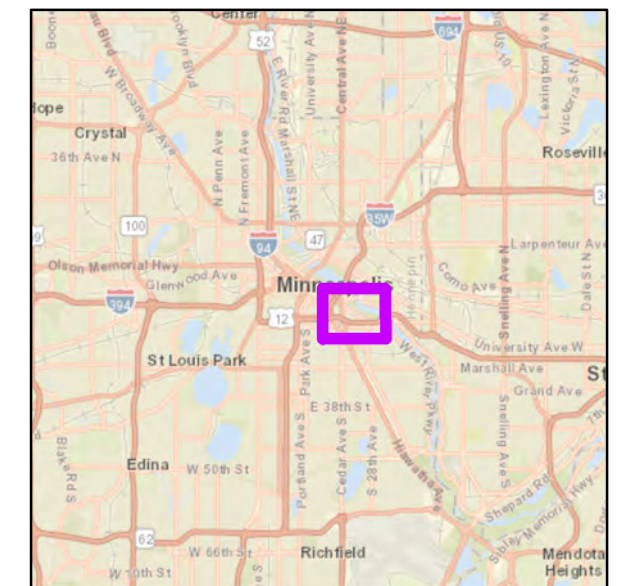


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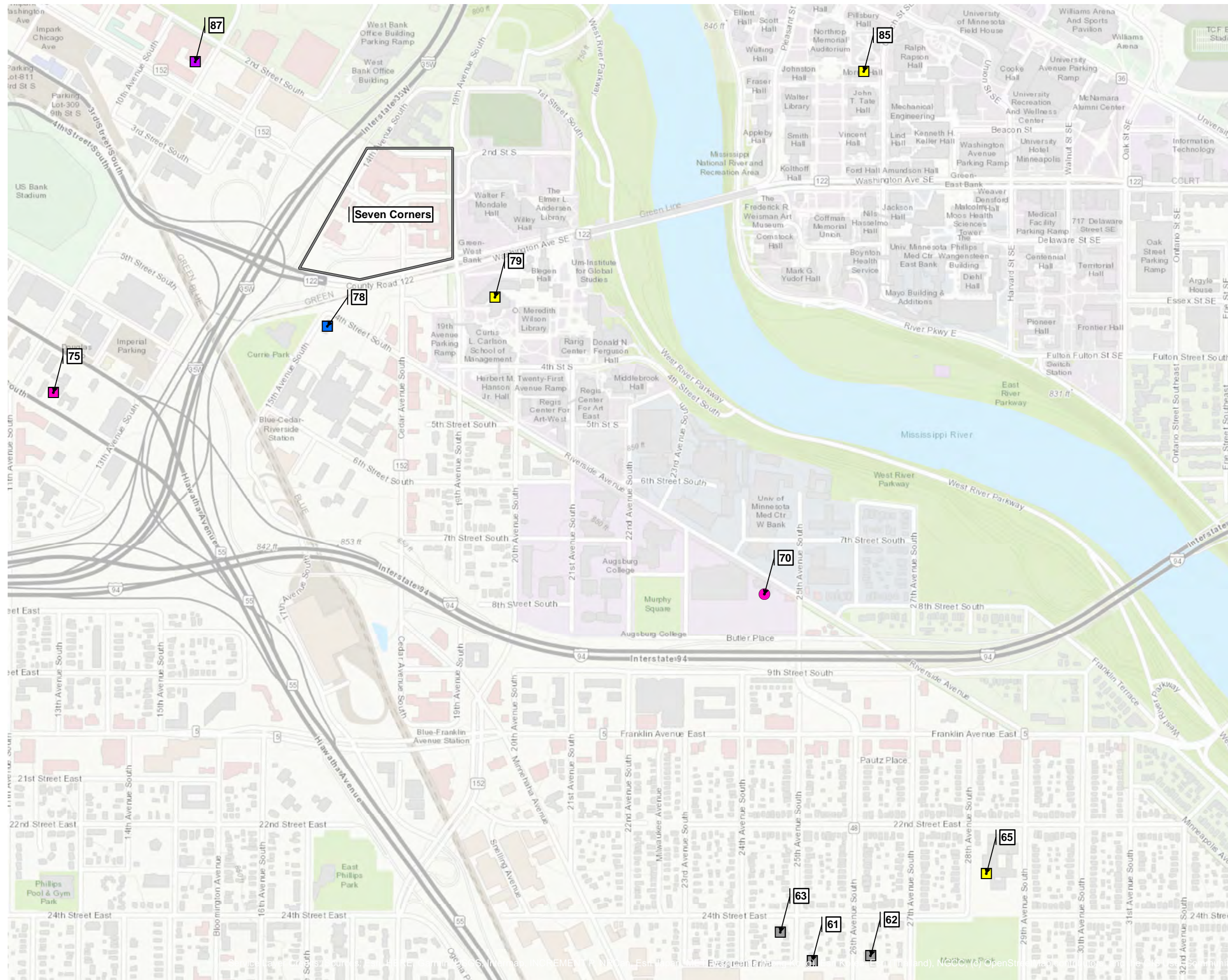
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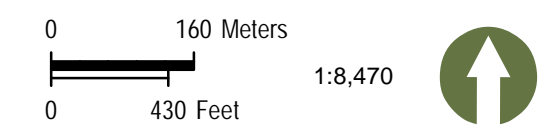
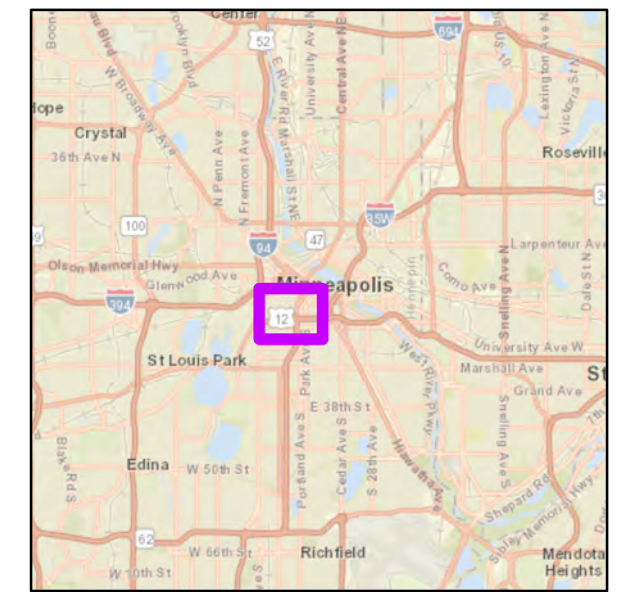


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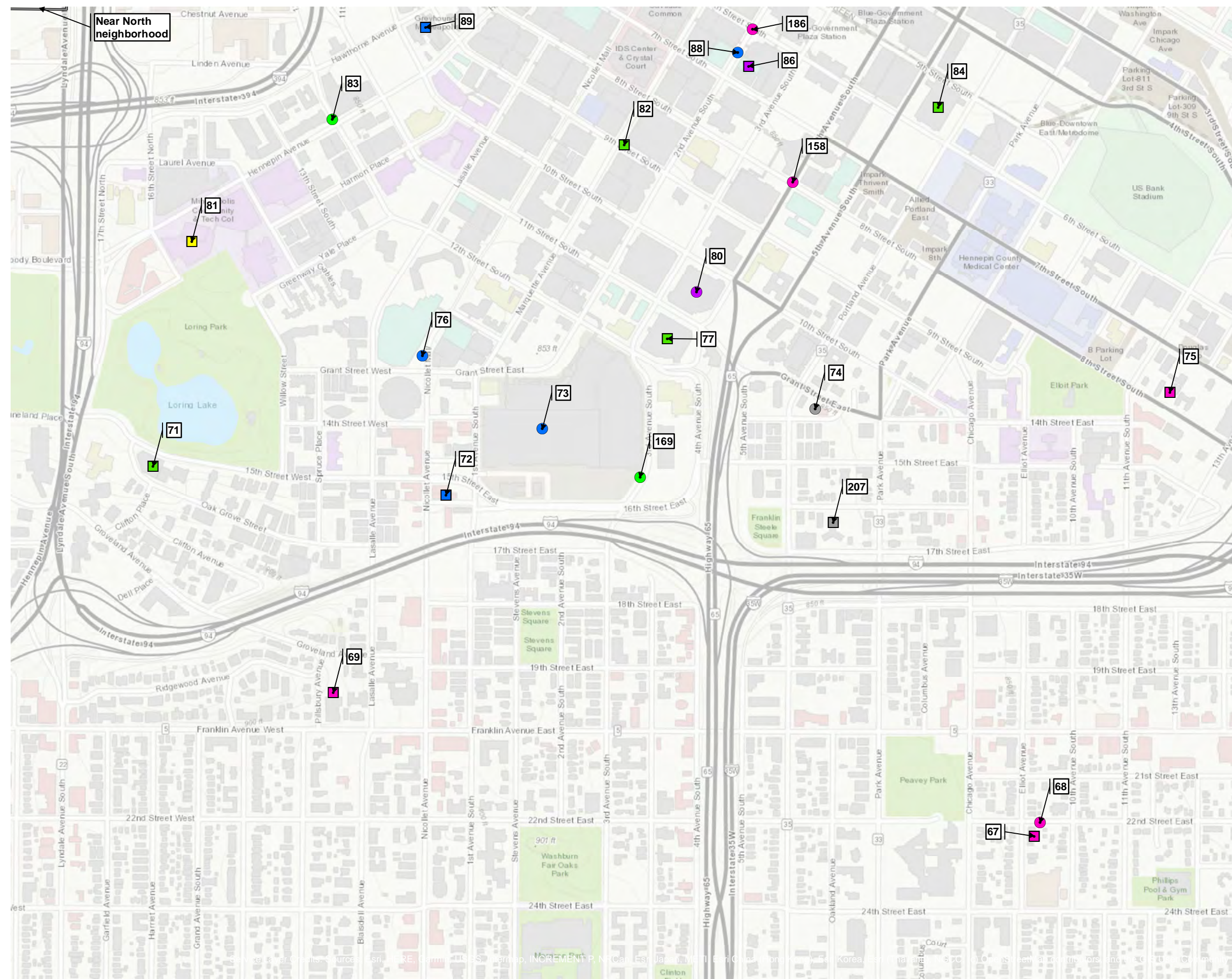
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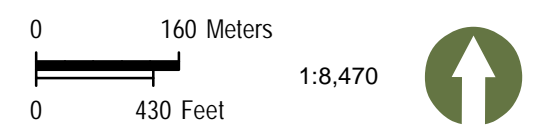
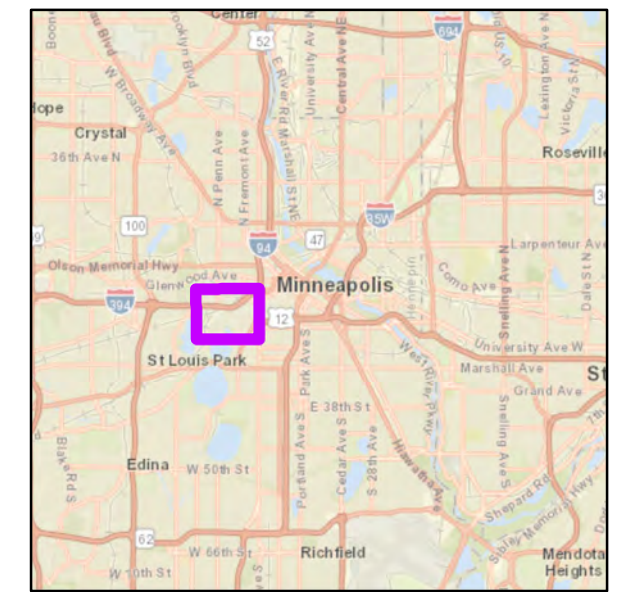


