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 National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. 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.

| Title: | State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government |
|--|--|
| Signature of commenting official: | Date |
| In my opinion, the property meets does | not meet the National Register criteria. |
| State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Go | vernment |
| Signature of certifying official/ little: | Date |
| Signature of certifying official/Title: | 12-12-2017 Date |
| nationalstatewide _x_loc Applicable National Register Criteria:AB _x_CD | al |
| In my opinion, the property <u>x</u> meets <u>does not necessite that this property be considered significance:</u> | ant at the following |
| hereby certify that this <u>x</u> nomination <u>reques</u> the documentation standards for registering propertical Places and meets the procedural and professional re | es in the National Register of Historic |
| As the designated authority under the National History | oric Preservation Act, as amended, |
| Street & number: 300 East Third Street City or town: Mitchell State: SD C Not For Publication: Vicinity: 3. State/Federal Agency Certification | county: Davison |
| 2. Location | |
| Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple pro | perty listing |
| Name of related multiple property listing: | |
| Historic name: <u>Louis N. and Helen Seaman Hou</u> Other names/site number: | |

Louis N. and Helen Seaman House

Name of Property

| 4. Na | tional Park Servi | ce Certification | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| I hereb | y certify that this | property is: | | |
| 12 ent | tered in the Nation | al Register | | |
| det | termined eligible fe | or the National Register | • | |
| det | termined not eligib | le for the National Regi | ister | |
| ren | noved from the Na | tional Register | | |
| oth | ner (explain:) | | | |
| A Sig | gnature of the Keep | o & C | 2/20/8 Date of Action | |
| 5. Cla | assification | | | |
| Owner | rship of Property | | | |
| Private | | apply.) | | |
| Public | – Local | | | |
| Public | - State | | | |
| Public | – Federal | | | |
| - 100a - 17a | ory of Property c only one box.) | | | |
| Buildi | ng(s) | х | | |
| Distric | t | | | |
| Site | | | | |
| Structu | ire | | | |
| Object | | | | |

| ∟ouis N. and Helen Seaman House | | Davison County, SD |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| Name of Property | | County and State |
| Number of Resources within Prop (Do not include previously listed re | | |
| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
| 1 | 1 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 0 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 0 | objects |
| 1 | 1 | Total |
| | | |
| Number of contributing resources p 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions. DOMESTIC/single dwelling ——————————————————————————————————— | | mai RegisterIVA |
| | | |
| Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions. DOMESTIC/single dwelling |) | |
| | | |

| Louis N. and Helen Seaman House | Davison County, SD |
|--|--------------------|
| Name of Property | County and State |
| 7. Description | |
| Architectural Classification | |
| (Enter categories from instructions.) | |
| LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne-Eastlake | |
| • | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Materials: (enter categories from instructions.) | |
| Principal exterior materials of the property: | |
| Foundation: STONE: Granite | = |
| Walls: WOOD: Weatherboard | <u>_</u> |
| Roof: ASPHALT_ | |
| Othor | |

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Louis N. and Helen Seaman House is located at 300 East Third Street, Mitchell, South Dakota. The house was constructed in 1887 and is situated on a corner lot at the northeast corner of East Third Street and North Kimball Street. It is located on the first residential block east of the historic commercial core of Mitchell and directly north across the street from Holy Family Catholic Church. The façade is south facing, fronting on East Third Street. The house is a two-story Queen Anne-Eastlake style dwelling, with a cross-gable roof and front porch. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles, and the stone foundation is constructed of coursed rubble granite. An exterior brick chimney pierces the roof at the southeast corner of the dwelling. The interior of the house contains original wood detailing including doors, molding, and wood staircase and railing. The rear yard behind the house is bounded by a modern chain link fence. A non-contributing, frame garage, constructed in about 1930, is set at the north edge of the lot, along the alley, and is accessed by a driveway from Kimball Street. The property is in excellent condition and retains a high level of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

| Louis N. and Helen Seaman House | |
|---------------------------------|--|
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Narrative Description

The Louis N. and Helen Seaman House is a two-story, Queen Anne style dwelling constructed in 1887 and clad in wood siding. The house is two stories tall, three bays wide, and three rooms deep. The structure sits on a granite rubblestone foundation and a front entry porch runs along the west side of the front gable wing. The house is capped by a steeply pitched cross-gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. An exterior brick chimney pierces the roof at the southeast corner of the dwelling and a shorter interior brick chimney rises from the east slope of the rear roof.

The first story of the house is largely clad in horizontal beaded clapboard wood siding. Frieze bands of vertical narrow board-and-batten wood siding run along the top and bottom of the first story on all elevations. The second story is clad in staggered square shingle wood siding. Boards of wood separate sections of siding. The cross-gable roof features brackets, vergeboards, and narrow exposed eaves. Unless otherwise noted, all the windows are historic one-over-one wood windows with modern aluminum storm windows. Window surrounds are simple, created by the bands of wood that outline the siding. Fixed aluminum awnings with a scalloped edge, dating approximately to the 1950s, have been installed over the second-story windows on the south, east and west elevations.

The south facade of the house faces East Third Street. The upper facade is dominated by an overhanging front gable which features a variety of vertical and horizontal siding, and a row of bullseye blocks, over a solid vergeboard, all with board divisions reminiscent of applied stickwork. There are incised scroll-sawn wood brackets at the corners of the vergeboard. A pair of one-over-one double hung wood sash windows over a panel of beaded horizontal siding is centered on the second-story façade. The corners of the lower façade are cut-away to create a bay window, which features a large two-light wood picture window with a transom of art glass, with squares of stained glass lights bordering a larger clear light. There are two one-over-one doublehung wood sash windows on the angled sides of the bay. A single-story entry porch with a gable roof is located along the west side of the gable wing to the entrance. The porch is accessed by a set of four wood steps, and a milled fretwork frieze is suspended from the porch gable. The porch gable peak features a milled diagonal lattice and is supported by curved wheel wood brackets. The porch has an open ceiling with exposed beveled rafters that have rounded ends at the eave. The porch is supported by two turned wood posts with tall square block bases carved with an incised natural motif, and milled wood balusters at the railing. The main entrance, sheltered by the porch, features an original wood door with a large single pane light over wood panels. It has a metal a letter slot in the top panel and has an aluminum storm door.

