

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Piper, Daniel S., House

Name of Property

Steele County MN

County and State

75001028

NR Reference Number

State Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this additional documentation additional documentation: name change move removal other meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

Signature of Certifying Official/Title

Date of Action

Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this additional documentation additional documentation: name change move removal other meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

Signature of Certifying Official/Title

Date of Action

National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- additional documentation accepted
- other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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Name of Property: Daniel S. Piper House (NRIS 75001028)

Address: 6523 County Road 45 North

City/Township: Medford

County: Steele

Reason for Removal: The property has ceased to meet the criteria for listing because the qualities which caused it to be listed have been lost or destroyed (36 CFR 60.15 (a)).

Dates and Nature of Change: Demolished, in part, November 2024

Comments:

Listed on February 24, 1975, the Daniel S. Piper House is significant as "Minnesota's only known surviving example of an interconnected New England style farmstead, where all the farm buildings; wood shed, summer kitchen, granary, barn, and farm house, are constructed as one contiguous building. The architectural style reflects the 'Yankee' heritage of the Piper family."¹ The property is listed under Criterion A and C in the areas of Agriculture, Architecture, and Other: Immigration and Settlement.

According to the significance statement of the nomination "Daniel Piper immigrated to Minnesota in 1877, purchasing the farm in November of that year. He commenced construction of the complex, utilizing the talents of four master carpenters from New Hampshire, who completed the building late in 1877. Materials for the building were top grade, as Piper had been a lumberman in the East, and he personally supervised their selection."²

It is noted in the nomination that the barn was in need of major structural repair at the time of listing. In January of 2024, the SHPO received an inquiry from the owner seeking to remove the property from the National Register because the city would not issue a demolition permit for a listed property. At the time, the barn was in significant disrepair but still standing. The SHPO informed the owner that the house maintained sufficient historic integrity to remain listed. On November 21, 2024, the local paper reported the collapse of the barn. The owner reached out to SHPO in October 2025 to, again, request removal from the National Register.

When it was added to the National Register, the Daniel S. Piper House retained the seven aspects of integrity (location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association). The property retains the integrity of *location* and *setting*. However, the loss of the barn diminishes the *design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association* of the property. While much of the building remains intact the property cannot convey its historic significance as an "integrated connected" structure without the barn.

It is possible that historical archaeological remains are present on the farmstead. However, no archaeological

¹ Lutz "Piper, Daniel S. House."

² Ibid.

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survey has been conducted previously, and this was not an area of significance in the original nomination. Therefore, it is not known if an archaeological component exists, and further, there is no mechanism for such an investigation to occur at the present time.

References:

Lutz, Thomas. "Piper, Daniel S. House," National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 1988. Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, Minnesota Historical Society, Saint Paul.

LaFollette, Josh. (2024, November 21) *Historic barn collapses at Piper House outside Medford*. Owatonna Peoples Press. https://www.southernminn.com/owatonna_peoples_press/news/historic-barn-collapses-at-piper-house-outside-medford/article_d85d97f2-a837-11ef-9ec2-6f95441f34ae.html

Legal Description:

The national register nomination form describes the legal description as:

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA					
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	O R	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NE	° '	° '	O	° '	° '
SE	° '	° '	R	° '	° '
SW	° '	° '		° '	° '
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 1 acre					

The current parcel description, according to the Steele County parcel system, is COM NW COR OF NW1/4 OF NW1/4 S133' W245.48' SE65.50' SE560.63' E421.78' N598.59' TO BEG

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Figure 1: Daniel S. Piper House parcel. Steele County GIS, accessed November 4, 2025.

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Figure 2: NRHP photo of Daniel S. Piper, 1975.

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Figure 3: Daniel S. Piper House, January 2024. Image courtesy of property owner.

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Figure 4: Daniel S. Piper House, Google Streetview July 2025

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Figure 5: Daniel S. Piper House, October 2025. Image courtesy of property owner.

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Figure 6: Daniel S. Piper House, October 2025. Image courtesy of property owner.