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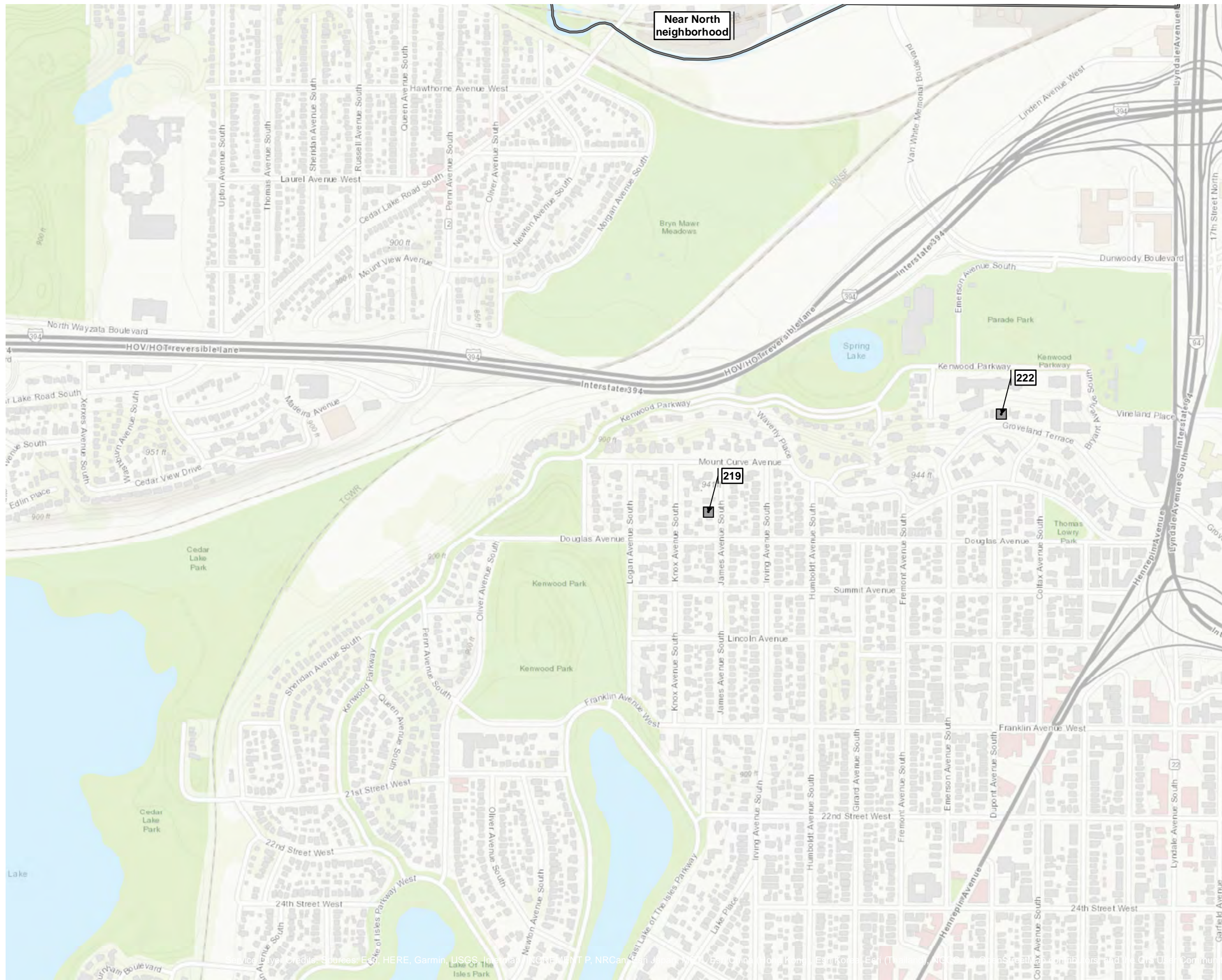
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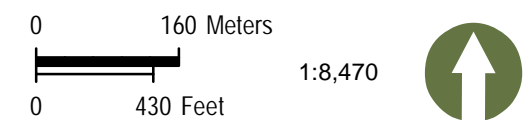
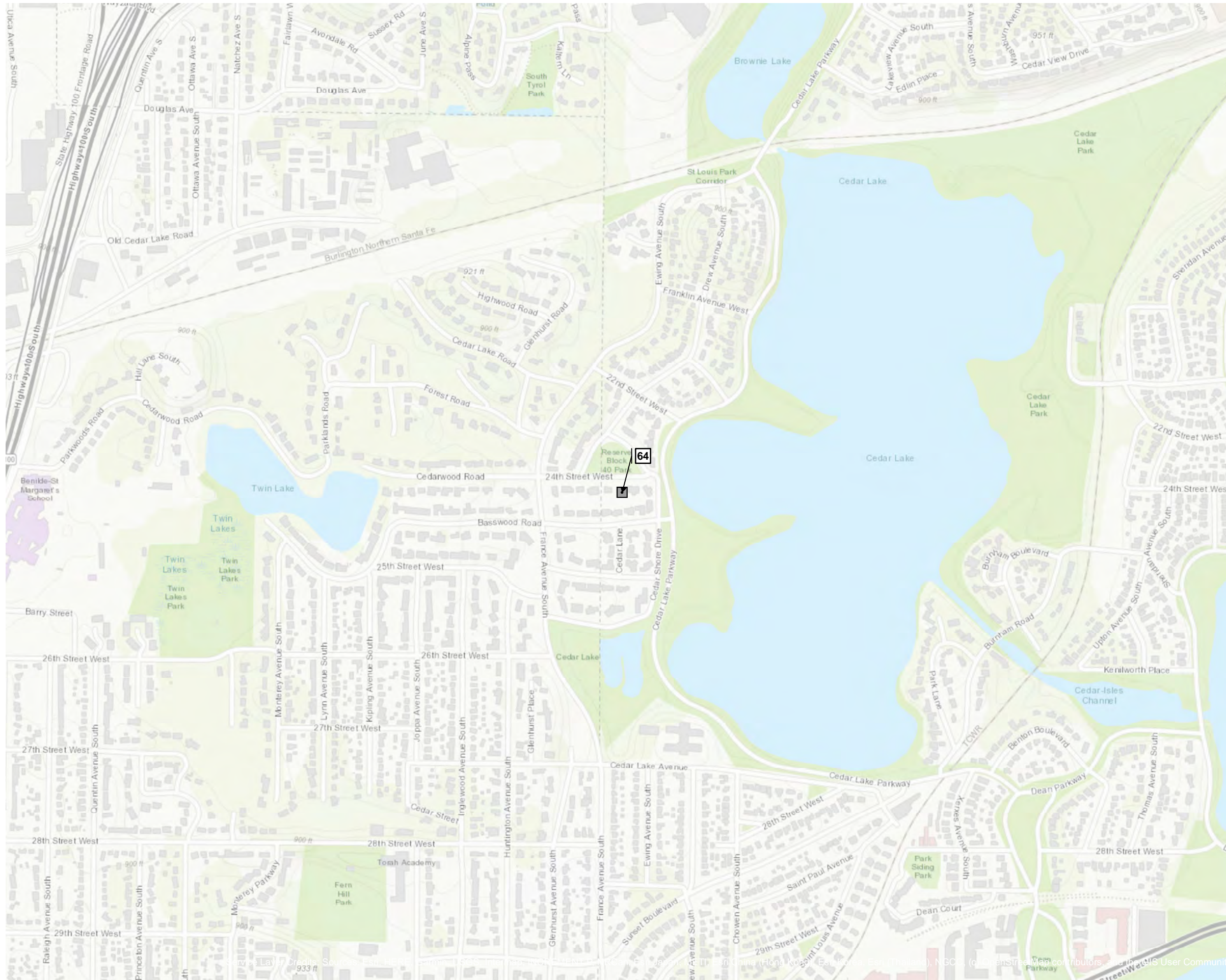
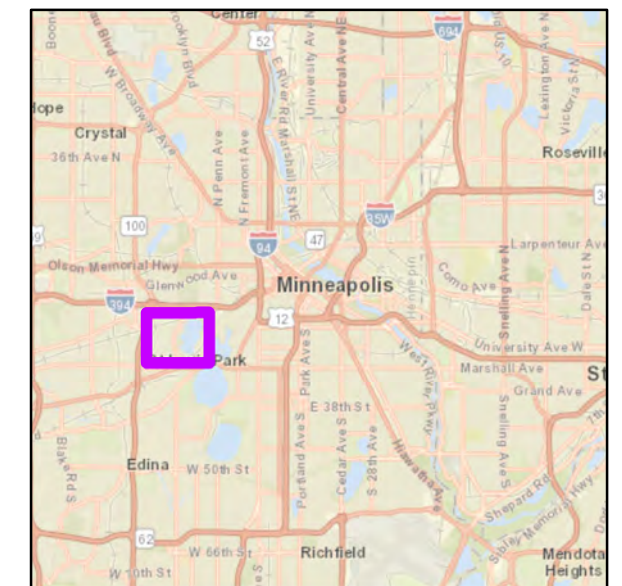


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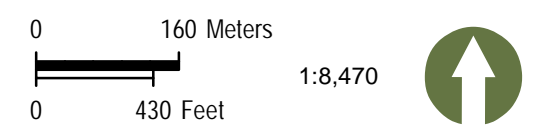
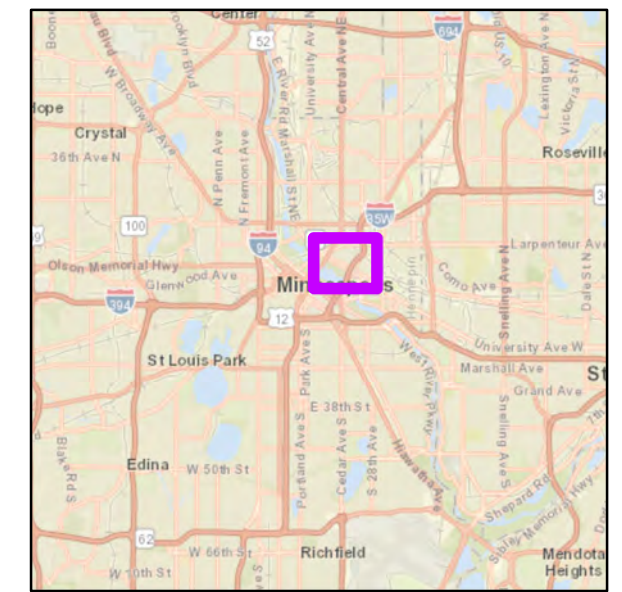
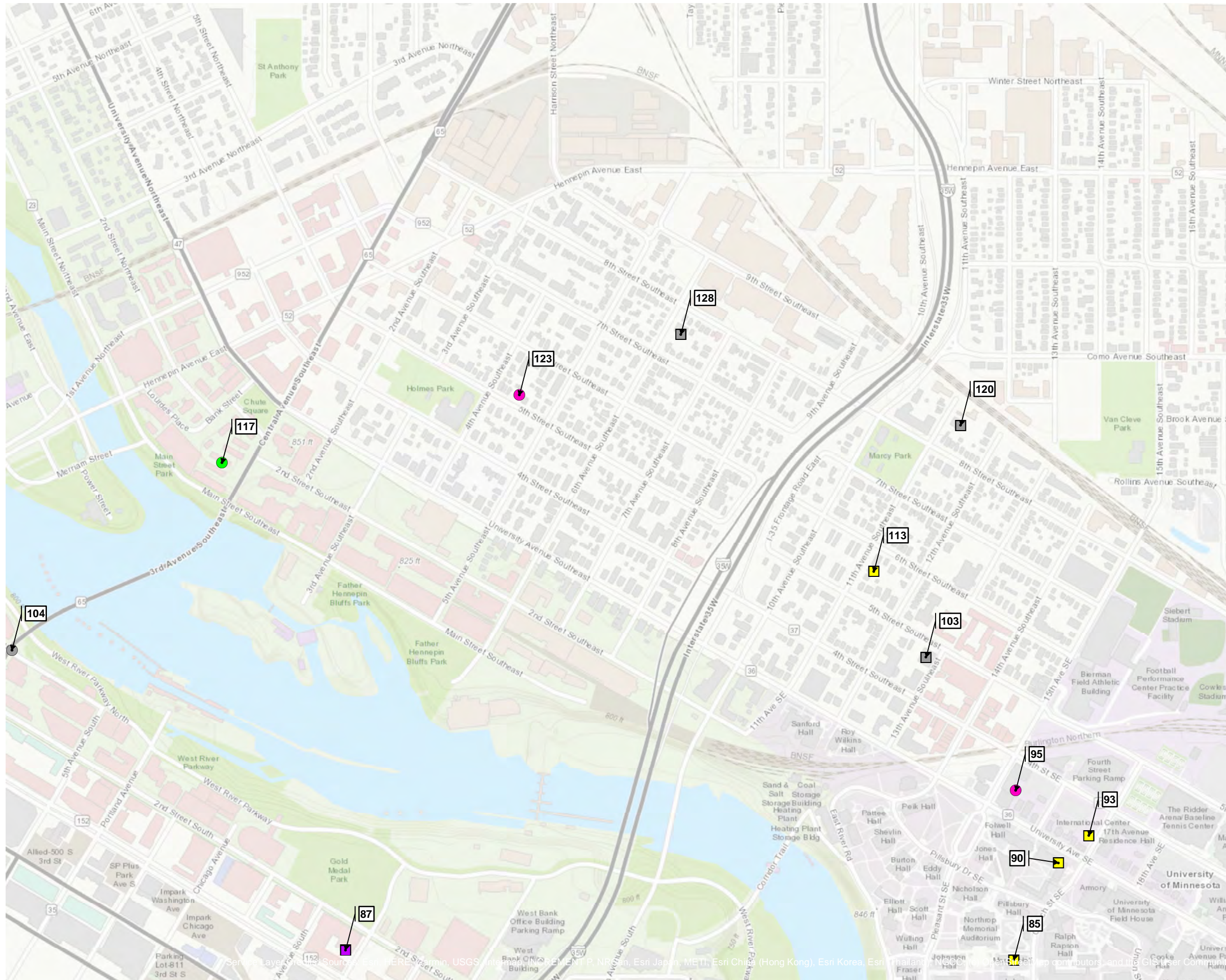


Potential Sites of Significance

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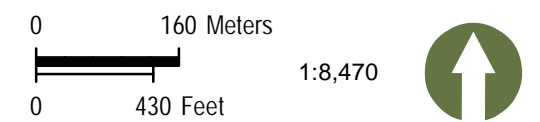
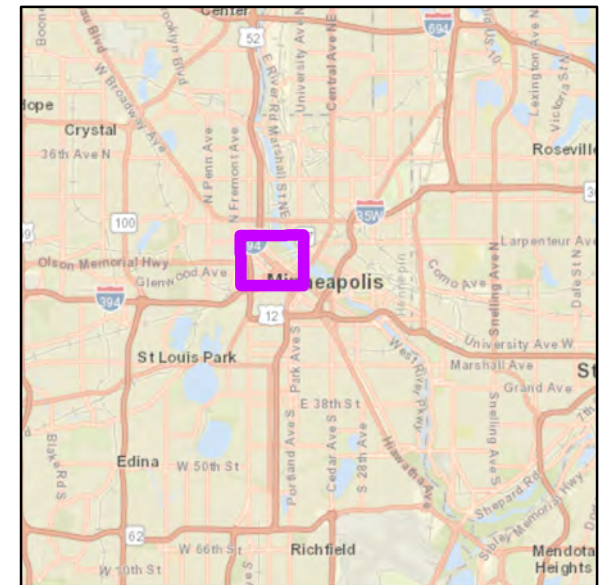