The east elevation contains a one-over-one double hung window centered on each story of the gable wing. Another one-over-one double hung window is located on the south side of the gable wing. The gable peak features diagonally clapboard siding at the apex above a vertical wood frieze over a vergeboard with applied stickwork supported by scrolled brackets.

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An exterior brick chimney pierces the roof in the southeast corner. Below the eaves, the chimney is painted to match the blue siding on the upper half of the house. The chimney suffers from water damage, characterized by brick spalling, which has been repaired with mortar patches. An additional short one-over-one window is located north of center on the first story. It appears that this window is not original and the opening has been made smaller, possibly from a rear doorway, as evidenced by an infilled section of vertically oriented beadboard below the window opening that extends to foundation level. This location corresponds with a small exterior porch that was removed before 1909. One of two single window openings on the basement level has been infilled with cinderblocks.

The first story of the rear (north) elevation features two evenly spaced double-hung sash windows. The top pane of the east window is art glass with a border of stained glass lights, a common Queen Anne style window feature. A pair of windows of the same configuration, also with art glass, is centered on the second story above a panel of vertical siding. A small wood hopper window is located on the second story east of center. The gable peak features a decorative combination of horizontally, vertically, and diagonally oriented siding. Windows centered on the basement level are sliding vinyl replacement windows.

On the west elevation of the house, located along North Kimball Street, the gable wing has a centered two-story projecting bay. Centered on the first story of the projecting bay is a two-light wood picture window with an art glass transom. A small fixed window with sixteen stained glass square lights is located on the north side of the bay. On the flared second story, a pair of oneover-one double hung windows is vertically aligned with the picture window below. The wing is surmounted by a projecting gable featuring decorative siding and stickwork at the apex including vertically and diagonally-oriented board-and-batten siding and a central panel containing a diamond-shaped detail of bullseye blocks surrounded by clapboard, over a vergeboard with applied stickwork supported by scrolled brackets. The west elevation also features a side entrance, which is located north of the center wing and is accessed by a set of five concrete steps with a metal railing on one side. The entrance contains a three-paneled wood door with a singlepane glazing pattern and an aluminum storm door. A one-over-one double hung sash window is located north of the side entrance. Windows on the basement level on the center wing are fixed single-light windows.

The first-floor interior can generally be divided into five rooms: the living room (south room), entry room (west room), dining room (east room), kitchen (northwest room), and a combined bathroom and laundry room (northeast room). The front entrance leads from the porch directly into the entry room, which contains a large bay window and serves as the access point to the rest of the house including the second floor. A large opening allows access to the dining room, located on the east side of the house. The dining room contains an original, built-in china cabinet. This room also serves as the access point to the living room, kitchen, and bathroom/laundry room.

¹ Sanborn Map Company, Fire Insurance maps for Mitchell, South Dakota (December 1903), 5 and (September 1909), 7.

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The living room at the south end of the house features three large windows and contains a fireplace surrounded with decorative Boston Tile, which is original to the home. The tiles feature center circles with sepia-toned landscape scenes, surrounded by colorful painted flowers. The kitchen is located at the northwest corner of the house and features a door along the west wall that opens to the side yard, as well as a door on the south wall which accesses the basement. The kitchen features reeded wood panel wainscoting and, on the east wall, a set of c. 1940s cabinets with daffodil-painted porcelain knobs. All other fixtures and appliances in the kitchen appear to date to the late twentieth century. The bathroom/laundry room is located at the northeast corner of the house. The bathroom appears to have undergone substantial renovations.

The second floor is accessed by a set of wooden stairs with an ornately carved railing and an open fretwork balustrade located in the entry room (west room). The newel posts feature chamfered corners and reeded details, while the wall below the stringer features reeded wood paneling and a doorway with incised carvings reminiscent of the Eastlake style in the surround boarded with veneer wall paneling.

The second floor is composed of four bedrooms (north, south, east, west). All four bedrooms are located under the gable eaves and therefore have sloping walls. The doors to the bedrooms are original four-panel wood doors. The north bedroom contains a pair of large windows located on the north wall, and a doorway located on the east wall leads into a full bath. The bathroom is also located under the gable eaves and features a small rectangular hopper window on the north wall. The south bedroom is larger than the north bedroom but lacks the ensuite bathroom. It features a pair of large windows along the south wall and one closet in the northeast corner of the room. A door located in the northwest corner allows access to the west bedroom. The west bedroom contains a pair of windows along the west wall and a small closet along the north wall. The east bedroom is smaller than the other three bedrooms and contains only one window and one closet.

A large, single-room basement occupies roughly half of the footprint of the house below grade. It is accessed by a set of stairs located behind a doorway in the southwest corner of the kitchen. The basement has a concrete floor but the foundation walls are exposed stone.

The house retains nearly all of its original woodwork elements. Such woodwork includes the original four-panel wood doors and the original wood moldings, which include door and window surrounds with corner blocks incised with carvings reminiscent of the Eastlake style. On the second floor, corner blocks are a mix of bullseye and crosshatched patterns. The walls of the house retain much of the early or original plaster; however, ceilings have been covered or replaced by drop acoustic ceiling tiles. Most of the floors are covered with carpet. It is not known if the original hardwood floors remain underneath. Original flooring in the kitchen has been replaced or covered with non-historic laminate wood flooring, as has the flooring in the bathroom/laundry room.

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Garage (Non-Contributing)

A single-story front-gable, wood-frame garage, constructed c. 1930, is located on the northwest corner of the lot. The garage is clad in weatherboard siding. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles, although the early or original wood shingles are still extant beneath. A two-leaf, swinging wood garage door is located on the west elevation. The doors are vertical board doors with T-strap hinges. An historic two-light fixed sash window is located on the south elevation, and an historic four-light fixed sash window is located on the east elevation.

