

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Akin, D.F., House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 19185 Akin Road ^{NW of Farmington at} not for publication

city, town Farmington ^{mn.} vicinity of congressional district ^{2nd} First

state Minnesota code 22 county Dakota code 037

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Jerome Akin

street & number 19185 Akin Road

city, town Farmington vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dakota County Government Center

street & number 1560 West Highway 55

city, town Hastings state Minnesota 55033

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Resources

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- 240 Summit Avenue - J.J. Hill House

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota 55102

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Akin House stands in a formerly rural area that is now experiencing suburban development. The house was built with limestone quarried on the surrounding farm land. The walls are of coursed ashlar. The main portion of the house is a 2-story cube with a low-pitched hip roof. The rear extension is a 1½-story rectangle with a gable roof. There are two interior chimneys. The main portion of the building is a very simplified version of the Italianate style. Features showing Italianate influence are the cube shape and low-pitched roof and tall, narrow windows extending almost from floor to ceiling on the first floor. A wooden cupola was removed when the house was re-roofed in the early 20th century. The interior has been remodeled.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1856-60

Builder/Architect Daniel F. Akin

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The D.F. Akin House is significant as an important site of meteorological observation, as well as for its distinctive stone construction and for its association with pioneer farmer and civil engineer Daniel Akin. The house is one of the few stone farmhouses in the county, and is built of limestone quarried on the farm in a simplified version of the Italiniate style. Daniel Akin (1828-1909) was born in New York State and educated at Yale University. He was one of a group of East Coast settlers who arrived in Minnesota in 1856. Akin surveyed land for the village of Farmington and was active in agricultural improvement, serving as president of the Dakota County Fair Association (1872-76) and as its secretary for several years. The Akin family, which still owns the house, has been active in local government and civic affairs for four generations. During the 1880's, Daniel Akin became official weather recorder for the area, a tradition continued to the present. According to a statement by Bruce F. Watson, a consulting meteorologist who has done extensive research on the Minnesota climate, the Akin site is nationally important as a site of continuous meteorological observations since 1885. Coupled with earlier observations taken at Ft. Snelling, located several miles north with the same microclimate, the Twin Cities area now has 160 years of continuous daily weather records free from heat island effects; this consistent record is thought to be unique. Watson is continuing research efforts at the site.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Jerome Akin, Tape #0008 & 9F, Dakota County Living History Project, 1974
 Interview, Jerome Akin, April 1979.
 Dakota County Tribune, September 13, 1935

10. Geographical Data

ITEM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property less than 1
 Quadrangle name Farmington

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A	1 5	4 8 6 4 0 0	4 9 4 6 2 6 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
E			
G			

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Sec. 24, T114N, R20W - 3AC. Part of NW $\frac{1}{2}$ Com. NW corner S. on W. Line 825.7 ft. E at Right angles 1170.6 ft. to beginning N 86D 55M E 287.75 ft. S 4 D 30 M 57 S E 454.15 ft. S 86 D 55 M W 287.75 ft. N 4D 30 M 57 S W 454.15 ft. to beginning.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan Pommering Reynolds, Survey Analyst
 organization Minnesota Historical Society date June 6, 1979
 street & number 240 Summit Avenue-J.J. Hill House contact Dennis Gimmestad
 telephone 612-296-9545
 city or town St. Paul state Minnesota

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Russell W. Fridley
 Russell W. Fridley
 title State Historic Preservation Officer date 11/1/79

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
Carol O'Shull date 12-31-79
 Keeper of the National Register
 Attest: Kristin O'Donnell date 12/26/79
 Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melvin Lyman
1/19/89

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

Note: These changes apply to
Akin, D. F., House in Dakota
County, Minnesota

REFERENCE NUMBER: 79001223

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: DAKOTA

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC) : Akin, Daniel, F., House

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date