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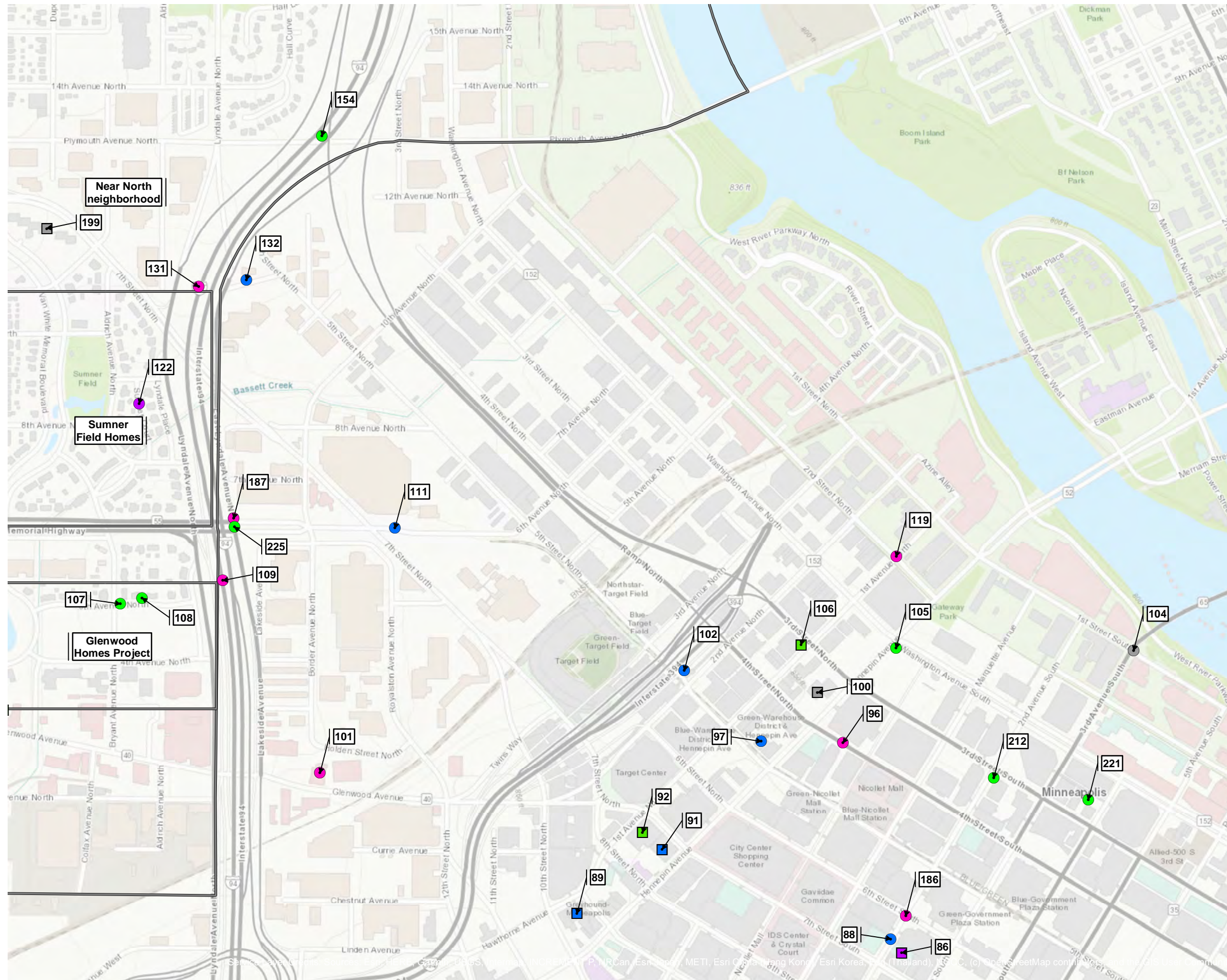
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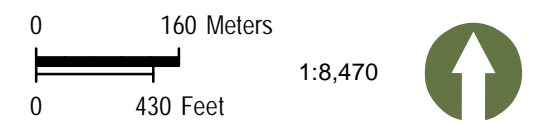
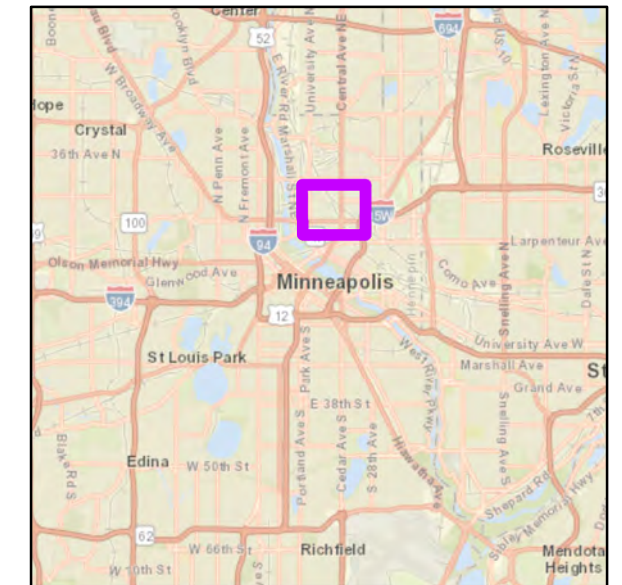
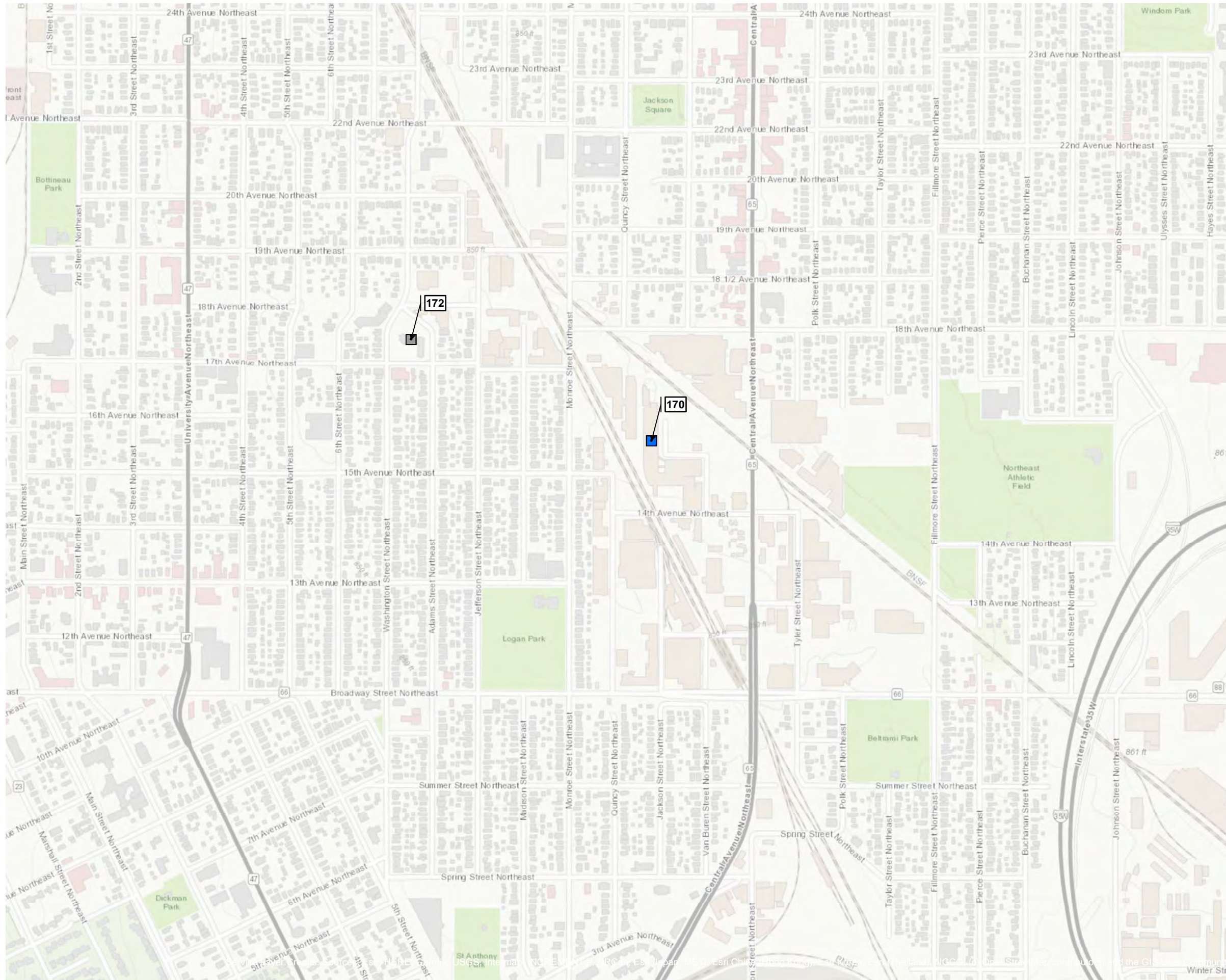


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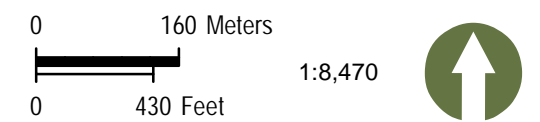
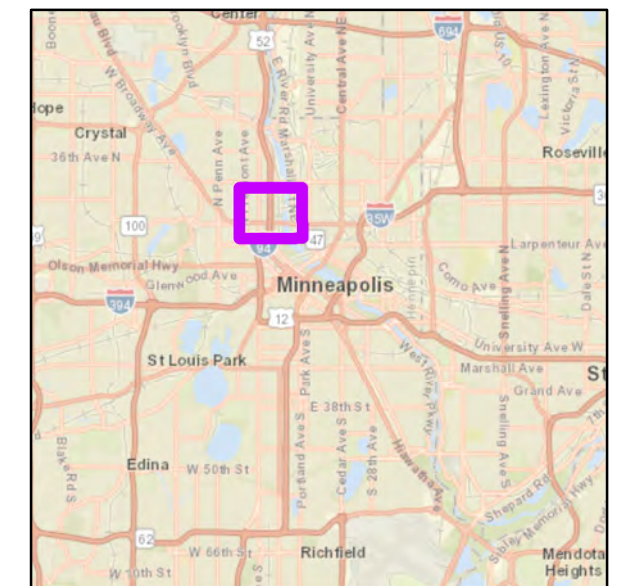


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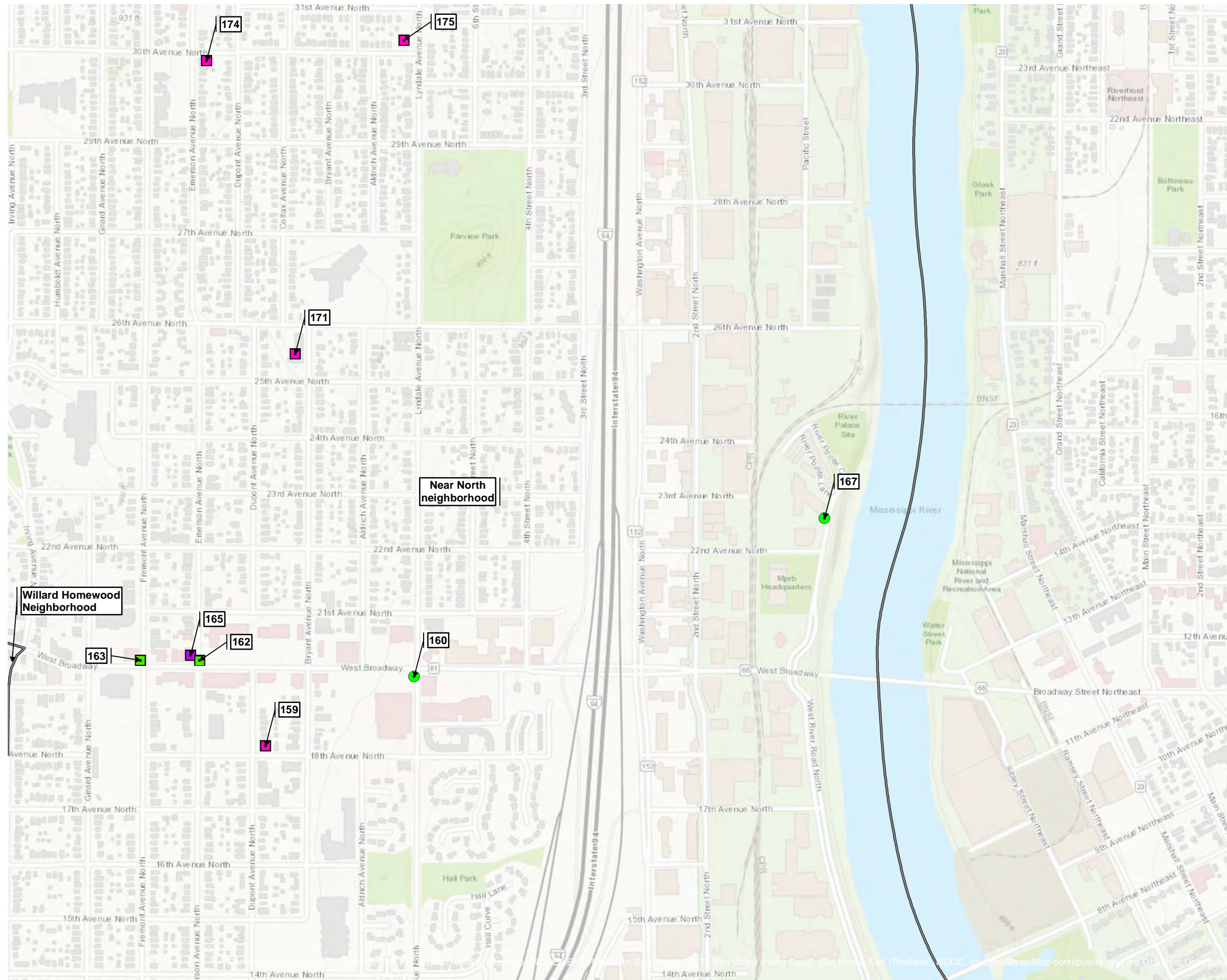
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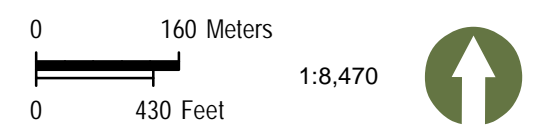
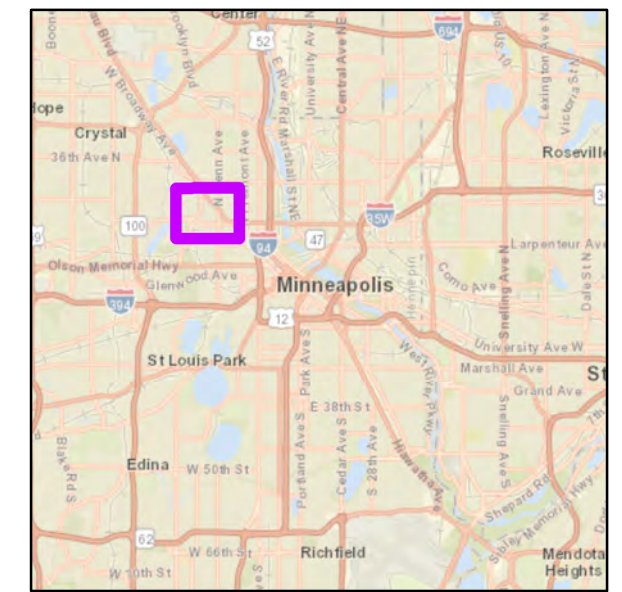
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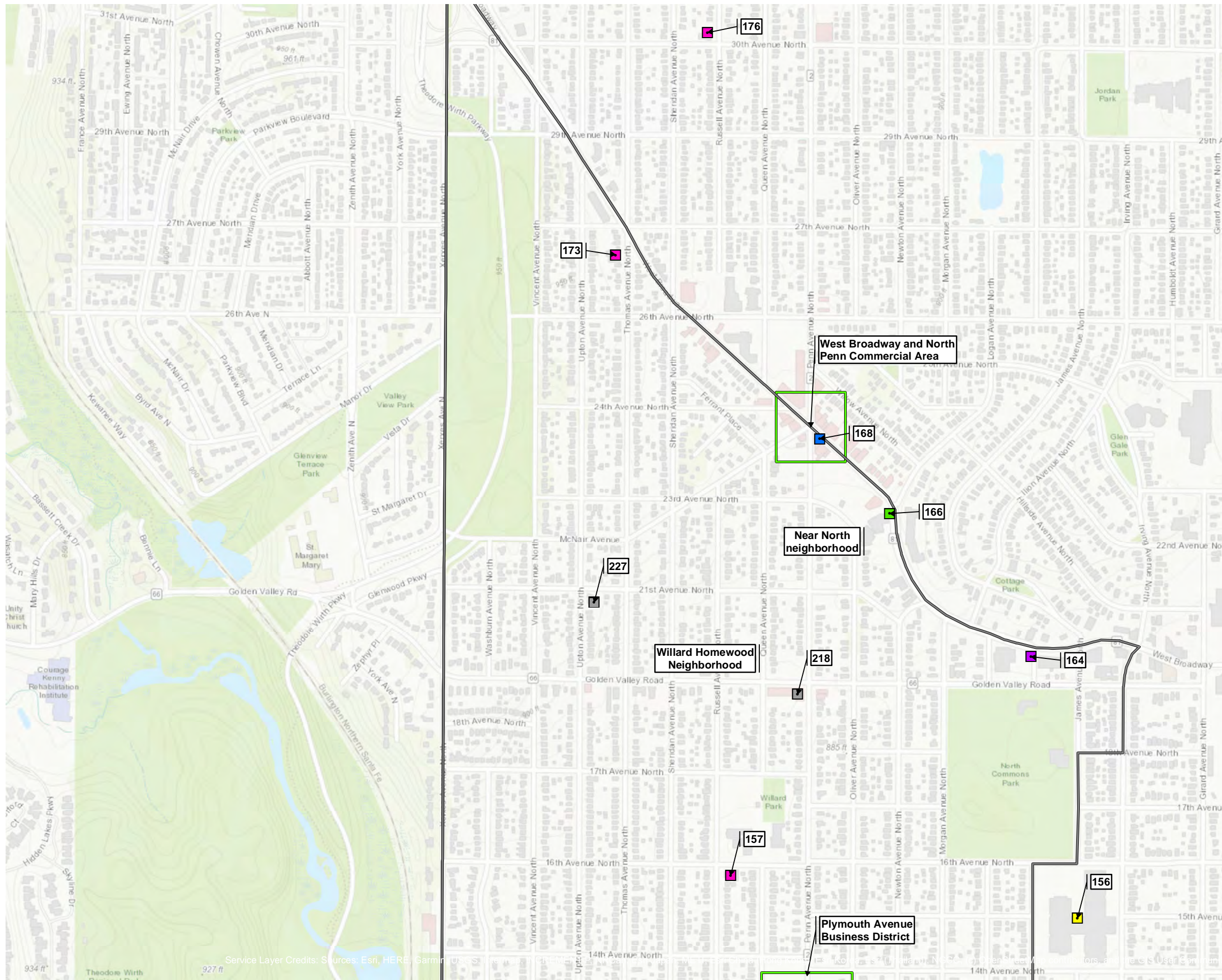
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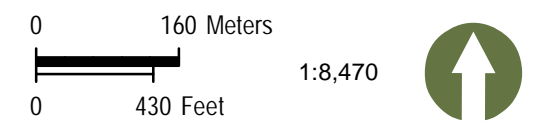
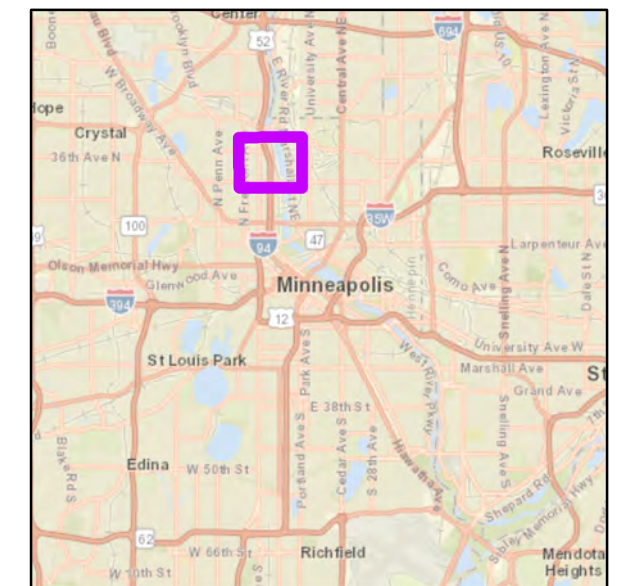