Statement of Integrity

The Seaman House retains integrity of setting, location, design, workmanship, materials, feeling and association. The house has not been moved and remains on the corner lot near the center of Mitchell. The house has not sustained any major alterations or additions. Over 130 years, minor alterations have been made but do not significantly impact the integrity of the house. Two of the basement windows located on the rear elevation have been replaced with sliding vinyl windows and one basement window on the east elevation has been infilled with concrete blocks. Changes to a small rear porch have left an enclosed section, with matched siding, and an infilled opening with a small vinyl sash window. The other original windows and doors remain intact but do have aluminum storm windows. Metal awnings have been placed over the second-story windows on the south, east and west elevations. The house now has an asphalt shingle roof and poured concrete steps leading up to the west side entrance. A section of the vertical siding near the side entrance has been replaced with in-kind materials. Only minor alterations have been made to the interior of the dwelling. These include ceilings that have been covered or replaced by drop ceiling tiles and floors covered with carpet. It is not known if the original hardwood floors remain underneath. In addition, original flooring in the kitchen and the bathroom/laundry room has been replaced with or covered by non-historic laminate wood flooring. The house remains in good condition and the only damage/deterioration is some water damage to the chimney that has caused brick spalling, which has been patched with mortar.

| Louis N. and Helen Seaman House | Davison County, S |
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| Name of Property | County and State |
| 8. Statement of Significance | _ |
| Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria listing.) | qualifying the property for National Register |
| A. Property is associated with events broad patterns of our history. | that have made a significant contribution to the |
| B. Property is associated with the live | es of persons significant in our past. |
| construction or represents the world | characteristics of a type, period, or method of k of a master, or possesses high artistic values, inguishable entity whose components lack |
| D. Property has yielded, or is likely to history. | yield, information important in prehistory or |
| Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.) | |
| A. Owned by a religious institution or | r used for religious purposes |
| B. Removed from its original location | 1 |
| C. A birthplace or grave | |
| D. A cemetery | |
| E. A reconstructed building, object, of | or structure |
| F. A commemorative property | |
| G. Less than 50 years old or achievin | g significance within the past 50 years |

| ouis N. and Helen Seaman House | Davison County, SD |
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| ame of Property | County and State |
| Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) _ARCHITECTURE | |
| | |
| Period of Significance | |
| Significant Dates 1887 | |
| Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.) N/A | |
| Cultural Affiliation N/A | |
| Architect/Builder unknown | |

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Louis N. and Helen Seaman House was built in 1887 in the Queen Anne-Eastlake style. It is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at a local level of significance under Criterion C as an excellent example of the Queen Anne-Eastlake style of architecture. Elements of the Eastlake style are less commonly found in Midwestern examples of Queen Anne homes, making the Seaman House, with its high architectural integrity, an important example to represent the breadth of architectural styles of the late nineteenth century. Featuring decorative multi-pane windows with colored art glass, fretwork porch detailing, applied stickwork on gable ends, as well as a mixture of wall textures and materials, the Seaman House possesses a wide variety of the details characteristic of the Queen Anne style of architecture. The Period of Significance is set at the date of the house's construction.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Located near the center of Mitchell, South Dakota, the Louis N. and Helen Seaman House occupies Lot 7 in Block 27 of the original Plat of the Town of Mitchell. In September 1879, John D. Lawler surveyed and platted the Town of Mitchell and began to sell lots located in the town. This included Lot 7 in Block 27, which Lawler sold to William Elderkin of Yankton in 1879. Elderkin then sold the land to Frank D. Jenkins in 1882. The land passed through multiple other owners over the next five years until Louis N. Seaman purchased the lot in 1887.² According to tax records, the house was constructed while the property was under Seaman's ownership. Seaman built his residence in 1887 with masonry work by Teachnor & Hughes.³ Seaman did not own the land or house for long, and he sold the property to J.C. Baker in 1891. Baker sold the property in 1899, and the property passed through multiple other owners until 1991, when the current owners, John W. and Nancy A. Kirchmeier purchased the dwelling.⁴ The house is named for Seaman despite his short ownership of the property for his association with the construction of the dwelling, which is significant for its architecture from the year of construction.

Louis N. Seaman was born in New York in 1853. He attended the Normal State College at Albany, NY and graduated in the class of 1874. After that, he taught for two years in Scotch Plains, NJ and attended Williams College, in Williamstown, Massachusetts, for one year. Around this time, Seaman fell ill and took a year to convalesce. Seaman moved west in 1878

² Deed Book 54, page 414, Davison County Register of Deeds, Mitchell, South Dakota.

³ The Mitchell Capital (SD), February 11-July 22, 1887.

⁴ Deed Book 54, page 414, Davison County Register of Deeds, Mitchell, South Dakota.

⁵ An Historical Sketch of the Normal State College at Albany, N.Y. and a History of its Graduates for Fifty Years: 1844-1894 (Albany, NY: Brandow Printing Company, 1894), 241.

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and settled in Belvidere, Illinois. He married Helen E. Terwillinger of Belvidere in 1880 and worked in the mercantile business in Belvidere until 1886, at which time Louis and Helen moved to Mitchell, SD with their two sons and daughter. While in Mitchell, L.N. Seaman took an active role in public affairs, serving as chairman of the Davison County Republican central committee for multiple years, on the city's board of education, on the executive committee of a group promoting Mitchell for state capital, founding treasurer of the Corn Belt Investment Company, as organizing vice-president of the Y.M.C.A. in Mitchell, and as president of a temperance enforcement organization.

In 1886, Seaman joined the banking partnership of brothers W. George and Nathan L. Davidson, and they were issued a national banking charter to organize the Mitchell National Bank. W.G. Davison became president, L.N. Seaman became vice-president, and N.L. Davison became head cashier. The business of the bank was closely tied to the agricultural industry that prevailed in the James River valley, for which Mitchell was an economic trade and transportation hub. Area banks, including the Mitchell National Bank, recognized and promoted that close relationship:

"In one day, not long ago, thirteen farmers opened accounts at our bank,' remarked L.N. Seaman, vice-president of the Mitchell National bank, of Mitchell, S. D., to a reporter of The Journal yesterday morning. 'This is simply an incident that indicates the improved condition of farmers generally,' he continued 'throughout the state. There will be a great deal of debt paying by the farmers. As a rule, they will be able to lift all their floating indebtedness and many of them will pay part, if not all of their mortgages, in cases where their places are mortgaged. The recuperative power of the state as illustrated by the crop of this year is really wonderful."

