

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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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

Hinkly, R.B., House

AND/OR COMMON

Hinkly House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

217 North Freeman Avenue

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Luverne

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

27

COUNTY

Rock

CODE

137

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input 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

Rock County Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER

217 North Freeman Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Luverne

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Rock County Courthouse - Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Cedar Street

CITY, TOWN

Luverne

STATE

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1970

__ FEDERAL STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society, Bldg. 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

Saint Paul

STATE

Minnesota

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 R. B. Hinkly House occupies a spacious lot at 217 North Freeman Avenue in Luverne. It is a square two story building constructed of random coursed rock faced red Sioux Quartzite from the Blue Mound Quarry north of Luverne. The stone mass is surmounted by a soaring, multigabled roof with four distinct decorative treatments. The north and south gables appear to be supported by simple brackets. The surfaces are sheathed in decorative scalloped shingles. Gables on the front facade are also supported by brackets, however dentils fill the cornices. Square multipaned windows are surrounded by a gridwork of square wood panels. At the apex of the roof are two eyebrow dormers facing north and south and two low windows set in a shingled gable under a jerkin roof. Stylistically the design features classify the building in the Queen Anne mode. ✓

The elevations of the building are essentially symmetrical. The front elevation facing Freeman Avenue boasts central one story colonaded porch flanked by identical gabled bays. A polished cornerstone bears the inscription "R.B. Hinkly -- 1892". A pair of carved stone lions by the Norwegian stone-cutter Knute Steine (1900) flank the steps to the front porch and entry.

The exterior of the Hinkly House is in a good state of preservation. Recent work has included replacement of rotten wooden members, re-pointing of stonework, and re-roofing.

The interior comprises twelve rooms and two bathrooms. Woodwork and parquetry floors on the first level exhibit accomplished craftsmanship. Several different types of wood are used, including oak, maple, and pine. Stained glass transoms are found above large windows on the first floor rooms; the transom above the front door bears the name "Hinkly".

The Hinkly House has been basically unaltered since its construction in 1892 and presently serves as the Rock County Historical Society Museum. ✓

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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1892

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hinkly House is one of the earliest residences in Luverne still standing as a landmark of the city. It is not only an outstanding example of local stone craftsmanship but also of R. B. Hinkly's engineering skill and foresight, and business expertise.

The Hinkly House represents Luverne's finest extant example of the vernacular style of architecture which was popular prior to the turn of the century. This residential design was executed in a square mass of red Sioux Quartzite with Queen Anne design features. Residences of a complementary style and construction comprise the streetscape.

Long before electricity reached Luverne, Hinkly wired his house in anticipation of its arrival. He outfitted his own plumbing system in the house by installing a large tank in the attic and pumping water into it to take care of household needs. The Hinkly House was the first residence in Luverne to have a telephone. Hinkly ran a telephone line from the Rock County Bank to his house; he eventually persuaded other Luverne residents to hook up to his line, thus forming the first telephone company in Luverne. To store dynamite for blasting in the local quarries Hinkly devised an underground system -- he kept the dynamite in an underground room in the middle of his yard which was reached through a bricked passageway from the basement of his house.

In the field of business R.B. Hinkly was likewise a forerunner. Before settling in Luverne Hinkly practiced law and edited a newspaper in Claremont, Iowa. During his long and successful career as a banker he assisted in the organization of a number of financial institutions in Minnesota and South Dakota. Hinkly organized and operated Luverne's largest industry -- the Luverne Brick and Tile Company. In addition, he owned several thousand acres of land in Rock County and Texas.