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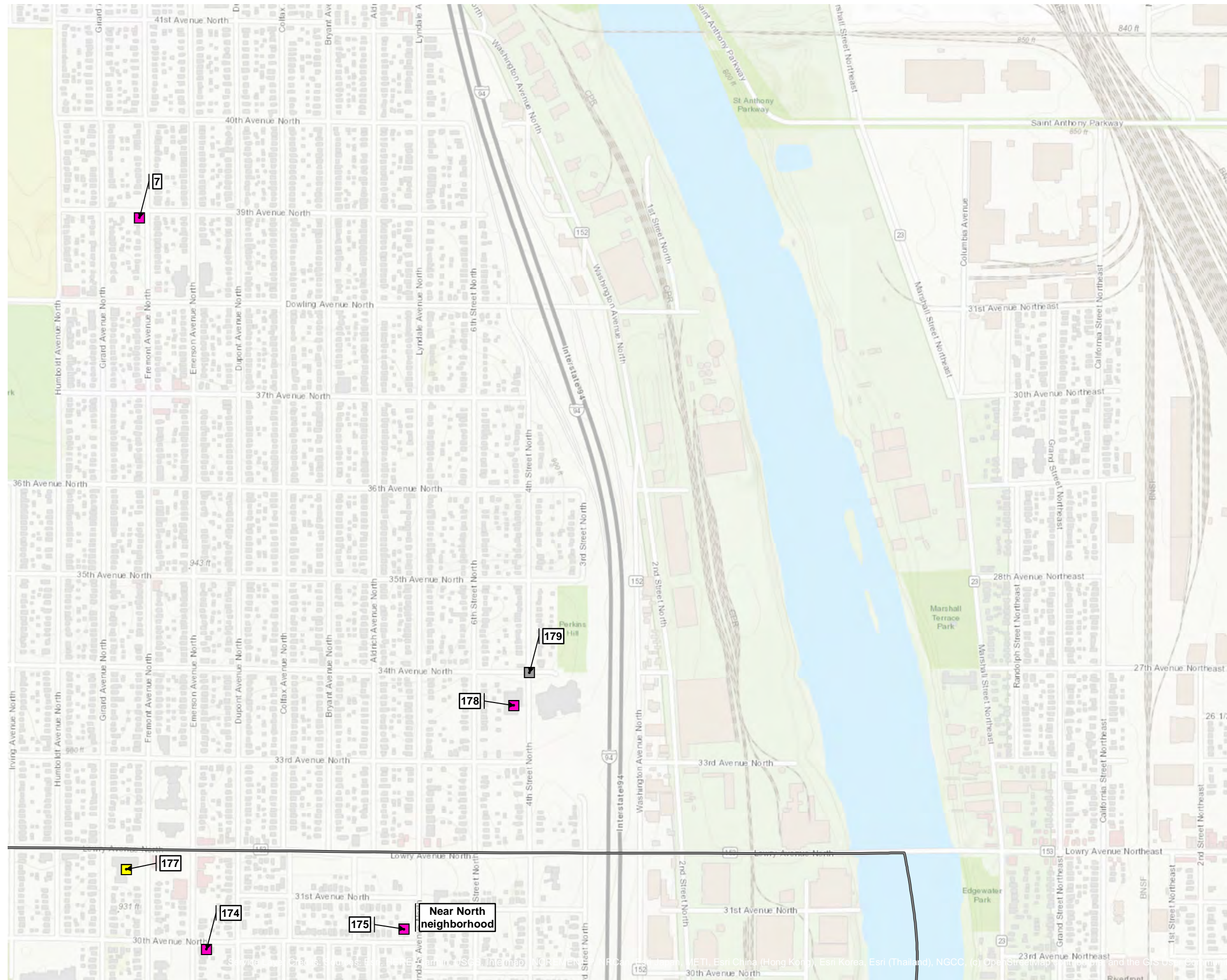
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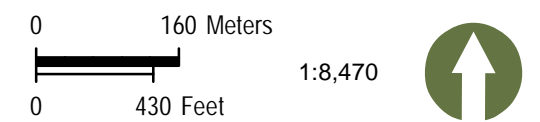
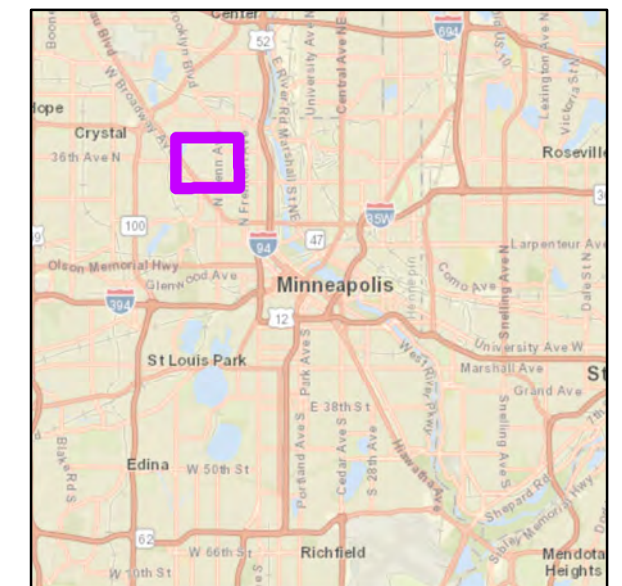


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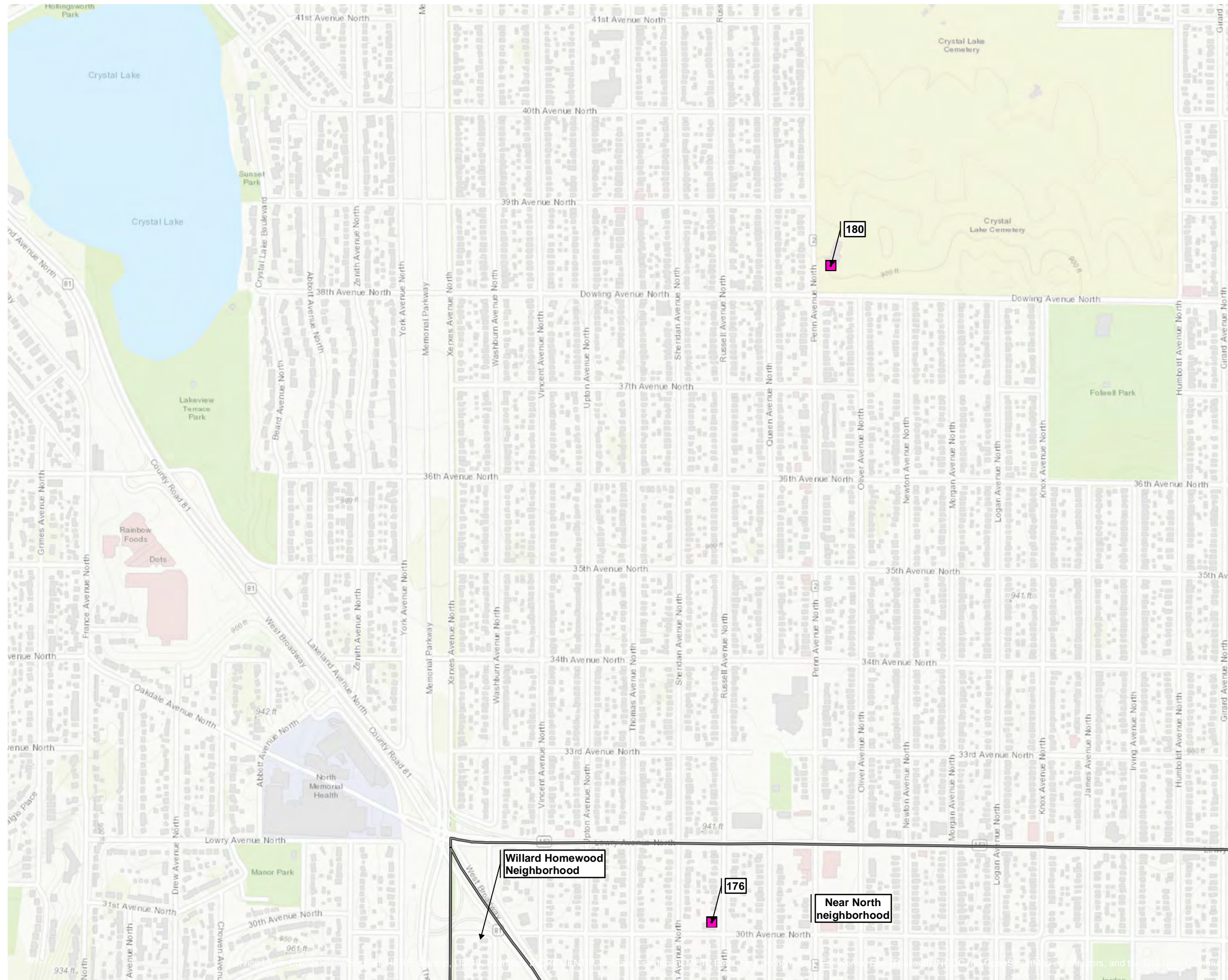
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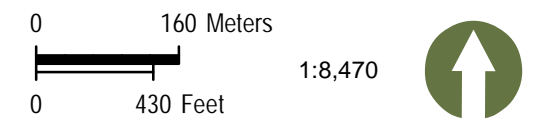
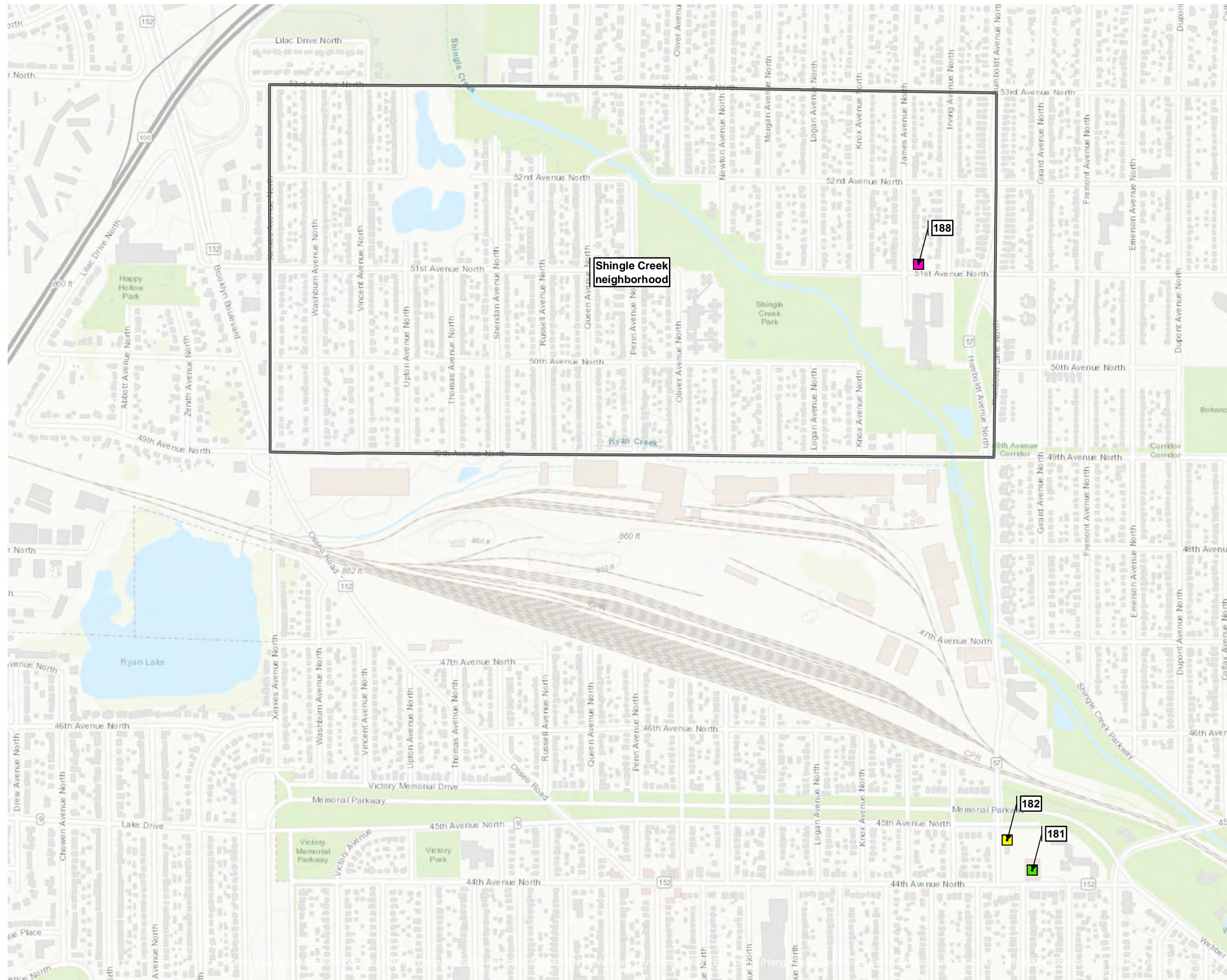
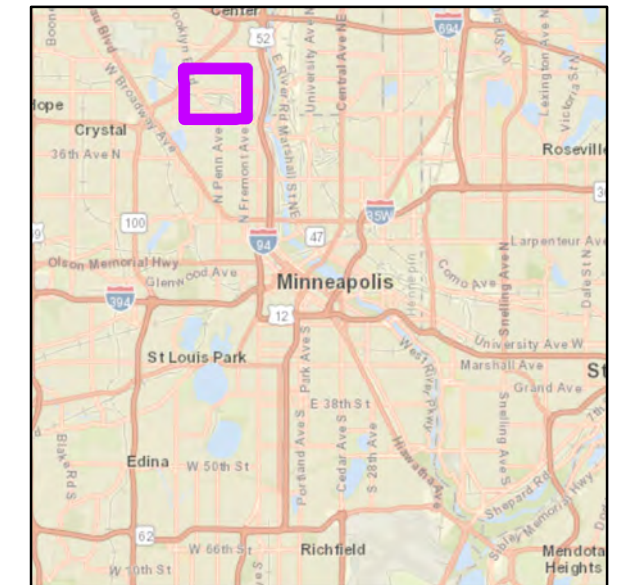