In the same article, Seaman went on to describe an example:

"About a year ago I can remember a man and woman coming into the bank and importuning me to take their farm on a mortgage. They were behind on their payments of interest and felt hopeless of being able to ever pay out. I told them that we didn't want the land and urged them to go back to the farm and put in a big crop. They did this and their crop this year has enabled them to liquidate all their floating indebtedness, pay the bank interest on the mortgage and a good deal of the principal besides. There are a good many cases where mortgages will be entirely paid. This has unquestionably been a great

⁶ John S. Wilcox, ed., *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Kane County* (Chicago, IL: Munsell Publishing Company, 1904), 898.

⁷ An Historical Sketch, 241.

⁸ The Mitchell Capital (SD), October 12, 1888-October 3, 1890.

⁹ Wilcox, *Historical Encyclopedia*, 898; Mitchell Centennial History Committee, *Mitchell Re-Discovered: A Centennial History* (Mitchell: McLeod's Printing, 1981), 28.

¹⁰ Mitchell Centennial History Committee, *Mitchell Re-Discovered*, 28.

¹¹ The Mitchell Capital (SD), October 30, 1891.

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year for South Dakota. Business in all lines is just beginning to feel the effect of the unprecedented agricultural prosperity." ¹²

Seaman's hopeful news article proved more promotion than premonition. After the initial boom period in the settlement of the territory, the first decade of statehood in the 1890s was more turbulent. At the end of the 1880s, increased crop production outpaced demand and resulted in falling prices over the following years. In 1893, a national recession began that lasted until 1897. 13

L.N. Seaman served as vice president of the Mitchell National Bank until 1891.¹⁴ In September 1891, the Seamans sold their house on lot 7 to J.C. Baker and, in November, moved back to Elgin, Illinois, where Seaman continued in the banking business, helping to establish the Elgin National Bank in 1892.¹⁵ Seaman died in 1915.¹⁶

History of Mitchell, South Dakota

Mitchell was first platted on July 23, 1879, by John D. Lawler. Lawler was a stakeholder of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad and was, therefore, privy to the railway's expansion plans. As the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad extended its rails westward, Lawler promoted the development of towns in the Dakota Territory that would soon be in the railroad's path. Mitchell was one of these towns. According to A.T. Andreas in his 1884 *Historical Atlas of Dakota*:

The commencement of Mitchell dates from May 5, 1879, when a half-section of Government land was located by Gen. John D. Lawler, with soldiers' additional scrip on the surveyed line of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, in Davison County. The original town was laid out in September following, and in October lots were offered for sale upon contract, the purchasing parties agreeing to pay one-fourth the purchase money down, and guaranteeing the improvement of the lot and taking a bond for a deed; the remainder to be paid upon the completion of the railway to the town. ¹⁷

Mitchell grew quickly and, by 1880, a United States land office had been established. Development showed little sign of stopping and according to Andreas, "the growth of the city

¹² The Mitchell Capital (SD), October 30, 1891.

¹³ Allyson Brooks and Steph Jacon, *Homesteading and Agricultural Development Context*. Pierre: South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, 1994.

¹⁴ The Mitchell Capital (SD), 13 November 1891.

¹⁵ Wilcox, *Historical Encyclopedia*, 898; *The Mitchell Capital* (SD), October 9-November 20, 1891.

¹⁶ The Mitchell Capital (SD), May 13, 1915.

¹⁷ A.T. Andreas, *Historical Atlas of Dakota* (1884), 141.

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since 1880 has been like that of many other towns in Dakota, rapid and phenomenal." Those who capitalized on the rapid growth invested in elaborate houses, like the Seamans' house, to display the success of the town. By 1900, Mitchell had been named the county seat of Davison County and had a population of over 4,000. Davison County as a whole had a population of only 7.483.

As multiple rail lines reached Mitchell, it became a major regional trade center. ¹⁹ In 1904, Mitchell featured businesses such as a wholesale fruit house, two different lumber company headquarters, and one grain elevator. ²⁰ Along with business and commerce came many social services and institutions. In addition to the U.S. land office, by the beginning of the twentieth century, Mitchell housed a business college, four school buildings (one being a high school), a Carnegie library, and Dakota University (a Methodist institution, today known as Dakota Wesleyan University). ²¹ By 1904, Mitchell was equipped with modern amenities including sewers, water works, and electric lights. ²²

Queen Anne-Eastlake Style Architecture

Between 1880 and 1910, the Queen Anne style of architecture was popular throughout South Dakota and the United States. It was one of several styles of the late Victorian "aesthetic" or "picturesque" period that shared an affinity for asymmetry, irregular massing, and diverse textures created by materials or patterns.²³ The styles of the period had origins in medieval English and early cottage traditions, but grew in size and elaboration when translated to American markets across the country. According to architectural historians Virginia and Lee McAlester,

[T]he style owed its popularity to the public's enthusiastic embrace and the pattern books and mail-order house plans that allowed them to build a Queen Anne house. The expanding railroad network expedited this process by making pre-cut architectural details conveniently available throughout much of the nation.²⁴

In markets like Mitchell where professional architects were scarce or expensive, most homeowners relied on builders and carpenters to adapt published house patterns to real buildings

¹⁸ Andreas, *Historical Atlas*, 141.

¹⁹ Historical Atlas of South Dakota (Vermillion, SD: E. Frank Peterson, 1904), 131.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid., 188.

²³ Karen Zukowski, *Creating the Artful Home: The Aesthetic Movement* (Salt Lake City: Gibbs Smith, 2006), 84; Linda E. Smeins, *Building an American Identity: Pattern Book Homes and Communities*, 1870-1900 (Walnut Creek CA: Altamira Press, 1999), 11.

