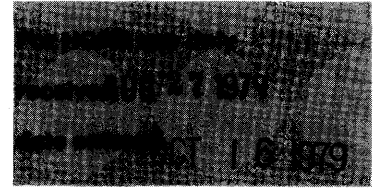


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Ames/Florida House

and/or common Stork House

2. Location

street & number 8131 Bridge Street not for publication

city, town Rockford vicinity of congressional district Fifth

state Minnesota code 22 county Hennepin code 053

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 type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Meda Stork

street & number 8131 Bridge Street

city, town Rockford vicinity of state Minnesota 55373

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds - Hennepin County Government Center

street & number 300 South 6th Street

city, town Minneapolis state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1978 federal state county local

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

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota 55102

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Ames/Florida House, located in a wooded setting in the City of Rockford, is an interconnected complex composed of a house, summer kitchen, and barn. The rectangular shaped main house, which was built in 1856, is partially constructed into the sloping bank of the Crow River. The house also overlooks the town. The main house has timbered framed construction sheathed in clapboard. The principal facade is four bays wide and dominated by a columned porch which runs the full length of the building. One single-stacked brick chimney is located on the ridge of the low pitched gable roof.

A rectangular shaped barn, running parallel to the main house, is of wood frame construction with clapboard siding. The barn is two stories tall; it has a low pitched cedar shingle roof. A single stacked brick chimney is centrally located on the roof ridge. The dominate feature of the barn's front facade is a flat roofed columned porch with decorative spandrals.

The main house and barn are connected by a two story wood frame summer kitchen. The cedar shingle gable roof contains a single-stack brick chimney. The summer kitchen and the barn were constructed shortly after the main house was built. The original barn stood northwest of the house, across Bridge Street, and was destroyed by fire.

The windows on the three interconnected buildings are six over six and double hung. Each window has louvered shutters. The clapboard siding is of uniformed size and painted white.

A rectangular, wood framed, clapboard-sided garage is located on the south side of the house and was constructed about 1910. Mill stones which are located in the front yard along the driveway, were from the Ames flour mill.

The Ames/Florida House is in an excellent state of preservation.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) settlement
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1856 **Builder/Architect** George F. Ames

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Ames/Florida House was built in 1856 by George F. Ames, one of the founders of the City of Rockford. Shortly after their arrival in the state in 1855, Ames, Joel Florida, and Guilford D. George formed a partnership to develop a millsite on the Crow River. They were successful in establishing a townsite by 1856 and had built a dam and water power mill by 1857. Later a machineshop for woodworking manufacturing was added, and by 1870 Joel's son, George, erected a woolen mill on the west side of the river. With the death of Ames in 1878, George W. Florida acquired title to all the Ames property and remodeled the lumber and flour mills. Rockford had become the industrial center of Wright County.

Ames modeled his Greek Revival style house after an example he had seen in his native Vermont, which accounts for the pronouncedly "Yankee" plan and detail. The house was purchased in 1936 from the Florida family by Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Stork, who restored it to the excellent state of preservation seen today.

PLEASE NOTE:

The manuscript for this nomination was prepared before the one paragraph limit for significance statements was stipulated.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2.60
 Quadrangle name Rockford, MN **UTM NOT VERIFIED** Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>9</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

That part of Sec. 29, T119, R24 lying NW of County Road 50, SW of Bridge Street, SE of the Crow River, NE of a line parallel with and 435 feet north of the center line of State Highway 55. (2911924140004)

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 John Hackett
 organization Minnesota Historical Society date April 1978
 street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House telephone 612-726-1171
 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
 title State Historic Preservation Officer date 8/14/79

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
Carol Stull date 10-16-79
 Keeper of the National Register
 Attest: W. Ray Luce date Oct. 16, 1979
 Chief of Registration