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Potential Sites of Significance

## **APPENDIX D: CONTEMPORARY AND HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS**



2\_Apartment Building\_Google  
5754 Sander Drive



3\_Prince Residence and Studio\_Google  
5215 France Avenue South



4\_Nokomis Library\_Hennepin County Library  
5100 34th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4568)

[https://www.hclib.org/-/media/Hennepin-Library/Features/Library-Photos-2019/Nk\\_710x445.jpg?h=445&iar=0&w=710&hash=D46C1EFDD4671D60B7E4EA9E5334F807](https://www.hclib.org/-/media/Hennepin-Library/Features/Library-Photos-2019/Nk_710x445.jpg?h=445&iar=0&w=710&hash=D46C1EFDD4671D60B7E4EA9E5334F807)



5\_Moon Sound Studio\_Google  
4937 28th Avenue South (HE-MPC-19330)





7\_Mount Calvary\_Google  
3859 Fremont Avenue North



8\_Arthur and Edith Lee House  
4600 Columbus Avenue South (HE-MPC-9739)



9\_Hiawatha Golf Course\_Chris Juhn  
4553 Longfellow Avenue

<https://spokesman-recorder.com/2021/03/03/mpis-park-board-votes-to-downsize-black-landmark/>



9\_Hiawatha Golf Course\_Norton & Peel  
4553 Longfellow Avenue

<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10848360>



10\_Fire Station 24\_A.F. Raymond  
4501 Hiawatha Avenue (HE-MPC-7413)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10826206>



10\_Fire Station 24  
4501 Hiawatha Avenue (HE-MPC-7413)



11\_ St. Thomas Episcopal Church\_Google  
4400 4th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4408)



12\_ New Beginnings Baptist Tabernacle\_Google  
4301 1st Avenue South (HE-MPC-4842)



13\_New Covenant Church\_Google  
4254 15th Avenue South (HE-MPC-9736)



14\_Angelus Home\_Google  
4544 4th Avenue South



16\_LaJune Lange Childhood Home  
4055-57 2nd Avenue South



17\_MLK Park\_Google  
4055 Nicollet Avenue



18\_AB Cassius House\_Google  
4026 Clinton Avenue



19\_Nacirema Club\_MNHS  
3949 4th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4886)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10825535>



19\_Nacirema Club  
3949 4th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4886)





20\_Bancroft Elementary School\_Google  
3829 13th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4691)



20\_Bancroft Elementary School\_Hennepin County Library  
3829 13th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4691)

<https://digitalcollections.hclib.org/digital/collection/p17208coll14/id/3082/>



21\_Lena O. Smith House  
3905 5th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4887)



22\_Benjamin Mchie Childhood Home  
3945 3rd Avenue South



23\_Friendship Store plaque honoring Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church  
317 38th Street East



23\_Seward Coop Friendship Store\_Google  
317 38th Street East



24\_Macedonia Baptist Church  
3801 1st Avenue South



25\_Taystee Freeze  
3800 3rd Avenue South



27\_Greater Sabathani\_MNHS  
3805 3rd Avenue South (HE-MPC-4391; non-extant)  
<https://www.mnopedia.org/multimedia/greater-sabathani-baptist-church>



27\_former site of Greater Sabathani Mission Baptist Church  
3805 3rd Avenue South



28\_Whitlock Home\_Google  
3854 Clinton Avenue South



29\_Solomon Hughes, Sr. House\_Google  
3716 4th Avenue South



30\_Jet Records (right) and 231\_Commercial Building (left)\_Google  
3803 4th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4400, right) and 3801 4th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4399, left)



31\_George Floyd Square\_Lorie Shaull  
38th Street East and Chicago Avenue South

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Floyd\\_Square#/media/  
File:George\\_Floyd\\_memorial\\_at\\_the\\_intersection\\_of\\_Chicago\\_Ave\\_and\\_E\\_38th\\_St\\_in\\_Minneapolis,\\_Minnesota\\_\(50022892592\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Floyd_Square#/media/File:George_Floyd_memorial_at_the_intersection_of_Chicago_Ave_and_E_38th_St_in_Minneapolis,_Minnesota_(50022892592).jpg)



32\_New Covenant Church\_Google  
810 38th Street East



33\_Schofields and 37\_Dreamland\_Google  
3759 and 3755 4th Avenue South





34\_Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church  
2600 38th Street East (HE-MPC-4695)



35\_God's Revelation\_Google  
3751 17th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4483)



36\_Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder\_MNHS  
3744 4th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4847)  
<http://www.placeography.org/index.php/Image:Mdougl--Spokesrech.jpg>



36\_Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder  
3744 4th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4847)



38\_Bryant Jr High School / Sabathani Community Center  
310 38th Street East (HE-MPC-4390)



38\_Bryant Jr High School / Sabathani Community Center\_MNHS  
310 38th Street East (HE-MPC-4390)

<http://www.placeography.org/index.php/Image:Vwalton--1922bryantjrhigh.jpg>



39\_Galilee Missionary Baptist\_Google  
3701 14th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4455)



40\_Harry Davis House  
3621 Portland Avenue



41\_Hosmer Library\_McGhiever

347 36th Street East (HE-MPC-4687)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hosmer\\_Library#/media/File:Hosmer\\_Library.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hosmer_Library#/media/File:Hosmer_Library.jpg)



42\_St James AME\_MNHS  
3600 Snelling Avenue (HE-MPC-4254)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10826620>



42\_St James AME  
3600 Snelling Avenue (HE-MPC-4254)



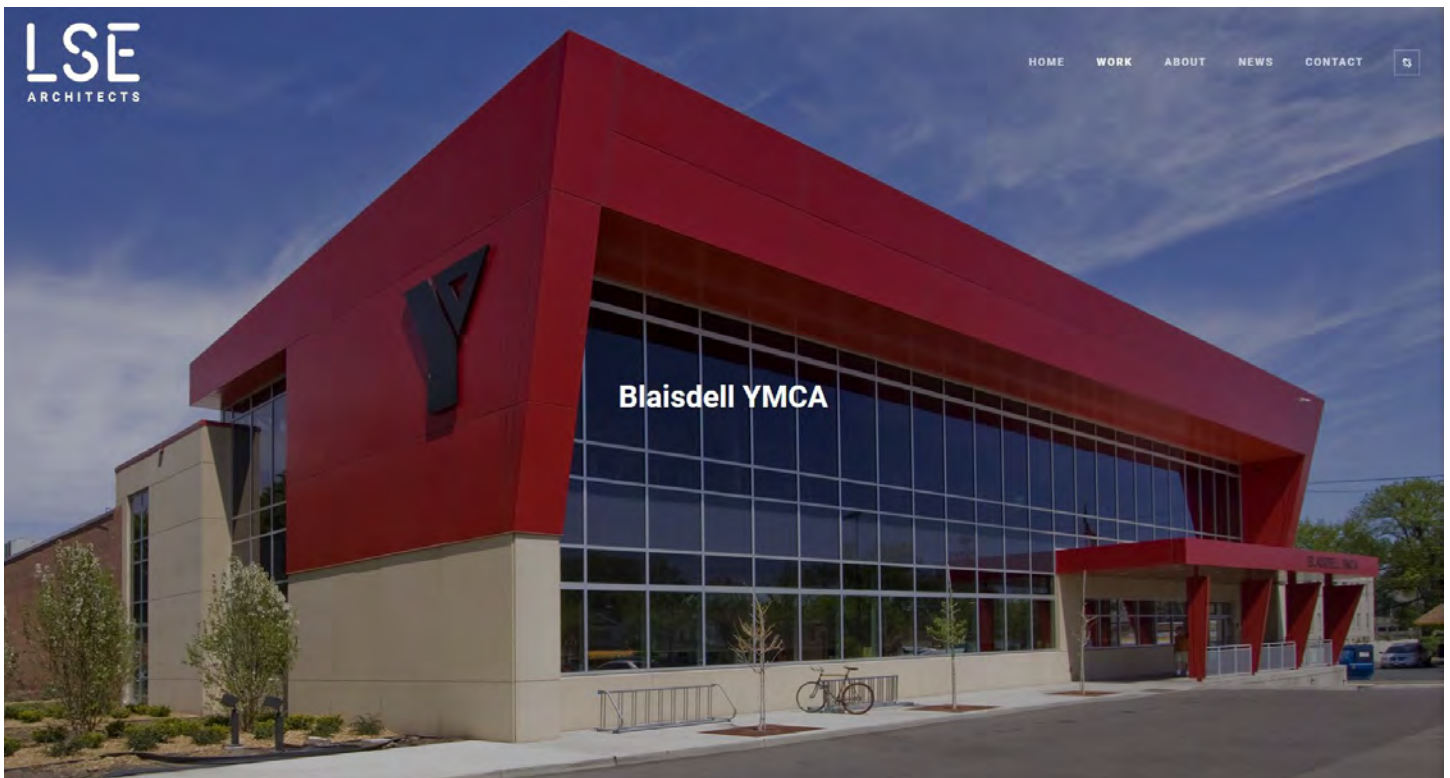
43\_Lewis Whitlock III House  
3500 Portland Avenue South



44\_Spiritual Life Fellowship Missionary Baptist\_Google  
2014 36th Street East (HE-MPC-4688)



45\_Purple Rain House\_Blake Wilson  
3420 Snelling Avenue  
<https://goo.gl/maps/9hGk1dRHMviDkqbK7>



46\_Blaisdell YMCA\_LSE Architects  
3335 Blaisdell Avenue  
<https://lse-architects.com/projects-item/blaisdell-ymca/>





47\_Findley Place\_Google  
3015 Pillsbury Avenue



48\_East Lake Library\_Google  
2727 Lake Street East



49\_New Covenant Church\_Google  
301 Lake Street East (HE-MPC-7771)



51\_Club Malibu\_Google  
334 Lake Street East (HE-MPC-14060)



52\_Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery\_Google  
2945 Cedar Avenue South (HE-MPC-4123)



57\_Lorenzo D. Williams Residence  
2720 West River Parkway



58\_Cookhouse Studio\_and 59\_Kay Bank\_Google  
2541 Nicollet Avenue South



60\_Sound 80\_Daniel R. Pratt  
2709 25th Street East (HE-MPC-3949)  
<https://digitours.augsburg.edu/items/show/35#&gid=1&pid=2>



61\_Matthews Park Cooperative\_Google  
2419 25th Avenue South



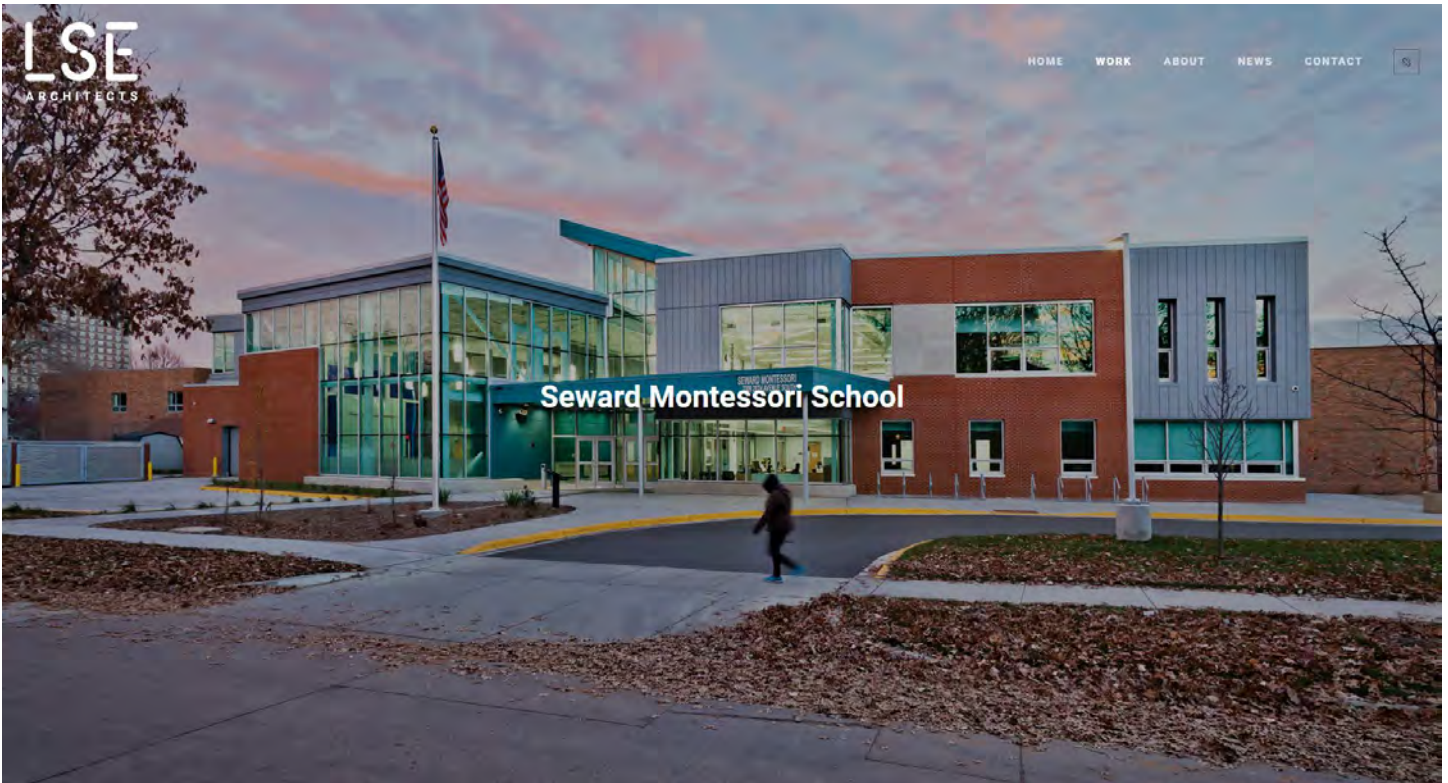
62\_Matthews Park Cooperative\_Google  
2423 26th Avenue South