²⁴ Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984, 2013), 350.

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that could be ornamented with crafted or manufactured elements.²⁵ As a booming railroad town, citizens of Mitchell could take advantage of the easy mail-order materials that were shipped directly to their town.

Most Queen Anne style houses in South Dakota were constructed of wood instead of masonry and often featured details characteristic of the popular spindlework interpretation of the style. Some of these details included "a layering of surface patterns and materials, asymmetrical massing, patterned masonry chimneys, irregular shaped roofs, turrets, gable ornamentation, decorative shingles, bay windows and porch spindle work."²⁶

In rare cases, Queen Anne houses were ornamented with details coined as the Eastlake style tradition. In 1868, Charles L. Eastlake published an architectural style guide adapting medieval Gothic aesthetics to modern housing, furnishings, and home decoration. Hints on Household Taste was published in America in six editions from 1872 through 1881 and became exceedingly popular. He favored furnishings that were lighter and straighter than had been the trend to that date, with "relatively delicate incised linear ornamental motifs" and with natural colors and textures "associated with earnest notions of 'reform,' 'sincerity,' and 'honest craftsmanship." The book's popularity created an American market for furniture and homes branded "Eastlake" whether or not they strictly conformed to Eastlake's original designs. Eastlake aesthetics were often used with an architectural tradition that has been termed Stick Style, but Eastlake elements were also used with Queen Anne houses that were more popular in the Midwest. Of the Queen Anne variations in the McAlesters' architectural guide, Eastlake aesthetics made Queen Anne homes slightly more rectilinear than Spindlework and lighter than Half-Timbered style variations.

The Seaman House features many of these characteristics. The layering of surface patterns and materials can be seen in the multiple types of wood siding. Asymmetrical massing is demonstrated by the gabled bays and entry porch, which features milled and lattice elements. Three of the four elevations feature bay windows. All four extended gables feature stickwork framing members, decorative shingles, and scrolled brackets at the corners. None of the gable ends have the same siding pattern, and the use of standard siding materials to create the ornament patterns is a more vernacular approach than ordering large carved or sawn decorative pieces for

²⁵ Zukowski, *Creating*, 84-87.

²⁶ David Erpestad and David Wood, *Building South Dakota: A Historical Survey of the State's Architecture to 1945* (Pierre: South Dakota Historical Society Press, 1997), 49.

²⁷ Zukowski, *Creating*, 23, 99.

²⁸ Ibid., 24.

²⁹ Leland M. Roth, *A Concise History of American Architecture* (New York: Harper & Row, 1979), 137; John Maass, *The Victorian Home in America* (New York: Hawthorn Books, Inc., 1972), 144.

³⁰ Zukowski, *Creating*, 24, 83; Walter C. Kidney, *The Architecture of Choice: Eclecticism in America 1880-1930* (New York: George Braziller Inc., 1974), 6.

³¹ Zukowski, Creating, 83, 88; Smeins, Building, 210-212.

| Louis N. and Helen Seaman House | |
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| Name of Property | |

Davison County, SD County and State

the gable ends. On the porch and on the interior woodwork, there is incised carving reminiscent of the Eastlake tradition.

Few examples of Queen Anne architecture are extant in Mitchell, and those examples which remain have not retained the level of integrity of materials, design, and workmanship which the Seaman House exhibits. The Nagel Property, located at 700 East 5th Avenue, is a larger and later example, constructed in about 1910. While that property retains formal elements of the Queen Anne style, including a tower with a conical roof and round-arched windows, the property retains limited material integrity having undergone extensive exterior renovations utilizing vinyl replacement materials. Similarly, the Free Classic Queen Anne style Paullin House, located at 723 East 2nd Avenue and constructed in about 1904, retains material integrity but lacks the level of detail and ornamentation that the Seaman House exhibits. Two large Queen Anne homes in the West Central Residential Historic District have many alterations to siding and windows, with the loss of many details. The far more intact 1886 Louis Beckwith House was moved to the grounds of the Friends of the Middle Border's museum at Dakota Wesleyan University and restored in 1976. It is classified as Italianate architecture but has large turned porch posts, lattice frieze, scrolled brackets, and ornamented gable ends, also Eastlake elements.

There are Stick/Eastlake examples around South Dakota, but it was and is a far less common than other Victorian/Picturesque era styles. The Dr. William & Elizabeth Blackburn House in Pierre is a Stick Style house built in 1883 and listed in the National Register in 1997. The L.T. Dunning House in Sioux Falls is a Stick/Eastlake Style house built in 1887, though later additions covered or replaced porch details. Near Watertown, the elaborate Queen Anne-style house Olive Place was built in 1887 and features Eastlake details in the porches, gables, and interior woodwork. The McGillycuddy House in Rapid City was a large Alpine-Stick Style house built in 1888, but the second story was removed sometime in the early twentieth century, giving it a Craftsman style appearance when it was listed as part of the Rapid City West Boulevard Historic District in 1995.

Conclusion

The Louis N. and Helen Seaman House is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C at a local level for its significant architecture. The house is an exceptional example of the Queen Anne style of architecture blended with elements of the Eastlake style. Featuring canted window bays, fretwork porch detailing, stickwork framing, as well as a variety of wall textures and materials, the Seaman House possesses a wide selection of the details characteristic of the Queen Anne style of architecture that retain significantly high integrity of material, design, and workmanship. It retains nearly all of its original woodwork details, particularly in the detailed and varied exterior wall surfaces, at the porch, and throughout the interior. Despite some minor material alterations, the house remains largely unchanged and is an excellent example of the Queen Anne-Eastlake architectural style in Mitchell.

