

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House

other names/site number Reinke House

2. Location

street & number 33 Lexington Court

city or town Midland

state Michigan

code MI

not for publication

vicinity

county Midland

code 111

zip code 48640

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Brian C. Weir
Signature of certifying official

5/4/04
Date

MI SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- entered in the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Residential Architecture of Alden B. Dow in Midland Michigan 1939-1941

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling - House

Domestic/Single Dwelling - House

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movement

foundation Concrete Block

walls Stucco

roof Asphalt/Slate

other Wood

Brick

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1941 - 1947

Significant Dates

1941 - 1947

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Dow, Alden B _____

Dow, Alden, Building Company _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Alden B. Dow Archives

Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House
Name of Property

Midland County, MI
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 16 724110 4835070
Zone Easting Northing

3.
Zone Easting Northing

2.

4.

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Samantha Harrison Stand, Research Associate

organization Alden B. Dow Archives date 16 December 2003

street & number 315 Post Road telephone (989) 839-2744

city or town Midland state MI zip code 48640

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Mrs. Doris Feagley

street & number 33 Lexington Court telephone

city or town Midland state MI zip code 48640

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1 of 2

<u>Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House</u>	<u>Midland County, MI</u>	<u>Residential Architecture of Alden B. Dow in Midland, MI 1939-1941</u>
Name of Property	County and State	Name of Multiple Property Listing

Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House Midland County, Michigan

Narrative Description

The Robert Reinke House, designed by architect Alden B. Dow in 1941, is a single-story house with stucco walls, large expanses of windows, broad eaves, and a low-pitched hip roof with a central chimney. Originally almost square in plan, subsequent additions have created a more irregular footprint, with garage, family room, screen porch and deck projecting from the original core. The house, which faces north and is almost invisible until come upon, sits on a shady lot at the east end of a quiet residential cul d'sac which it shares with two other houses. The house directly to the west of the Reinke residence and the first home out of the court is the Dow-designed Yates House, built in 1951. Aside from the Yates House, each of the homes in the area are varied in traditional stylizations, but most homes toward the end of the court are sympathetic to the environment, composed of natural brick or wood, and sited low to the ground.

Because the house backs onto a leafy, neighborhood park, the differential between the Reinke property and the public park property is difficult to discern. Like larger Dow-designed homes, however, in more affluent neighborhoods which offer a country club or a public gardens as their backdrop, the additional contact with nature in the back of the home adds a sense of serene surrounding to an otherwise residential neighborhood. The home, typical of Dow's style, is relatively unremarkable on the street side. Opening up of the home to the back, also typical of Dow's style, allows a sense of privacy from the street and that privacy is sheltered by the yard and park. Old, deciduous and evergreen trees pepper the back and side yards of the property. The far east yard gently slopes upward, offering a balanced site of gently rising home, flat yard, then gently rising hillside.

Alden Dow presented a rendering of the elevations and floor plan to the client in April 1941. Working drawings were completed in July 1941. The original house was modest in size and basically square in plan. A long walkway led from the driveway to the recessed front entrance. To the left of the entry was a blank stucco wall; to the right, a wall of windows. The door opened directly into the living area. Two bedrooms with a bath between occupied the left side of the house; the living room and dining area were on the right. Double doors in the dining room opened to the backyard. Between the dining room and back bedroom, behind the central fireplace and basement stairwell, was a small galley kitchen.

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<u>Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House</u>	<u>Midland County, MI</u>	<u>Residential Architecture of Alden B. Dow in Midland, MI 1939-1941</u>
Name of Property	County and State	Name of Multiple Property Listing

Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House Midland County, Michigan

Narrative Description (Continued)

Alden B. Dow drew plans in September 1947 for additions to the Reinke House. Most prominently, a single car garage was added to the front of the house, extending from what had been the blank wall at the left of the entry. The long entry walk was now sheltered by the overhanging eave of the garage. A side door opened from the garage to the walk, near the entrance to the house. A master bedroom and adjoining bath were added to the southeast back corner, with access from the kitchen. A porch was added to the southwest back corner, with access from the existing double doors in the dining room and from a new door in the kitchen. A wood trellis, extending from the roof, sheltered the porch.