63\_Matthews Park Cooperative\_Google  
2419 24th Street East



64\_Luther T. Prince Residence\_Google  
3521 24th Street West



65\_Seward Montessori School\_LSE Architects  
2309 28th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4538)  
<https://lse-architects.com/projects-item/seward-montessori-school/>



67\_St. Peter's AME Church Parsonage\_Google  
2205 Elliot Avenue



69\_MN Council of Churches\_Google  
122 Franklin Avenue West (HE-MPC-18033)



71\_American Artists Studio\_Google  
430 Oak Grove Street (HE-MPC-0570)





72\_The Flame\_Google  
1523 Nicollet Avenue (HE-MPC-7959)



73\_Minneapolis Auditorium\_MNHS  
1301 2nd Avenue South (non-extant)

<http://www.placeography.org/index.php/Image:1968exhibit--minneapolisauditorium66.jpg>



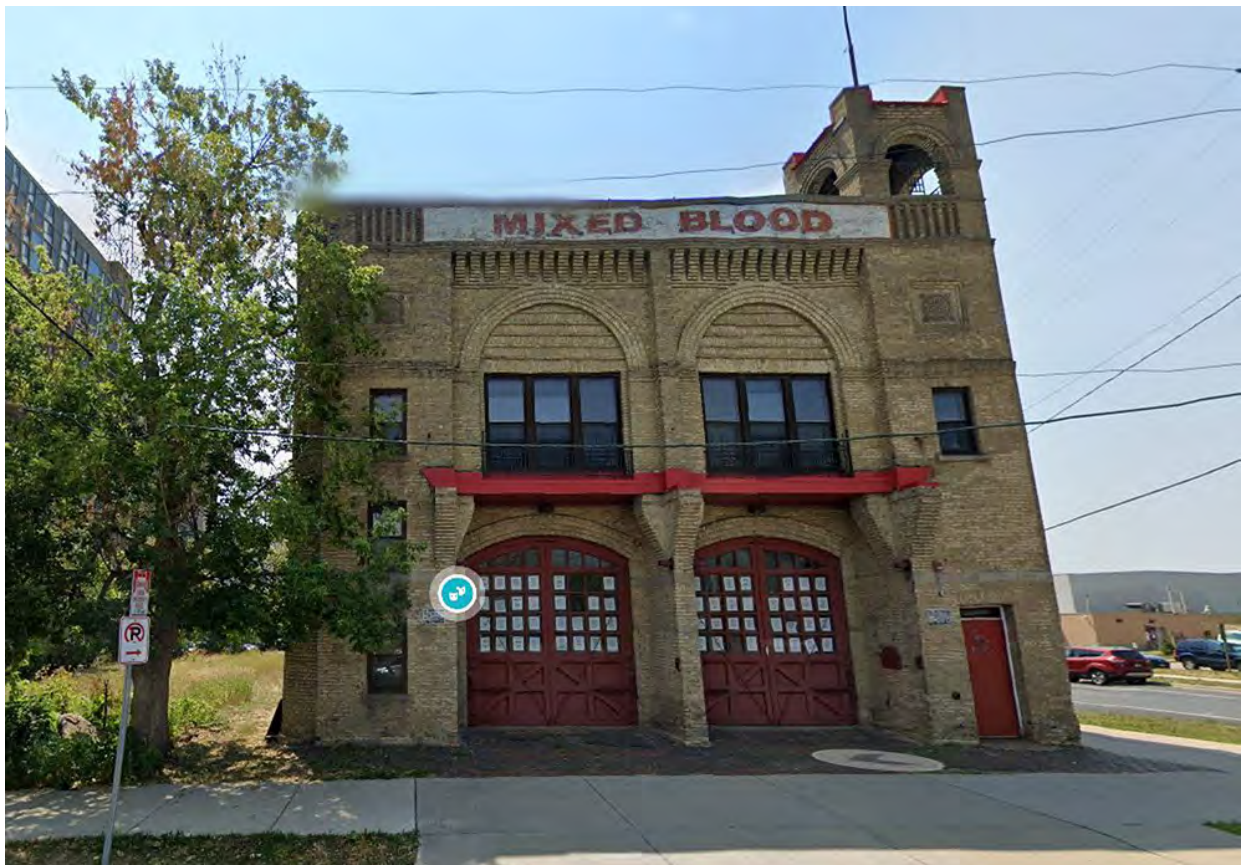
75\_Bethesda Baptist\_Google  
1118 8th Street South (HE-MPC-0371)



76\_Marigold Ballroom\_MNHS  
1336 Nicollet Avenue (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10716484>



77\_Century Plaza Building\_Google  
1101 3rd Avenue South



78\_Mixed Blood Theatre\_Google  
1501 4th Street South (HE-MPC-4636)



79\_Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs\_Tony Webster  
301 19th Avenue South

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humphrey\\_School\\_of\\_Public\\_Affairs#/media/  
File:Hubert\\_Humphrey\\_Center,\\_University\\_of\\_Minnesota,\\_Minneapolis\\_2007\\_\(2\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humphrey_School_of_Public_Affairs#/media/File:Hubert_Humphrey_Center,_University_of_Minnesota,_Minneapolis_2007_(2).jpg)



80\_Curtis Hotel\_Norton & Peel  
327 10th Street South (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10862794>



82\_King Solomon's Mines\_Google  
114 9th Street South



82\_King Solomon's Mines\_Mike Zerby  
114 9th Street South

<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10779571>



84\_Minneapolis Armory\_Google  
500 6th Street South (HE-MPC-0359)



85\_Morrill Hall\_UMN  
100 Church Street Southeast  
<https://campusmaps.umn.edu/morrill-hall>



86\_Minneapolis Athletic Club\_Google  
615 2nd Avenue (HE-MPC-7873)



87\_Colored Men's Railroad Club\_Google  
212 11th Avenue South (HE-MPC-9839)



89\_Orpheum Theatre\_Google  
910 Hennepin Avenue (HE-MPC-16561)

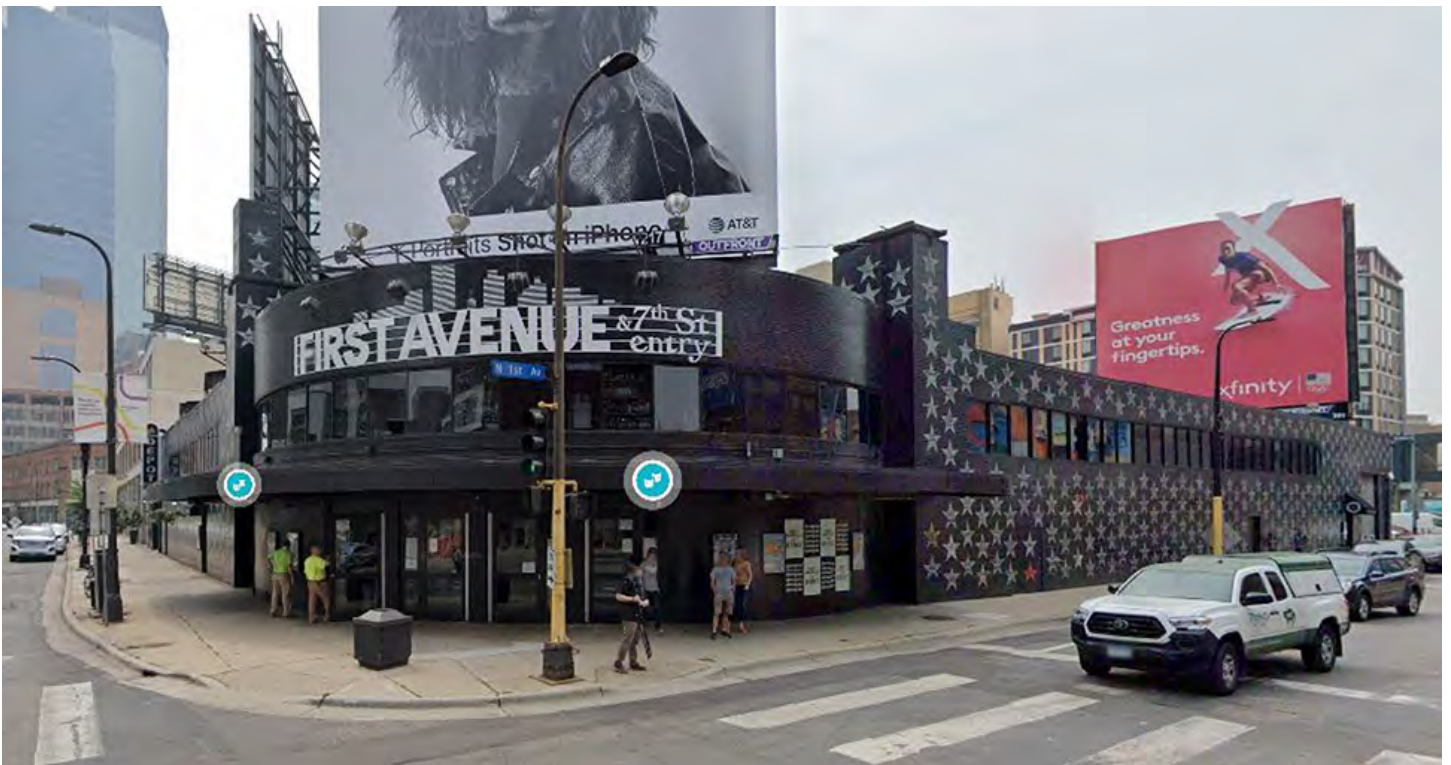


90\_Armory  
10 Church Street Southeast





91\_Pantages Theatre\_Google  
710 Hennepin Avenue (HE-MPC-16555)



92\_First Avenue\_Google  
701 1st Avenue North (HE-MPC-0482)



93\_Huntley House\_Google  
326 17th Avenue Southeast



95\_St. James AME\_A.F. Raymond  
314 15th Avenue South (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10826620>



97\_Taste Show Lounge\_Charles Camblis  
14 5th Street North (HE-MPC-16265, non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=11446700>



97\_Taste Show Lounge\_Charles Camblis  
14 5th Street North (HE-MPC-16265; non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10780473>



98\_Minneapolis Glendale Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
1138 Glenwood Avenue (HE-MPC-8126)



99\_Washburn Center for Children\_Google  
1100 Glenwood Avenue



100\_Atrium Apartments  
314 Hennepin Avenue (HE-MPC-19304)



103\_Chateau Student Housing Co-op\_Google  
425 13th Avenue Southeast (HE-MPC-3136)



105\_Nicollet Hotel\_Norton & Peel  
235 Hennepin Avenue South (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=11461443>



106\_Fine Line Music Cafe\_Google  
318 1st Avenue North



109\_First Church of God in Christ\_MNHS  
518 Lyndale Avenue North (non-extant)

<https://www.mnopedia.org/multimedia/keneseth-israel-synagogue-minneapolis>



110\_Prince Rogers Nelson Childhood Home\_Google  
539 Newton Avenue North



113\_International House\_Google  
514 11th Avenue Southeast (HE-MPC-7164)



113\_International House\_Norton & Peel  
514 11th Avenue Southeast (HE-MPC-7164)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10865395>





114\_Wayman AME\_MNHS  
1221 7th Avenue North (HE-MPC-8290)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10826614>



114\_Wayman AME  
1221 7th Avenue North (HE-MPC-8290)



115\_Zion Baptist Church\_MNHS  
621 Elmwood Avenue North (HE-MPC-7572)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10826612>



115\_Zion Baptist Church  
621 Elmwood Avenue North (HE-MPC-7572)



116\_Cecil Newman Plaza\_MNHS  
703 Emerson Avenue North  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10826366>



116\_Cecil Newman Plaza  
703 Emerson Avenue North



117\_Winslow House Hotel\_MNHS  
55 Prince Street Southeast (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10719271>



118\_Prince Rogers Nelson Childhood Home  
2620 8th Avenue North (HE-MPC-10020)



120\_Apartment Building\_Google  
814 11th Avenue Southeast



121\_First Church of God in Christ\_Google  
810 Elmwood Avenue North (HE-MPC-8080)



122\_Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House baseball game\_MNHS  
809 Aldrich Avenue North (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10687492>



122\_Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House playground\_MNHS  
809 Aldrich Avenue North (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10665140>



122\_Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House\_MNHS  
809 Aldrich Avenue North (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10722527>



124\_Phyllis Wheatley Community Center, 1301 10th Avenue North (HE-MPC-7807), and 125\_Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School, 919 Emerson Avenue North (HE-MPC-9893)



124\_Phyllis Wheatley Community Center\_MNHS  
1301 10th Avenue North (HE-MPC-7807)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10825531>



125\_Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School  
919 Emerson Avenue North (HE-MPC-9893)





127\_Bethune Park  
1304 10th Avenue North (HE-MPC-7900)



128\_Apartment Building\_Google  
720 6th Avenue Southeast



129\_Vivian Jenkins Nelsen House  
1025 Thomas Avenue North (HE-MPC-7633)



130\_Lincoln Middle School\_Google  
2131 12th Avenue North (HE-MPC-8291)



130\_Lincoln Middle School\_C.J. Hibbard  
2131 12th Avenue North (HE-MPC-8291)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10826552>