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Name of Property

Davison County, SD County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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| uis N. and Helen Seaman House | Davison County, SD |
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| me of Property | County and State |
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| Smeins, Linda E. <i>Building an American Identity: Pattern</i> 1870-1900. Walnut Creek CA: Altamira Press, 1999. | Book Homes and Communities, |
| Wilcox, John S., Ed. <i>Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois a</i> Chicago, IL: Munsell Publishing Company, 1904. | and History of Kane County. |
| Zukowski, Karen. Creating the Artful Home: The Aesthe Smith, 2006. | tic Movement. Salt Lake City: Gibbs |
| | |
| Previous documentation on file (NPS): preliminary determination of individual listing (36 previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Reg designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey recorded by Historic American Engineering Record | ister # |
| preliminary determination of individual listing (36 previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey | ister # |
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| Louis N. and Helen Seaman H Name of Property | ouse | Davison County, County and State |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10. Geographical Data | | |
| Acreage of Property | less than one | |
| Use either the UTM syst | tem or latitude/longitude coordi | nates |
| Latitude/Longitude Condition Datum if other than WG (enter coordinates to 6 d | | |
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: | |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: | |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: | |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: | |
| Or | | |
| UTM References Datum (indicated on US | GS map): | |
| NAD 1927 or | × NAD 1983 | |
| 1. Zone: 14 | Easting: 578740.26 | Northing: 4840302.20 |
| 2. Zone: 14 | Easting: 578739.53 | Northing: 4840345.38 |
| 3. Zone: 14 | Easting: 578754.98 | Northing: 4840346.51 |

SD

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Easting: 578754.93

4. Zone: 14

The National Register boundary for the Louis N. and Helen Seaman House encompasses approximately 0.16 acres and follows the existing and historic parcel boundaries. It encompasses Lot 7 in Block 27 of the Original Plat of the Town of Mitchell, Davison County, South Dakota. Starting at the southwest corner of the parcel boundary at the intersection of East Third and North Kimball Streets, the National Register boundary follows the parcel boundary approximately 142 feet north to an alley at the northwest corner of the property. The boundary then turns eastward and travels approximately 50 feet along the

Northing: 4840302.73

| Louis | N. | and | Helen | Seaman | House | |
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Name of Property

Davison County, SD County and State

alleyway before pivoting southward and extending approximately 142 feet along the parcel boundary to East Third Street. The boundary then pivots westward and travels 50 feet along East Third Street to meet with the beginning point.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The National Register boundary for the Louis N. and Helen Seaman House includes one of the lots originally platted by John D. Lawler in 1879 and recorded in the Original Plat of the Town (now city) of Mitchell, Davison County, South Dakota. This is the same city lot on which the Seaman House was constructed in 1887 and remains the legal property boundaries today.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: <u>Caitlin Herrnstadt and Christine Leggio</u>

organization: Johnson, Mirmiran, and Thompson

street & number: 1600 Market St. Ste. 520

city or town: Philadelphia state: PA zip code: 19103

e-mail: <u>cherrnstadt@jmt.com or cleggio@jmt.com</u>

telephone: 984-269-4917 or 984-269-4737

date: January 31, 2017

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Louis N. and Helen Seaman House

Name of Property

Davison County, SD

County and State

Photo Log

Name of Property: Louis N. and Helen Seaman House

City or Vicinity: Mitchell

County: Davison State: SD

Photographer: Caitlin Herrnstadt, Johnson, Mirmiran and Thompson Date Photographed: September 2016 (unless otherwise specified)

Location of Original Digital Files: 1600 Market St. Ste. 520, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Photo #1 (SD DavisonCounty SeamanHouse 0001)

View of south façade, camera facing north.

Photo #2 (SD DavisonCounty SeamanHouse 0002)

View of southwest corner (3/4 view), camera facing northeast.

Photo #3 (SD_DavisonCounty_SeamanHouse_0003)

View of west elevation, camera facing east. Date photographed: November 17, 2015, Liz Almlie, South Dakota SHPO

Photo #4 (SD DavisonCounty SeamanHouse 0004)

View of southeast corner (3/4 view), camera facing northwest. Date photographed:

November 17, 2015, Liz Almlie, South Dakota SHPO

Photo #5 (SD DavisonCounty SeamanHouse 0005)

View of north elevation, camera facing south.

Photo #6 (SD_DavisonCounty_SeamanHouse_0006)

Detail of front porch ceiling, camera facing north. Date photographed: November 17, 2015,

Liz Almlie, South Dakota SHPO

Photo #7 (SD DavisonCounty SeamanHouse 0007)

View of southwest corner of garage (3/4 view), camera facing northeast.

Photo #8 (SD DavisonCounty SeamanHouse 0008)

View of first floor entryway, camera facing northwest.

Photo #9 (SD DavisonCounty SeamanHouse 0009)

View of dining room (living room and entryway visible), camera facing southwest.

Photo #10 (SD DavisonCounty SeamanHouse 0010)

Detail of living room fireplace, camera facing northeast.

Photo #11 (SD DavisonCounty SeamanHouse 0011)

| Louis | N. | and | Helen | Seaman | House | |
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Davison County, SD

Name of Property

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View of kitchen located in northwest corner of house, camera facing southeast. Date photographed: November 17, 2015, Liz Almlie, South Dakota SHPO

Photo #12 (SD_DavisonCounty_SeamanHouse_0012) View of second story south bedroom, camera facing southwest.

Photo #13 (SD_DavisonCounty_SeamanHouse_0013) View of second story bathroom attached to north bedroom, camera facing northeast.

Photo #14 (SD_DavisonCounty_SeamanHouse_0014) View of basement, camera facing northwest.

