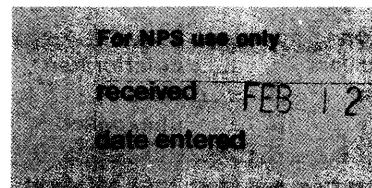


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Almond A. White House

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number Cleveland and Beaulieu Streets N/A not for publication

city, town Motley N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state Minnesota code 22 county Morrison code 097

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

4. Owner of Property

name Ernest E. and Linda J. Halls

street & number 308 1st Street Southeast

city, town Little Falls vicinity of N/A state Minnesota 56345

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Morrison County Courthouse

street & number 2nd Street Southeast at Broadway

city, town Little Falls state Minnesota 56345

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Minnesota Statewide Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society
Ft. Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u> N/A </u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The A. A. White House is located at the edge of a residential area on the east side of Motley, Minnesota. The house faces west at the front of a wooded site. A garage, storage shed, and a barn are located east of the house, and are reached by a driveway passing along the south side of the house.

The house is Queen Anne in style. It contains two stories and a large attic, and is rectangular in plan, measuring about twenty by forty feet. A prominent octagonal bellcast-roofed tower is placed at the southwest corner. A porch wraps from the front of the house to the projecting dining room bay on the south side. Clapboard siding is the primary exterior material.

The octagonal corner tower is the most visually prominent feature of the house. It rises four stories, and has a sunroom on its top floor. The bellcast roof is clad with metal. Crowning the tower is an iron finial, or lightning rod, which rises approximately ten feet above the tower's roof. The open porch is another prominent feature, and has Tuscan columns, a dentilled cornice, and pediments to signify the main entry at the northwest corner of the house and a side entry on the south side.

Bays that project out from the north and south sides break the rectangular plan. These bays extend up to the attic level, where they are covered by gabled roof sections.

The first floor contains a parlor, library, dining room, and the kitchen. A summer kitchen is located in a hip roofed extension on the rear of the house. Bedrooms are located on the second floor. The attic is also divided into rooms, which are lit by windows in the ends of the gables, the tower, and several dormers on the north slope of the roof. A keyed oval window is placed in the front facing gable end.

Most windows in the house have double hung sash. Major rooms have larger, fixed sash windows, which have upper lights of colored glass. The foundation is of cut fieldstone. Centered at the top course of the foundation stone on the dining room bay is a block inscribed with the initials "A. W." and the date "1902".

The house has been well-maintained. The replacement of the original wood shingles by asphalt shingles appears to have been the only exterior alteration.

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Almond A. White House

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Continuation sheet

Resource Count

Item number

7

Page 1

The Almond A. White House nomination contains
1 contributing building.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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 1902 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The A. A. White House is significant architecturally. The Queen Anne styling of the house is unique in the small community of Motley, Minnesota. The house has a prominent octagonal corner tower, and carefully planned and executed detailing that make the house an unusually fine example of Queen Anne styling. Locally, the house has been dubbed the "Motley Castle." Set on a pastoral site at the edge of the village, the house was designed and built to be a showplace for Mr. White.

The village of Motley and much of the surrounding rural area have houses and commercial structures that were generally built to satisfy functional, rather than aesthetic requirements. As such, they exhibit few architectonic qualities that would be present in the houses and shops built in larger communities. In such a context, the Queen Anne styling of the White House appears particularly sophisticated.

Historically, A.A. White has proven to be enigmatic. Little information is available about him beyond the local tradition that he was involved in the northern Minnesota lumbering industry. Due to the relatively late date of the house within the temporal range of the Queen Anne style, and the lack of inclusion of White in any county or local histories, biographies, or business listings, it would seem that White built the house as a retreat at or near the time of his retirement.

The house remains today, as when built, a showplace within the community. Both house and outbuildings have been well maintained, and have foregone any significant alterations.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Alden Ogle and Company. Illustrated Album of Biography. Chicago: Occidental Publishing Company, 1889, pp. 157-59.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property 2.75 acres

Quadrangle name Motley, Minn.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	5	3	7	3	7	2	0	5	1	3	2	5	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet.

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Thomas L. Jenkinson and Norene Roberts

organization Historical Research, Inc.

date March 20, 1985

street & number 5535 Richmond Curve

telephone (612) 929-2921

city or town Minneapolis

state Minnesota 55410

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Russell W. Fridley

title Russell W. Fridley
State Historic Preservation Officer

date 2/5/86

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 3/13/86

Jane M. McPherson
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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date entered

Almond A. White House, Motely, MN; Morrison County

Continuation sheet Boundary description Item number 10

Page 1

From a point of beginning at the northwest corner of lot 10, Block 3, L.P. White's 2nd Addition, at an angle 8 degrees east of due north northerly 300 feet, thence at a 90 degree angle easterly 400 feet, thence at a 90 degree angle southerly 300 feet, thence at a 90 degree angle easterly 400 feet to the point of beginning; this being a portion of the land in both platted and unplatted parts of the Village of Motley on which the house and nearby outbuildings are located.