132\_Blue Note (Robert Martin)\_Charles Chamblis  
622 11th Avenue North (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=11446002>



133\_Parkview Apartments No. 2\_Google  
1121 12th Avenue North



134\_Parkview Apartments No. 3\_Google  
1221 Banneker Avenue North



135\_Parkview Apartments No. 4\_Google  
1201 Banneker Avenue North



136\_University of Minnesota Urban Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC)  
2001 Plymouth Avenue North



137\_The Way\_MNHS  
1925 Plymouth Avenue North (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10825534>



137\_former site of The Way  
1925 Plymouth Avenue North (non-extant)



137\_The Way event\_Charles Chamblis  
1925 Plymouth Avenue North (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10780749>



138\_Townhomes\_Google  
1405 Plymouth Avenue North





139\_Minnesota African American Heritage Museum & Gallery (MAAHMG)  
1256 Penn Avenue North (within Thor Building)



140\_Thor Building, 1256 Penn Avenue North, including 146\_Stair Step  
Foundation, 2115 Plymouth Avenue North



141\_Apartments & Townhouses\_Google  
1501 Plymouth Avenue North



142\_Apartments & Townhouses\_Google  
1611 Plymouth Avenue North (HE-MPC-8246)



143\_Apartments & Townhouses\_Google  
1701 Plymouth Avenue North



144\_Apartments & Townhouses\_Google  
1815 Plymouth Avenue North



145\_Estes Funeral Chapel  
2201 Plymouth Avenue North



148\_First Plymouth National Bank  
2000 Plymouth Avenue North



148\_First Plymouth National Bank\_MNHS  
2000 Plymouth Avenue North

<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10823710>



149\_Urban League and 150\_Bible Based Baptist  
2100 Plymouth Avenue North



151\_Apartment Building\_Google  
1516 Plymouth Avenue North



152\_Apartment Building\_Google  
1414 Plymouth Avenue North



154\_Cozy Bar stage\_Norton & Peel  
522 Plymouth Avenue North (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=11461560>



154\_Cozy Bar\_Norton & Peel  
522 Plymouth Avenue North (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=11461561>





155\_Apartments & Townhouses\_Google  
1300 Irving Avenue North



156\_Minneapolis North High School\_Google  
1500 James Avenue North (HE-MPC-8160)



156\_Minneapolis North High School at 1701 Fremont Avenue North (non-extant)\_C.J. Hibbard  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North\\_Community\\_High\\_School#/media/File:Minneapolis\\_North\\_High\\_School\\_1915.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Community_High_School#/media/File:Minneapolis_North_High_School_1915.jpg)



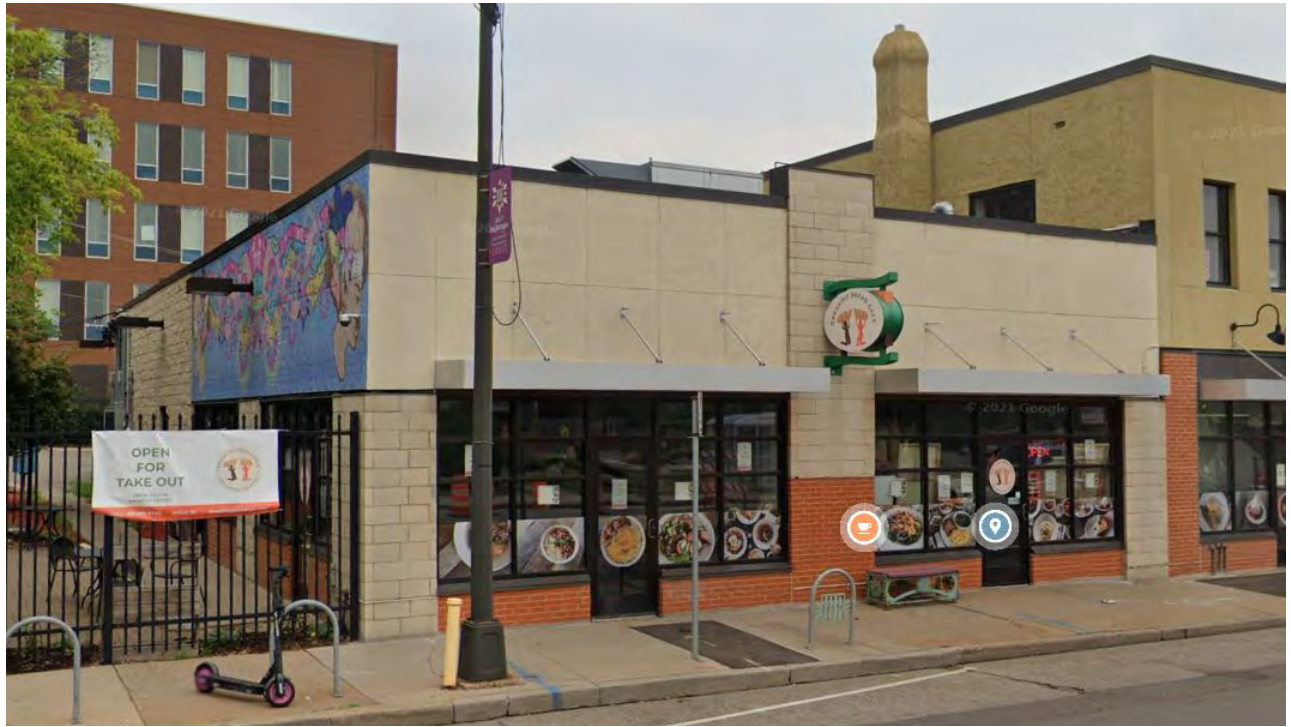
157\_NuWay Baptist Church\_Google  
1530 Russell Avenue North



159\_Greater Mt. Vernon\_Google  
1800 DuPont Avenue North



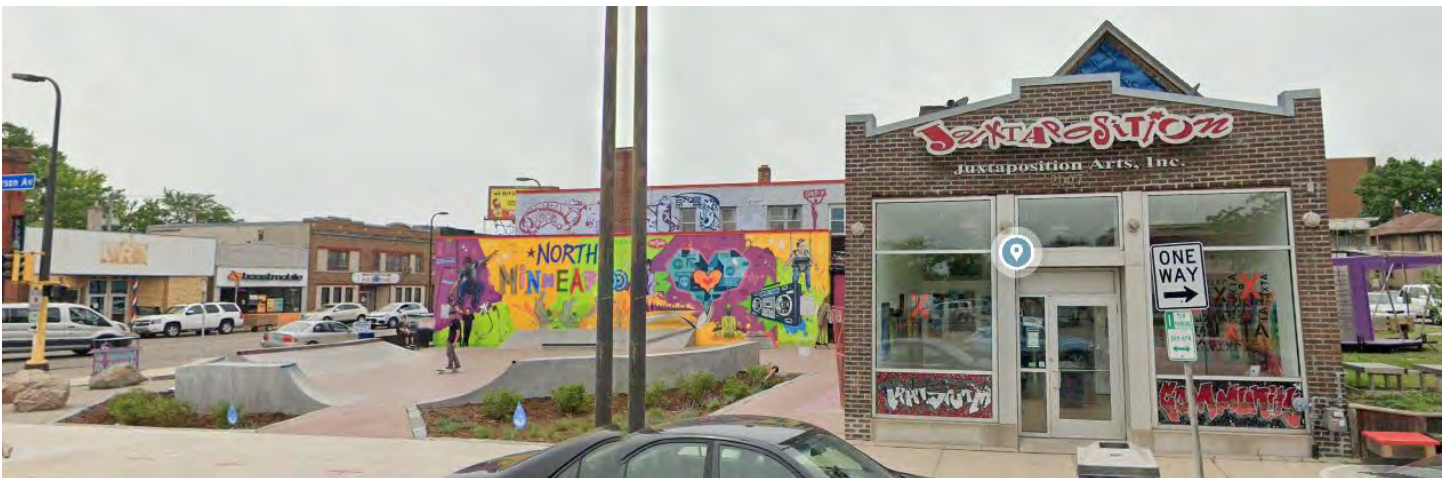
162\_Sammy's Avenue Eatery\_Google  
1101 West Broadway Avenue



163\_Breaking Bread Cafe\_Google  
1210 West Broadway Avenue



164\_North Community YMCA\_Google  
1711 West Broadway Avenue



165\_Juxtaposition Arts\_Google  
2007 Emerson Avenue North



166\_Capri Theater (2019)\_Google  
2027 West Broadway Avenue



166\_Capri Theater\_Google  
2027 West Broadway Avenue



167\_Riverview Supper Club\_The Gentlemen\_Charles Chamblis  
2319 West River Road (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10780401>



167\_Riverview Supper Club\_Charles Chamblis  
2319 West River Road (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10780507>



168\_KMOJ\_Google  
2123 West Broadway Avenue



170\_Memorialize the Movement\_MTM  
1500 Jackson Street Northeast, within Northrup King Complex (HE-MPC-3788)  
<https://www.memorializethemovement.com/>



171\_New Salem Missionary Baptist Church\_Google  
2507 Bryant Avenue North (HE-MPC-8039)





172\_Holland Hi-Rise\_Google  
1717 Washington Street Northeast (HE-MPC-2147)



173\_True Vine Missionary Church\_Google  
2639 Thomas Avenue North (HE-MPC-8265)



174\_New Bethel Baptist Church\_Google  
1115 30th Avenue North (HE-MPC-8306)



175\_Berean Baptist Church\_Google  
704 30th Avenue North



176\_The Purpose Church\_Google  
3001 Russell Avenue North (HE-MPC-8255)



177\_North Regional Library\_Google  
1315 Lowry Avenue North



178\_Fellowship Missionary Baptist\_Google  
3355 4th Street North



180\_Crystal Lake Cemetery\_Crystal Lake Union Cemetery Association  
3816 Penn Avenue North  
<http://crystallakecemetery.com/>



181\_North Market\_Google  
4414 Humboldt Avenue North



182\_Webber Park Library\_Google  
4440 Humboldt Avenue North



183\_David Brady Childhood Home (likely location)  
308 39th Street East



184\_St Peter's AME Parsonage (former)  
3756 5th Avenue South



188\_Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church\_Google  
5100 James Avenue North (HE-MPC-8173)



189\_Joanna Salon of Beauty\_Google  
615 38th Street East



190\_Ardena Flippin House\_Google  
3943 2nd Avenue South





193\_Stewart Memorial Church  
116 32nd Street East (HE-MPC-4358)



194\_U Meet Us and Urban League (near Black Wall Street)\_MNHS  
411 38th Street East (non-extant)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10825541>



195\_Lakewood Cemetery  
3600 Hennepin Avenue South



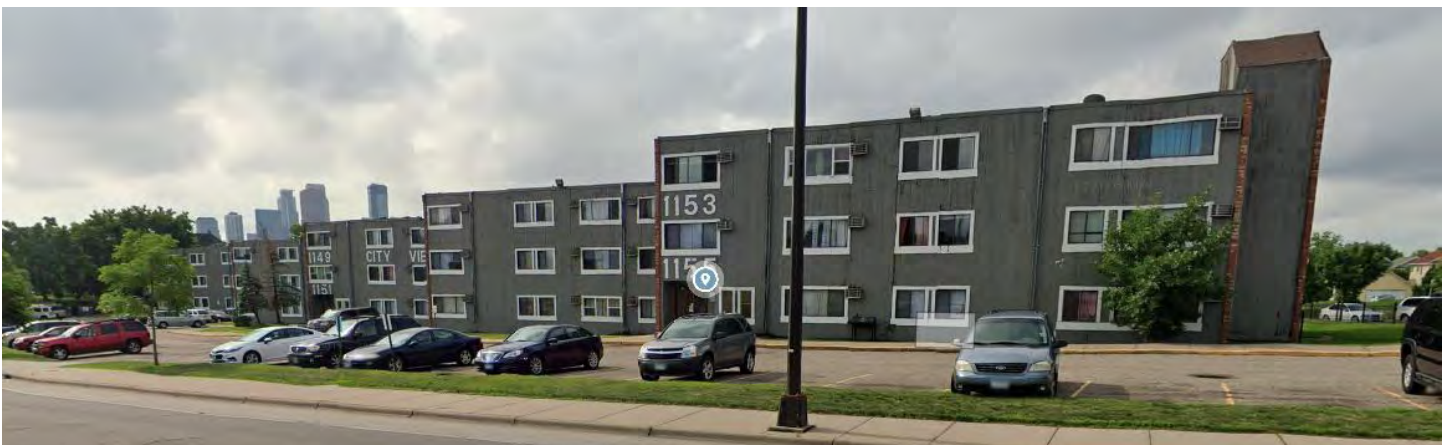
196\_New Life 7th Day Adventist  
2309 Plymouth Avenue North (HE-MPC-7598)



198\_Barber Shop  
1918 Plymouth Avenue North



199\_Cecil Newman Courts\_Google  
1146 Emerson Avenue North



199\_Cecil Newman Courts\_Google  
1146 Emerson Avenue North



203\_Lilian Anthony House  
1015 Washburn Avenue North (HE-MPC-7624)



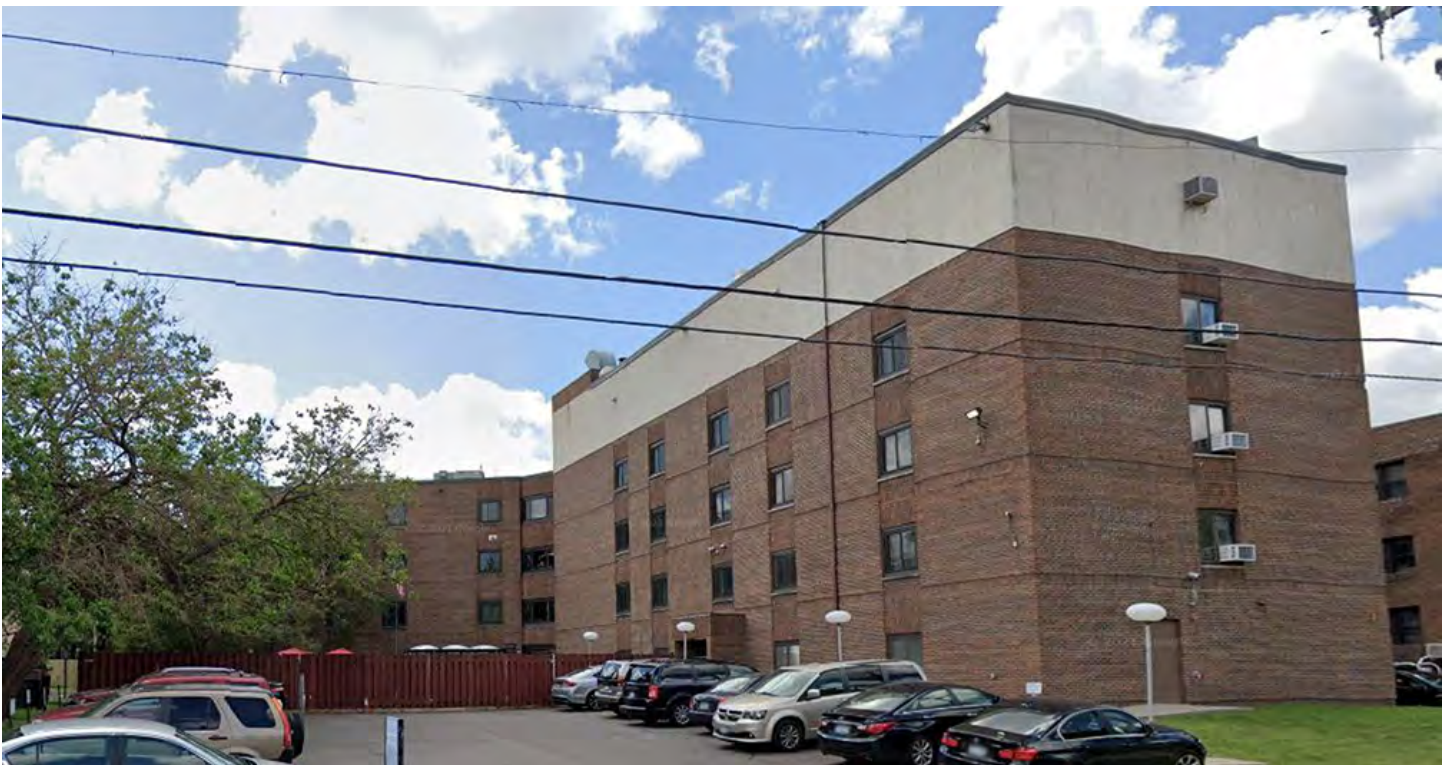
204\_Willows Nursing Home\_Google  
6130 Lyndale Avenue South