The house is entered through a narrow vestibule and into a spacious, airy living room. A long expanse of full-length windows along the front and side opens the room to the outside. A low linoleum-topped window bench, a characteristic Dow feature, anchors the windows. Beyond stretches the dining area and family room. The brick fireplace, which faces the windows, forms the core of the house, along with a closet and basement stairway, separating the public spaces from the three bedrooms and two baths. The master bedroom at the back corner of the house, part of the 1947 alteration, has floor to ceiling mirrored closet doors, another typical Dow feature.

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<u>Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House</u>	<u>Midland County, MI</u>	<u>Residential Architecture of Alden B. Dow in Midland, MI 1939-1941</u>
Name of Property	County and State	Name of Multiple Property Listing

Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House Midland County, Michigan

Statement of Significance

Alden Dow designed many modest, affordable houses in the 1940s that shared the same design and craftsmanship characteristics and standards with the larger, more costly, homes he was designing and constructing during the period. Many of his "affordable" home designs were developed with the idea that they could be expanded upon as the owner prospered and the owner's family grew. The Reinke House is a fine example of the growth and change a house can withstand without threatening the integrity of its design.

Little is known about who Mr. Reinke was or what the circumstances were that Mr. Dow designed a home for him and his family. More is known about the current owners however, Jack and Doris Feagley (Jack was an architectural associate of Alden Dow's for twenty-five years). The Feagleys purchased the house in 1961. In 1964 Jack drew plans for further alterations that created a family room by enclosing the back porch, extended the dining room to the west, and added a screened porch on the west side of the new family room. A vestibule was created by moving the originally recessed front door out to the plane of the facade, enclosing the access to the garage as well. Since then, the bathrooms have been updated, built-in cupboards and shelves have been added to the master bedroom, a deck has been added to the back of the house, and the kitchen has been completely remodeled. Some windows have been replaced. Outside, aluminum soffits cover the original exposed eaves.

All of the alterations have faithfully adhered to and extended the characteristics of the original design: flowing spaces, openness to the outdoors, careful siting, privacy for bedrooms, and low profile.

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<u>Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House</u>	<u>Midland County, MI</u>	<u>Residential Architecture of Alden B. Dow in Midland, MI 1939-1941</u>
Name of Property	County and State	Name of Multiple Property Listing

Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House Midland County, Michigan

Bibliography

1. Dow, Alden B. Papers. Alden B. Dow Archives, Midland, Michigan.
2. "Historic home has an Oriental touch." Midland Living and Entertainment, pp. 1, 6-7. Midland Daily News, November 19, 1995.
3. Robinson, Sidney K. The Architecture of Alden B. Dow. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1983.
4. Waite, Robert G. The Residential Architecture of Alden B. Dow in Midland Michigan, 1933 – 1945: A Thematic Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. March 1987.

Graphic Resources in the Alden B. Dow Archives for the Reinke House

1. April 1941, presentation drawing: floor plan and elevation, 1 sheet.
2. 31 July 1941, working drawings: plans, elevations, and details, 4 sheets.
3. 12 September 1941, working drawing: details, fireplace and bookshelves, 1 sheet.
4. 10 September 1947, working drawings for addition and alterations: plans, elevations and details, 3 sheets.

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<u>Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House</u>	<u>Midland County, MI</u>	<u>Residential Architecture of Alden B. Dow in Midland, MI 1939-1941</u>
Name of Property	County and State	Name of Multiple Property Listing

Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House
Midland County, Michigan

Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

Lot 50, Block D, Homestead Addition #2, Midland City limits, Midland County, Michigan.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire property lot originally purchased by Robert Reinke.

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Section Photographs and Slides Page 1

<u>Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House</u>	<u>Midland County, MI</u>	<u>Residential Architecture of Alden B. Dow in Midland, MI 1939-1941</u>
Name of Property	County and State	Name of Multiple Property Listing

Reinke, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C., House
Midland County, Michigan

Additional Documentation – Photographs

Photographs (Cliff Amrhein, photographer; October 1995)

1. General view, exterior, from northwest.
2. South (rear) facade.
3. Entrance, detail.
4. Living room and dining room from entryway.
5. Living room, from dining room.