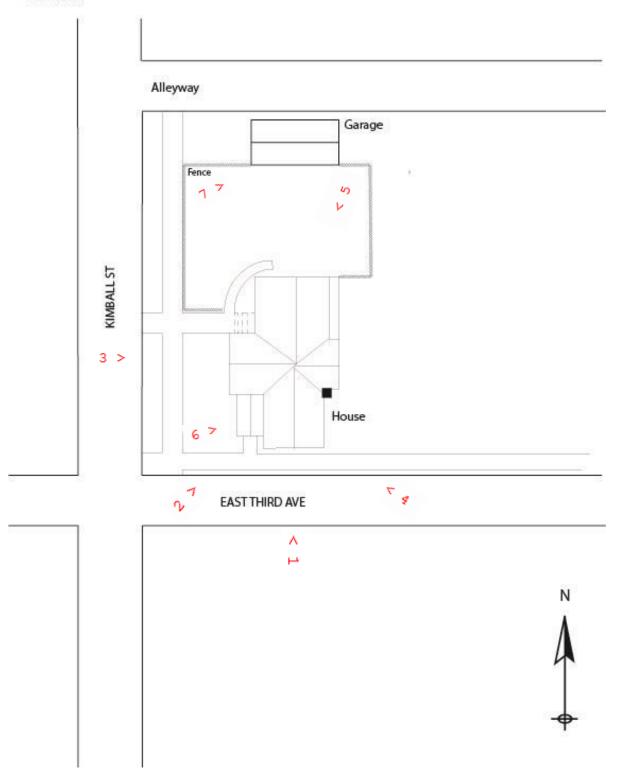
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Louis N. and Helen Seaman House Name of Property

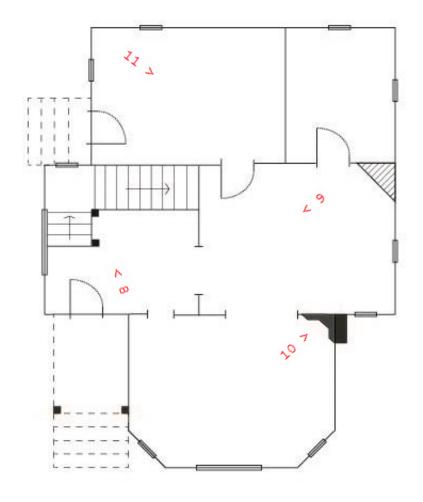
Davison County, SD County and State

Site Plan



Louis N. and Helen Seaman House Name of Property

Interior, First Floor

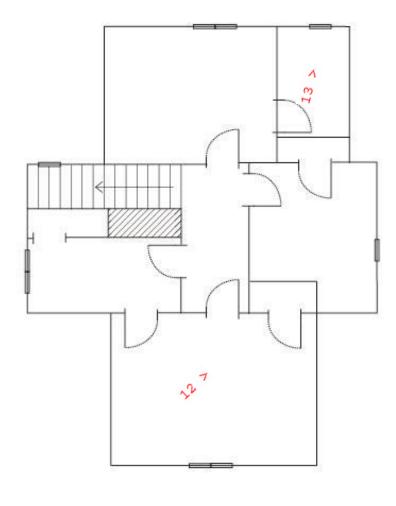




*Drawing Not to Scale

Louis N. and Helen Seaman House Name of Property

Interior, Second Floor

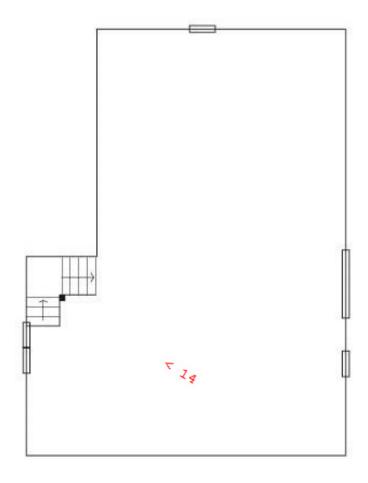




Louis N. and Helen Seaman House

Name of Property

Interior, Basement





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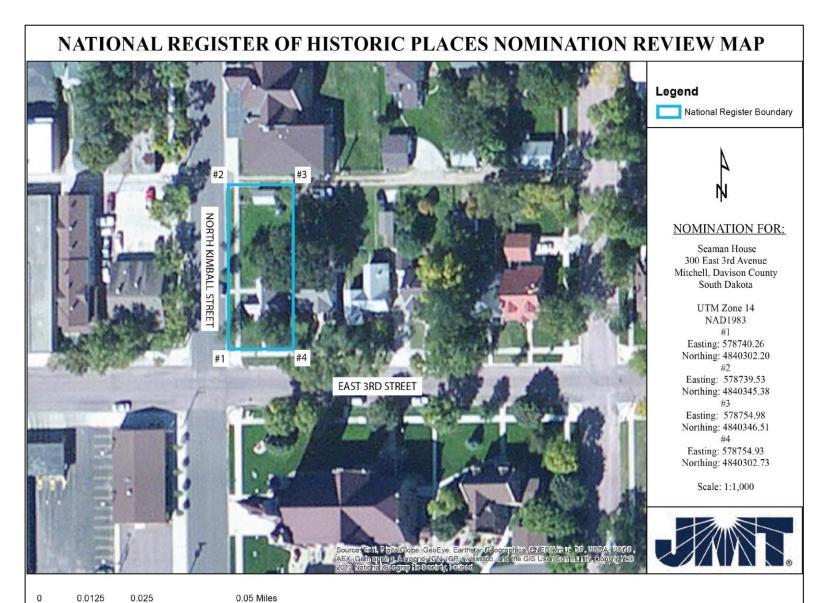
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION REVIEW MAP Legend National Register Boundary NOMINATION FOR: Seaman House 300 East 3rd Avenue Mitchell, Davison County South Dakota UTM Zone 14 NAD1983 Easting: 578750.33 Northing:4840314.63 Scale: 1:25,000

1.2 Miles

0.3

0.6

Louis N. and Helen Seaman House Name of Property































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

| Requested Action: | Nomination |
|---|--|
| Property Name: | Seaman, Louis N. and Helen, House |
| Multiple Name: | |
| State & County: | SOUTH DAKOTA, Davison |
| Date Rece 1/5/201 | |
| Reference number: | SG100002100 |
| Nominator: | State |
| Reason For Review | |
| X Accept | ReturnReject 2/16/2018 Date |
| Abstract/Summary Comments: | Excellent example of Queen Anne style; very possibly a mail order plan. |
| Recommendation/ Criteria | Criterion C for architecture. Nice example of a small early garage built c.1930 but not contributing if justification for the house. |
| Reviewer Roger | Reed Discipline Historian |
| Telephone (202)35 | 54-2278 Date |
| DOCUMENTATION | see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No |
| If a nomination is rel National Park Service | turned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the |

City of Mitchell 612 North Main Street | Mitchell, SD 57301 Phone: 605-995-8420 | Fax: 605-995-8054



CityOfMitchell.org

To: Neil Putnam City Planner Mitchell, SD

From: Mayor Jerry Toomey

Mitchell, SD

RE: Historic Nominations

With regards to the two residences located at 300 East 3rd Avenue and at 700 East Hanson, be it known that I as Mayor of Mitchell, South Dakota, do support the nominations of both residences to be placed on the South Dakota Historic Registration.