205\_Archie Givens House\_Google  
5701 Clinton Avenue South



206\_Archie Givens House\_Google  
4248 3rd Avenue South



207\_Nursing Home\_Google  
625 16th Street East



209\_Prince Hall Masonic Temple  
3832 4th Avenue South



210\_Greater St. Paul Church of God in Christ  
4001 4th Avenue South (HE-MPC-4404)



211\_ St Leonard Catholic Church  
3949 Clinton Avenue (HE-MPC-4059)



213\_ Coventry Royster Cowens House  
4200 Portland Avenue South





214\_St Peter's AME Church\_MNHS  
401 41st Street East (HE-MPC-4701)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10826618>



214\_St Peter's AME Church  
401 41st Street East (HE-  
MPC-4701



215\_Ted Cook's 19th Hole BBQ  
2814 38th Street East (HE-MPC-9708)



216\_Beauty Salon  
3700 4th Avenue South



217\_Glenwood Funeral Home\_Google  
1312 Glenwood Avenue



218\_Commons at Penn\_Google  
2201 Golden Valley Road



219\_Jay W. Tyson Residence\_Google  
1724 James Avenue South

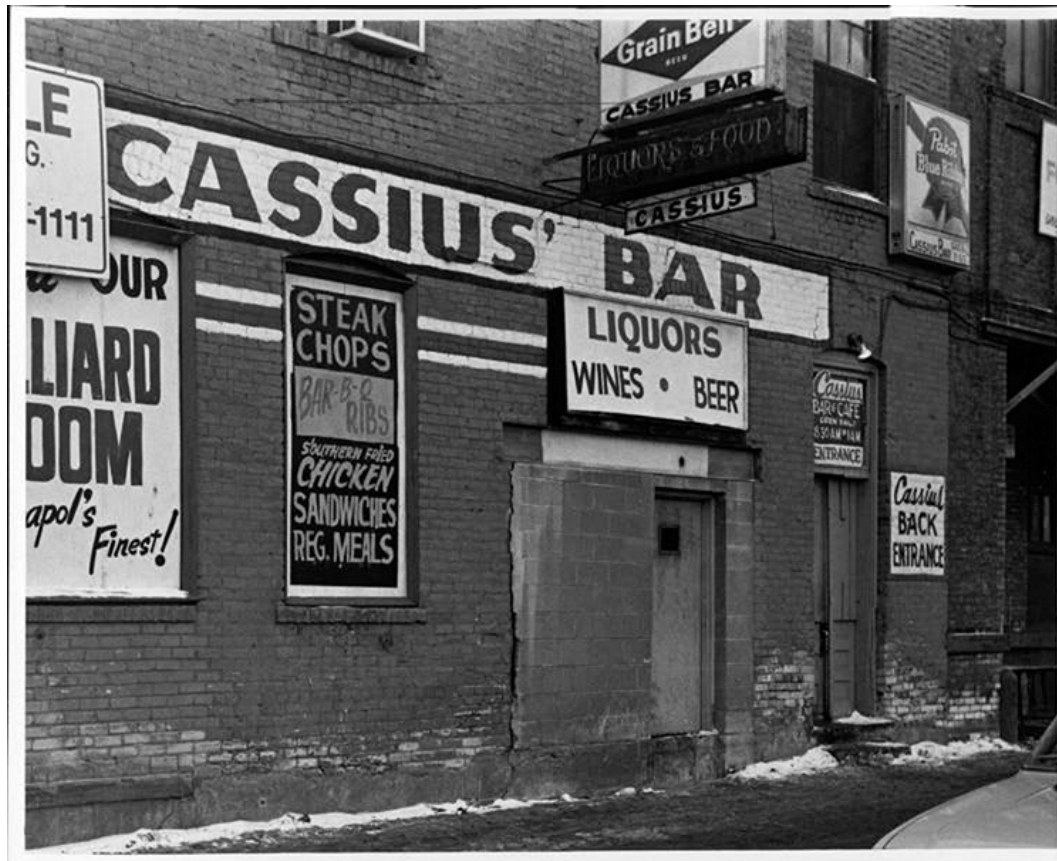


220\_Parkview Apartments No. 1\_Google  
1201 12th Avenue North



221\_Cassius Bar\_Hennepin County Library  
318 3rd Street South (non-extant)

<https://digitalcollections.hclib.org/digital/collection/CPED/id/4676/rec/14>



221\_Cassius Club\_Quammen Photography  
318 3rd Street South (non-extant)

<https://digitalcollections.hclib.org/digital/collection/CPED/id/18253/rec/3>



222\_Archie Givens Jr. House\_Google  
72 Groveland Terrace (HE-MPC-8847)



222\_Archie Givens Jr. House\_MNHS  
72 Groveland Terrace (HE-MPC-8847)  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10826358>



223\_Elks Lodge\_Google  
1614 Plymouth Avenue North



226\_Jimmy Jam and James "Cornbread" Harris Home\_Google  
4100 Portland Avenue South



227\_Morris Eugene Day Home\_Google  
2024 Upton Avenue North



229\_Sharon Sayles Belton Home\_Google  
3848 Oakland Avenue South





230\_Solomon Hughes, Sr. Home\_Google  
3553 4th Avenue South



38th Street East & Nicollet Avenue\_Facing Northeast



38th Street East & Nicollet Avenue\_Facing Northwest



38th Street East & Nicollet Avenue\_Facing West



38th Street East & Nicollet Avenue\_Facing East



Black Wall Street\_Facing Northeast  
38th Street East & 4th Avenue South



Black Wall Street\_Facing South from north of 38th Street East  
38th Street East & 4th Avenue South



Black Wall Street\_Facing Southwest  
38th Street East & 4th Avenue South



Girard Terrace East demolished portion  
555 Girard Terrace, 525 Humboldt Avenue North, and 1315 Olson Memorial Highway



Girard Terrace East extant portion  
555 Girard Terrace, 525 Humboldt Avenue North, and 1315 Olson Memorial Highway



Minneapolis Central High School\_MNHS  
4th Avenue South and 34th Street East  
<http://collections.mnhs.org/cms/display?irn=10722114>



Minneapolis Central High School today\_Google  
4th Avenue South and 34th Street East

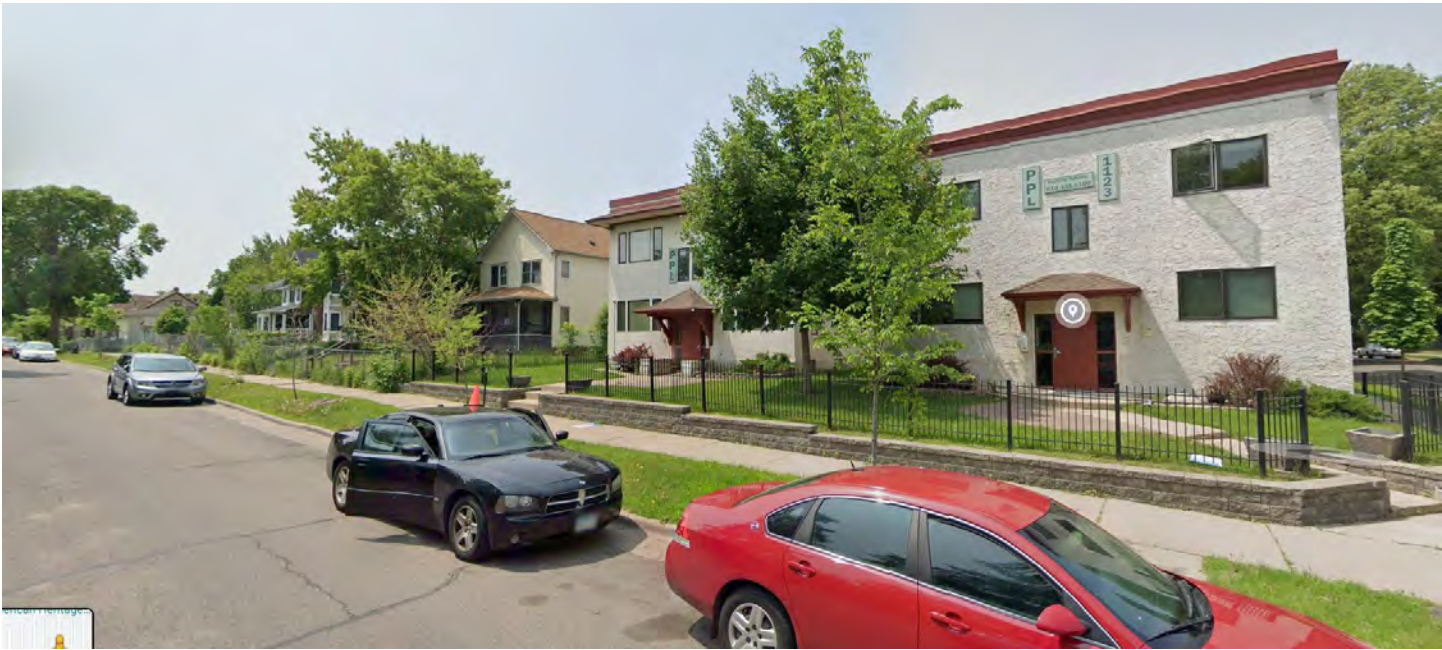


Near North\_Irving Avenue North at 11th Avenue North\_Google



Near North\_Emerson Avenue North at 15th Avenue North\_Google





Near North\_Logan Avenue North at 12th Avenue North\_Google



Seven Corners\_Google  
Washington, 15th Avenue, 18th Avenue, and Cedar Avenue



Shingle Creek neighborhood\_51st Ave North\_Google



Sumner Field Homes\_HABS

Bounded by Olson Memorial Highway on south, North Eleventh Avenue on north, North Emerson on west, & I-94 corridor on east (HE-MPC-8238)

<https://www.loc.gov/resource/hhh.mn0554.photos>



Tilsenbilt Homes Historic District  
4th Avenue South & 5th Avenue South, between 39th and 47th Streets East



Tilsenbilt Homes Historic District  
4th Avenue South & 5th Avenue South, between 39th and 47th Streets East



West Broadway North Penn Commercial Area (HE-MPC-12102), at Penn Avenue North\_Google



West Broadway and North Penn Commercial Area (HE-MPC-12102), east of Emerson Avenue  
North\_Google



West Broadway and North Penn Commercial Area (HE-MPC-12102), east of Fremont Avenue  
North\_Google



West Broadway and North Penn Commercial Area (HE-MPC-12102), east of Irving Avenue  
North\_Google



West Broadway and North Penn Commercial Area (HE-MPC-12102), east of Penn Avenue  
North\_Google



West Broadway and North Penn Commercial Area (HE-MPC-12102), near Bryant Avenue  
North\_Google



West Broadway and North Penn Commercial Area (HE-MPC-12102), near Dupont Avenue  
North\_Google



West Broadway and North Penn Commercial Area (HE-MPC-12102), at Irving Avenue  
North\_Google



Willard-Homewood\_Thomas Avenue North at 14th Avenue North\_Google



Willard-Homewood\_Thomas Avenue North at 8th Avenue North\_Google



**APPENDIX E: ONLINE FORM RESPONSES**

# AACHAF Grant Project Comment Form

Important to honor and preserve AA history?	How do you think we should preserve places?	What places in Mpls tell important stories?	Would you like to be included in communications?	Understood Tennessee Warning
1 It is extremely important to document African American history.	African American history should be preserved by all means necessary, not limited to statues, monuments, exhibits, history tours, historical documentation and preservation of structures.	Sabathani Community Community 310 E 38th St, Mpls, MN	dmrazone@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2 Yes	Ask what the community associated with each site wants, then honor those requests.	George Floyd Square	esther.e.cervantes@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3 Yes, most certainly.	I like all of those ideas. Give authority to the African American community for their decisions and approvals.	<p>Nellie Stone Johnson Commemorate an elevator at the Minneapolis Club, could have many places to honor her, a tour etc.</p> <p><a href="https://www.mnhs.org/votesforwomen/nellie-stone-johnson">https://www.mnhs.org/votesforwomen/nellie-stone-johnson</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.amazon.com/Nellie-Stone-Johnson-Life-Activist/dp/1886913358">https://www.amazon.com/Nellie-Stone-Johnson-Life-Activist/dp/1886913358</a></p> <p>I understand that Nellie operated the elevator and it was a space where she could interact with a lot of people. I'm not sure if she is already recognized at the Mpls Club in other ways but it would be a great place to honor her.</p> <p>I've seen Nellie recognized at Sumner Library, but having a prominent statue of her outside the library, include her in school curriculum etc would be wonderful.</p> <p>Her family live in the area so could be contacted for more suggestions. Kim Hines did a play about her too, so could be a good contact for suggestions.</p>	elise.balderrama@minneapolismn.gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 It is very important for future and present generations to acknowledge, understand and respect.	markers, plaques, statues, written media, all of above mentioned.	38th Street Delicatessen (corner of 38th & 4th Avenue, Freddie Stimmans Golf Tournament, Rocky Robbins home.	rodney.alexander@hennepin.us	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5 Yes.	Museum, Historical Documentation, Statues, Exhibits in the Walker Museum, Exhibits every place where there is white preservation. Why do they have a "spoon?" Why not a statue of an African American that have made significant progress in Minnesota? Instead, they have a spoon.	North Minneapolis	angelageniecewilliams@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>