

Faribault House.
Mendota, Minn.
Dakota Co.

HABS No. 29-7

HABS
MINN

19-MEND

2-

Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 29

Historic American Buildings Survey
Wm. G. Dorr, District Officer
702 Wesley Temple Bldg.
Minneapolis, Minn.

FARIBAULT HOUSE
Mendota, Dakota County
Minnesota

Owner: Minnesota Highway Commission.

Date of Erection: 1836.

Architect and Builder: No record.

Number of Stories: Two, and basement.

Present Condition: Poor; restored in 1934.

Materials of Construction: Stone.

Other Existing Records: See text.

Additional Data: See following pages:

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FARIBAULT HOUSE
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HISTORICAL NOTES:

1836

Jean Baptiste built this house as a tavern in the promising young town of Mendota on the banks of the Minnesota River and at the head of navigation of the Mississippi.

It is built of stone from the locality. There are stone storage vaults in the basement which were used for liquors, fruits and vegetables. The third floor was used as a ballroom. There was formerly at the rear of the house a frame addition which included a dining room, a kitchen and sleeping rooms.

In 1840 the house and grounds were presented to Father Gultier, who used the house as a chapel and residence. Later it became a hotel, and after that, a warehouse.

At present it is owned by the Minnesota Highway Commission. The measured drawings of the Historic American Buildings Survey were no sooner finished than they were put to use by the Highway Commission to restore the building as a Civil Works Administration project. When the restoration is completed, it will be presented as an historic monument to the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Sources: History of Dakota and Goodhue Counties, by Franklyn Curtiss-Wedge.
Memorial of Rev. Lucian Galtier, Minnesota Historical Society.

Wm.G. Dorr
District Officer

(Revised at HABS Headquarters,
May 29, 1936, H.C.F.; original sheet in field notebook.)

FARIBAULT HOUSE
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ARCHITECTURE:

The most interesting feature of this two storey and basement stone house are the partitions of solid mud on the first and second floors. Hand-hewn studs stand about three feet on centers. Connecting the studs are round willow sticks, about two inches in diameter. Woven vertically in and out of these sticks are willow branches. Then a solid mud filler of about four inches is put on. Over this is placed a layer of mud reinforced with straw, and on top is laid the original plaster.

The windows from a distance appear double-hung, but they are really composed of two sash, one above the other, separated by a transom bar. The upper sash is three panes high, hinged at the top, and swings outward. The lower sash is two panes high and fixed.

In the cellar are two stone arched vaults, used for storage of food and drink.

by Henry Chandlee Forman
May 1936