

JUN 12 1989

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

NPS FORM 10-900 (Rev. 8-86) OMB No. 1024-0018 [SD-SHPD # ECA-OH-597-1/89]  
[use paper with at least 25% cotton rag content, use NLQ or LQ printer]

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering "NA" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Riley, Almira, House  
other name/ site number: LA-SP-SP-WE-14

2. Location

street & number: 938 Ames /NA/ not for publication  
city, town: Spearfish /NA/ vicinity  
state: SOUTH DAKOTA code: SD county: Lawrence code: SD 081 zip code: 57783

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property:		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
/XX/ private	/XX/ building(s)	___1___	___2___	buildings
/ / pubic-local	/ / district	_____	_____	sites
/ / public-state	/ / site	_____	_____	structures
/ / public-federal	/ / structure	_____	_____	objects
	/ / object	___1___	___2___	Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA \_\_\_\_\_

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: \_\_\_0\_\_\_

11. Form Prepared by

name/title: James R. McDonald, consultant  
organization: James R. McDonald Architects PC  
street & number: 210 North Higgins  
city or town: Missoula

date: January 31, 1989  
telephone: 406-721-5643  
state: Montana zip code: 59802

page 2: Almira Riley House  
property name

, Lawrence  
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA  
state

#### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. ☐ See continuation sheet.

*[Signature]*  
Signature of certifying official

6/6/89  
Date

SHPO South Dakota  
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria.  
☐ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency or bureau

#### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☒ 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*[Signature]*  
Signature of the Keeper

7/13/89  
Date

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property name

, Lawrence  
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA  
state

6. Function or Use (enter categories from instructions)

Historic functions:

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification:

(enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

Materials:

(enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone  
walls Brick

roof Wood

other Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance: /XX/ see continuation sheet

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8. Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in  
relation to other properties: / / / / /XX/

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria / / A / /B /XX/C / /D

Criteria Considerations / /A / /B / /C / /D / /E / /F / /G

Areas of Significance (enter from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance  
1892

Significant Dates  
1892

Significant Person  
NA

Cultural Affiliation  
NA

Architect/Builder  
Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations,  
and periods of significance noted above /XX/ see continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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Situated on an expansive corner lot partially shaded by deciduous trees on the south, the Almira Riley House is a massed two-and-one-half story brick dwelling. Although designed primarily in the popular Queen Anne style, the house also displays elements of Italianate influences. Later additions display some Prairie School features. The Riley House rises from a parged stone foundation and is capped by an steep-pitched irregular roofline. Except in the northeast gable, which is clad with wood shakes, the brick work of the walls extends to gable peaks. Diamond pattern corbelling outlines the broken pediment of the west gable. A large transverse entry bay and porch projects on the northwest corner. Its roof is covered with shakes. The remainder of the roof system is covered with standard wood shingles. A concrete block chimney of recent construction rises along the south facade.

The open entry porch (on the northwest corner) and an upper-story open balcony on the northeast corner are adorned with delicate spindles, balusters, brackets, and friezes. Fenestration is generally asymmetrical consisting mostly of elongated rectangular openings with heavy brick hoods of Italianate influence and incorporating one-over-one or three-over-one double sash windows. On the front (east) facade are two picture windows outlined by single rows of small glass panes. Attics are lighted by small square fixed sash windows. A rectangular bay window projects on the south facade.

Located on the upper story of the southeast corner is an unusual wrap-around sun porch with bands of windows, a wide continuous sill, and overhanging flat eaves in a Prairie School fashion. This feature is probably the product of remodeling at some unknown time.

Except for removal of one wall between the front and rear parlor, the floor plan remains in its original asymmetrical form. A fireplace (with the concrete block chimney) has been added on the south wall. Original interior features also include painted woodwork throughout the house and a stair with balustrade near the front entrance.

Under construction just northeast of the house is a single-stall wood frame garage (noncontributing). Of recent construction east of the house is a small wood frame storage shed (noncontributing) clad with board-and-batten siding and capped by a steep gable roof covered with wood shingles. Attached to its west facade is an open porch featuring lancet arches.

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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Under Criterion C of the National Register Criteria, the Almira Riley House is significant in the area of architecture, because it is a good example of vernacular Queen Anne styling as executed in Spearfish, South Dakota, during the late 19th Century. It is a very unusual specimen that also utilizes design features of Italianate influence. Under the South Dakota Historical Preservation Plan, the nominated property relates to the following historic context: IV. Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement, D.2. Urban Development/Residential living.

During the last two decades of the 19th Century Queen Anne styling dominated domestic building throughout the state and the nation. Influenced by the work of English architect Richard Norman Shaw, Queen Anne houses provided increased comfort and domesticity for single-family households. Prominent aesthetic features of the style include irregularity and asymmetry of facade, irregular rooflines, multiplicity of siding materials especially the use of fishscale shingles, and decorative treatments to gable ends, porches, and projecting bays. The front facade is usually divided into uneven squares or planes. Fenestration is always asymmetrical, often consisting of a number of shapes and sizes of windows. Frequently a tower is incorporated into the design. The design of the Riley House incorporates many of these features including especially the irregularity of facade, roofline, fenestration, and floor plan. In addition, it displays heavy window hoods from the earlier Italianate influence. Presumably constructed or remodeled later (early 20th Century), the sun porch on the southeast corner reflects Prairie School styling with its bands of windows and wide eaves and continuous sill.

Spearfish, located on the eastern rim of the Black Hills, was founded in 1876 in response to the emerging gold rush. It quickly grew into a vital service community for area miners and ranchers. In the mid-1880s, the city became the home of Black Hills Normal School, now known as Black Hill State College.

The House was constructed for Almira Riley, about whom no genealogical or historical information could be found. Shortly after construction, the property was sold to Drucilla Hill. Ownership changed hands several times over the next eighty years. For a time, it was used as a fraternity house associated with the college.

The period of significance of the nominated property does not extend beyond its date of construction in 1892.

page 4: John Wolzmuth House  
property name

, Lawrence  
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA  
state

9. Major Bibliographical References

/XX/ see continuation sheet

Previous documentation by 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

/XX/ State historic preservation office  
/ / Other State agency  
/ / Federal agency  
/ / Local government  
/ / University  
/ / Other

Specify repository:

South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: Less than one acre

UTM References:

A = /13/	/590-020/	/4927-050/	B = / /	/ /	/ /
C = / /	/ /	/ /	D = / /	/ /	/ /
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

Quad: Spearfish

Scale: 1:24000

/ / see continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description:

The property is bounded by Lot 17, Block 45, Ramsdell Addition, City of Spearfish, Lawrence County, South Dakota.

/ / see continuation sheet

Boundary Justification:

The boundary is based on legally recorded property lines historically associated with the property.

/ / see continuation sheet

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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Deed Records. Lawrence County Clerk and Recorder's Office.

Some History of Lawrence County. Deadwood, SD: Lawrence County Historical Society, 1981. (printed in Pierre, SD, by State Publ. Co.) Passim.

"Map of Spearfish, Lawrence County, South Dakota." New York: Sanborn Map Company, May 1923.