

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 J. W. Ulmer House

and/or common Ulmer-Hertz House

2. Location

street & number 611 S. 5th Street N/A not for publication

city, town Menno N/A vicinity of congressional district First

state South Dakota code 46 county Hutchinson code 067

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hertz

street & number 611 S. 5th Street

city, town Menno N/A vicinity of state South Dakota 57045

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Hutchinson County Courthouse

city, town Olivet state South Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" 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

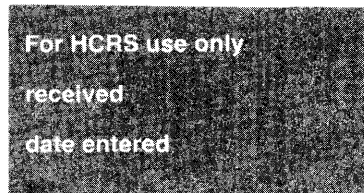
The Ulmer House is a Queen Anne design which is basically rectilinear in plan with a service ell to the rear. A two-story frame structure, the house is sheathed in narrow clapboard, and is surmounted by a broad hip roof which flairs at the base to meet wide eaves and built-in gutters. Crowned with a finial, the central mass of the roof is articulated as a pyramid, covering a square portion of the house. The remaining third at the front of the house is divided into two units: on the southeast corner a tower swells out and is capped with a bell-cast roof, and a lesser hip is brought forward, flush with the main roof on the north face, to cover the remaining area. In a similar manner a hip roof extends toward the west to cover the rear wing. This breakdown of the roof into sections, not wholly related to the mass and floor plan below, is a feature common with the Queen Anne style. Here, it serves two purposes: first to lessen the mass of the roof (which under the influence of Colonial Revival design became less important in the late phases of the Queen Anne style) and secondly to articulate the main mass and allow the roof of the tower to stand free. Also typical of Queen Anne design is the lack of regular division of the walls into bays. In fact, the placement of windows only roughly relates from one floor to the next. Instead, windows are placed where prescribed by the design of interior spaces. The major exterior feature is the tower on the southeast corner. Three windows fill the first floor of the tower which is polygonal in shape; on the second floor are also three windows evenly spaced across the cylindrical form. To the side of the tower, on the south and east facade, are one-story porches, which repeat the cylindrical shape of the tower with semi-circular projections in the center of each. The front porch is symmetrically shaped and centered under the forward projecting hip roof. On the roof is a dormer with a Palladian window and a small balustraded deck. Below this, on the second floor, is a bay window supported by the porch and tucked under the eaves. Under the porch the symmetry of the facade is abandoned: the door is placed off center to the south and projects with a small enclosed vestibule. To the left of the entrance is a window and to the right a bay window which appears crowded in. Two of the three doorways on the south facade open onto the porch, while the third, on the west wing, is at ground level on a stair landing. Immediately to the left of the porch is a two-story bay, covered by a small gable. The bay does not project beyond the eave line. On the first floor the bay has one, large, single-paned window in the center and two, small, double-hung windows on the sides. Immediately to the left is a window and to the right the door onto the porch. On the second floor, the bay has one window on the left, two in the center and a narrow door on the right facet. There is one window between the bay and the tower. The south side of the west wing is marked by two windows to the left and a grade level door to the right. Above that, a window articulates the level of the stair landing. On both floors of the north facade are single windows. To the right of the chimney are three windows on the second floor, a single window under the first and a double window under the third. A small gable is placed on an unbroken eave above. At the rear of the house, the west facade has a large wing with a window above and a door and window below. On the north facade of the wing is a window on both floors. Tucked in the corner of this wing and the main house is a small, one-story projection which has a single window facing north. Two chimneys rise from the rear wing, one from the northwest corner and one where it meets the main body of the house. Ornament is simple: a belt-course divides the first and second floors and there are no brackets or other ornamental features, except on the porches which have Tuscan columns, turned baluster posts and turned finials on top of the newel posts. The baluster around

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J.W. Ulmer House

Hutchinson County, SD



Continuation sheet

Item number 7

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the deck of the south porch is missing.

In the northwest corner of the lot is a carriage house, a long rectangular frame building with gable roof and large double garage doors on one end.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention			associated with local business- man

Specific dates 1914

Builder/Architect Ulmer

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The J. W. Ulmer House is significant in the area of architecture and is associated with a prominent early resident of Menno. The architectural significance of the Ulmer House is derived from its refinement of design and finish. It is an outstanding house in its rural context and is both the most substantial and fully articulated Queen Anne design in the area, showing an attempt to achieve a degree of quality and sophistication normally associated with urban life.

Hutchinson County is the area of primary settlement in South Dakota for the German-Russians who migrated from the Ukraine and Black Sea region to the United States in the 1870s-1880s. While many families settled as farmers and built their unique rammed earth structures, others, like the Ulmer family, moved into urban areas and were assimilated more readily into Anglo-American culture. Born in southern Russia in 1862, Ulmer emigrated with his parents to the Dakota Territory in 1874. The Ulmers settled first in Yankton County, where J. W. Ulmer attended the German Lutheran church school. After he had acquired English on his own, Ulmer went to work as a clerk in a Menno hardware store. Later he started a implement business and purchased Gundert's clothing store. During these years he acted as an unofficial money lender. Then, in 1901 he received a charter for the Menno State Bank and became its first president. The Ulmer family were major stockholders and ran the enterprise.

Over the years, Ulmer served as a town trustee, treasurer, board member and in 1890 as a state legislator. In 1914 Ulmer built this house, while he was president of the Menno bank.

Later owners include, Walter Hertz, Emil Schoenfish, and finally Carl Hertz, a local contractor, who purchased the dwelling in 1970.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Oral interview, A. F. Ulmer, attorney and son of J. W. Ulmer, 16 April 81.
Mike Freeman, Menno, The First 100 Years, 1879-1979. Freeman, SD:
Pine Hill Press, 1979. pp. 589-595.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1

Quadrangle name Menno

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	4	6	1	5	4	8	0	4	7	8	7	6	4	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

Zone	Easting				Northing									

E

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H

Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification The lot lines of the property form the boundaries of the site, which lies in Lots 4, 5, and 6 of Block 11 of the Swantons Addition to the City of Menno

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Max Donley Technical editing: John Burrows and Carolyn Torma
Historical Preservation Center, USD
Vermillion, SD 57069 605-677-5313

organization date 16 July 81

street & number 440 5th Street telephone 605-583-4267

city or town Scotland state South Dakota

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 James R. Freshburne

title Director, Office of Cultural Preservation date May 3, 1982

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	Entered in the National Register
<u>James R. Freshburne</u>	date <u>6/17/82</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	