Both residences are great examples of unique architectural design for the time periods in which they were constructed in the early 1900's. It would truly be a shame to see these two structures to not be considered noteworthy of historic significance to our community's cultural value.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jerald L. Toomey Mitchell, South Dakota

THE MITCHELL BOARD OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION REPORT FOR LOUIS N. AND HELEN SEAMAN HOUSE NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION

NAME OF CLG: Mitchell

DATE OF SDSHS BOARD MEETING: 8 December 2017

| HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION Does the nomination meet the Criteria for Listing on the National Register of Historic Places? Yes No |
|---|
| Has public comment been included? Yes No Explain: See a Hacked moutes |
| |
| Other recommendations: |
| Checklist: |
| The Historic Preservation Commission has filled out the above Report. The Historic Preservation Commission has shared and transmitted the above comments to the Chief Elected Official. The Chief Elected Official will mail the above Historic Preservation Commission Report, along with the Chief Elected Official's Report, to the South Dakota State Historical Society, 900 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501. |
| Signature of Chair: The SHPO does not receive this report and recommendation within 60 calendar days, the SHPO will continue the nomination process. |
| (Questions about this form may be directed to Historic Preservation Specialist Liz Almlie at (605) 773-6056.) |

THE MITCHELL BOARD OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION REPORT FOR GOTTLIEB SCHEURENBRAND HOUSE NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION

NAME OF CLG: Mitchell

DATE OF SDSHS BOARD MEETING: 8 December 2017

| HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION Does the nomination meet the Criteria for Listing on the National Register of Historic Places? Yes No |
|--|
| Has public comment been included? Yes X No Explain: Sec attached minutes |
| |
| Other recommendations: |
| Checklist: |
| The Historic Preservation Commission has filled out the above Report. |
| The Historic Preservation Commission has shared and transmitted the above comments to the Chief Elected Official. The Chief Elected Official will mail the above Historic Preservation Commission Report, along with the Chief Elected Official's Report, to the South Dakota State Historical Society, 900 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501. |
| Signature of Chair: Date: 10/18/17 If the SHPO does not receive this report and recommendation within 60 calendar days, the SHPO will continue the nomination process. |
| (Questions about this form may be directed to Historic Preservation Specialist Liz Almlie at (605) 773-6056.) |

CITY OF MITCHELL HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES, OCTOBER 18, 2017

NOT APPROVED

Chairman Logan called the October 18, 2017 meeting of the Mitchell Historic Preservation Commission to order at 5:15 pm in the Carnegie Resource Center, 119 W. 3rd Ave, Mitchell, South Dakota.

Members Present: Logan, Johnston, Pooley, Swenson, Ramsay, and Putnam

Members Absent: Collins, Jirsa, Clark, Buechler

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Pooley, seconded by Swenson to approve the agenda. All members present voting aye, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Swenson, seconded by Pooley to approve the minutes of September 20, 2017 meeting. All members present voting aye, motion carried.

The commission reviewed the written materials submitted by the South Dakota Historical Society in regards to the nominations of two residential properties in the City of Mitchell. This meeting was noticed to the public and was an opportunity for anyone in the public to provide comments about the nominations. No one other than the commission members were present.

Nomination of 300 E 3rd Avenue on The National Register of Historic Places. The commission reviewed the photographs of the property and Putnam read aloud a summary of the historic features as written by SDHPO. The commission noted the unique historic features and noted it is near the historic Holy Family Catholic Church site and the historic downtown district. Motion by Pooley and seconded by Swenson to recommend the nomination and finds that is meets the standards. All members present voting aye, motion carried.

Nomination of 700 E Hanson Ave on The National Register of Historic Places. The commission reviewed the photographs of the property and Putnam read aloud the summary of the historic features as written by SDHPO. It was noted the property appears to be in the process of renovation and noted historic interior features. The commission is grateful that a party wishes retain the natural finish and woodwork. Motion by Swenson seconded by Ramsay to recommend the nomination and finds it meets the standards. All members present voting aye, motion carried.

Revolving Loan Application for 'The Back 40', 511 N Main St.: The commission reviewed the application submitted by the new owner of the property. The owner is doing extensive work to the interior of the building and updating the electrical and plumbing systems as well as exterior updates. It was noted the property is not within the historic district, however it is eligible for revolving loan funds from Mitchell Main Street and Beyond for façade improvements up to \$400 per running foot. Johnston indicated the owner will exceed the costs that is available to improve the exterior and roof. The owner is advised to provide MMM & B itemization which would provide additional documentation (construction estimates) for the file. Motion by Swenson, seconded by Johnston to approve the application. All members present voting aye, motion carried.

Other Business & Reports: Ramsay provided a brief report on the 3rd and Main building. He mentioned that a structural engineer has been consulted. Putnam indicated the council has requested periodic updates from city staff.

Logan and Johnston provided updates on Mitchell Main Street and Beyond activities. Logan indicated we will be selected a vice-chairperson at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be Wednesday November 15, 2017 at 5:15 pm at the Carnegie Resource Center.

Logan adjourned the meeting at 6:15 pm.







29 December 2017

Keeper of National Register National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228 Washington DC 20240

Dear Keeper:

Please find enclosed five National Register nominations including the Maggie J. Wood House, Celina and Albert Goddard House, St. Paul Lutheran Church and Cemetery, Louis N. and Helen Seaman House, and Gottlieb and Friederike Scheurenbrand House.

Please contact chrisb.nelson@state.sd.us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Chris B. Nelson

Historic Preservation Specialist