

1488

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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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 an 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 Plummer, Amos and Lillie, House

other names/site number Trail County Historical Society Museum, 32 TR 431

2. Location

street & number 306 West Caledonia Avenue not for publication n/a

city or town Hillsboro vicinity n/a

state North Dakota code ND county Trail code 097 zip code 58045

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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.)

James E. Sperry 11/9/1995
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

James E. Sperry, State Historic Preservation Officer, North Dakota
State of 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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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 of the Keeper Entered on the National Register

Date of Action 1-4-96

Amos & Lillie Plummer House
Name of Property

Traill, North Dakota
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION & CULTURE/museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Granite
walls BRICK
roof ASPHALT
other

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 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

1897

Significant Dates

1897

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Ross, John W.

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

State Historical Society of North Dakota

Amos & Lillie Plummer House
Name of Property

Traill, North Dakota
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	4
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6	4	5	9	2	0
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5	2	5	1	5	6	5
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Zone Easting Northing

2

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3

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Zone Easting Northing

4

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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 Norma Schultz Rolene Schliesman, SHSND staff

organization Traill County Historical Society date 7 September 1995

street & number PO Box 273, 306 W. Caledonia Avenue telephone 701-436-4241

city or town Hillsboro state ND zip code 58045

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name Traill County Historical Society

street & number P. O. Box 273, 306 W. Caledonia Ave. telephone 701-436-4241

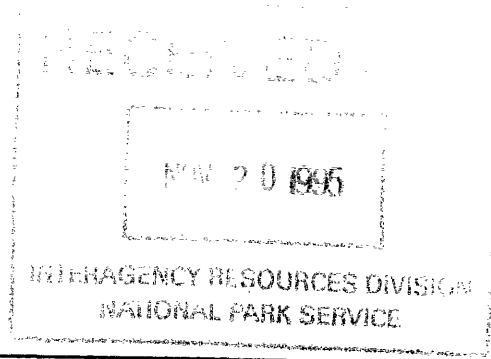
city or town Hillsboro state ND zip code 58045

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**



Section number 7 Page 1

**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota**

Description

The Amos and Lillie Plummer house is a large, sixteen-room, two and one-half story rectangular building located at the corner of Caledonia Avenue and Third Street NW. Built in 1897, it stands on its original site. The Hillsboro exit on I-29 leads directly onto Caledonia Avenue, a highly traveled residential and business thoroughfare. The house is in the second residential block east of this exit and one block west of the Traill County Courthouse.

To design their home, the Plummers hired John W. Ross, a prominent Grand Forks architect, who created a beautiful Queen Anne house. Features of this style are especially apparent in the hip roof which has gables projecting in each direction, a dormer with an ornately carved pediment surmounting a triplet window, and an eyebrow window above the second-story balcony. Locally manufactured bricks, rose-toned rather than red, give special distinction to the appearance and construction of this house. Their unique color and use in forming double and, in some areas, triple and even quadruple thick walls enhance the home's beauty, its durability, and its significance. The covered carriage porch, or porte cochere, attests to its pre-automobile design. In 1992, with funds donated by present and former residents of Traill County and with original blueprints in hand, local craftsmen reconstructed a portico, a second-story balcony, and a wrap-around veranda to complete an exterior presentation that duplicates the appearance of the house in early photographs. As the accompanying copies of the blueprints show, the floor plan is typically Queen Anne, especially in the use of wide arches and sliding doors to open up space. Much work has been done to restore the first floor. The second and third floors still need a considerable amount of work. The house is in sound condition. With plantings common to an earlier era, the well-kept, shaded lawn and the gardens around the foundation have been landscaped to complement the house.

The front/south view of the house features wide steps which lead to a portico that protects the main entrance. It is supported by plain round columns and bears the initials of the original owner, Amos L. Plummer, on the pediment. Above the portico is a small second-story balcony, its low, almost flat roof supported by narrow turned porch posts mounted on a low railing. Connected to the portico is a veranda which extends to a

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Section number 7 Page 2

**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota**

Description (continued)

portion of the east side of the house. Projecting from the east side of the veranda is a porte cochere. Viewed from the east, the low gabled roof of this extension resembles a Greek portico with its decorated pediment and supporting columns, which are anchored in a low rectangular wall (24' x 3' x 2'2") of mortared blocks of granite and brick. All veranda and porte cochere columns are identical round shafts mounted on wooden bases (3' x 12" x 12"). In 1993, a loose gravel driveway extending from Caledonia Avenue to the concrete floor of the porte cochere was added to complete the physical details of this portion of the property as they appear in early photographs. With the exception of the asphalt shingles that replaced the copper sheeting and metal cresting of the original roof, the exterior of the house now looks virtually unaltered.

A granite block and mortar foundation set on granite footings adds to the fortress-like quality the double brick walls give to the house. It has also kept the brickwork from extensive settling. However, some repair work has been — and will continue to be — necessary to reinforce areas showing breakdown. A full basement of granite blocks, double and sometimes triple brick walls separating areas, and concrete flooring exists. As to use, some areas are not designated on the blueprint; others were modified as the house was being built. For example, a stairway leading up to the library exists but is not on the plans. The cellar is smaller than the blueprint shows. Rooms with special functions include a large laundry, a boiler room, and a cellar. In the northeast corner, a stairway leads to the outside. Another on the north wall leads up to the kitchen. The boiler room originally had a coal-fired furnace that supplied heat for the hot water radiators. It was replaced in 1968 by forced-air heat fueled by an oil-burning furnace. Windows are above the ground, three under the bay windows of the dining room and six on the west wall. Some have been boarded over.

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**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota**

Description (continued)

The first floor of the house consists of nine rooms, with nine-foot ceilings, with the following dimensions:

- Vestibule - 3'8" x 9'4'
- Reception hall - 9'4' x 14'
- Front Parlor - 13' x 15'
- Back Parlor - 13' x 10'
- Dining Room - 17'8" x 15'
- Library - 14'8" x 12'
- Bedroom - 12' x 15' (with closet, 5' x 4'4")
- Kitchen- 14' x 12'8"
- Pantry - 5' x 8'

The rooms are conventionally arranged for the time and style of the house. A very small vestibule connects the dining room and east veranda. One steps into the front vestibule, which has, on the upper west wall, an original stained and leaded glass window, identical to one of three ascending the west wall of the staircase in the reception hall. It, like the others and the upper panes of windows in the parlors and dining room, was custom-made and brought from St. Louis. The vestibule leads into the reception hall, a dominant feature in Queen Anne houses. The heavy oak newel posts at the foot and on the first landing of the stairs, the ornately carved grillwork, used instead of balusters, the wood paneling below the staircase and on the west wall, the deep window wells and heavy woodwork around the stained glass windows and doors give an almost medieval feeling to this room, which was obviously designed to impress.

Stepping into the front parlor through a wide arch with pocket doors, one is struck by the airy and spacious quality of the two parlors and the dining room, all connected by wide, wood-framed, ceiling-high arches. Contributing also to this effect are broad-paned windows in the two parlors and a bay window in the dining room. All windows, except one on the south wall of the front parlor, face east. Whereas the exterior of the house lacks much of the ornamentation found on variations of the Queen Anne style, these three rooms pick up on that trend by featuring ornate, machine-tooled, wooden grillwork panels

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**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota****Description (continued)**

placed just below the lintels of the two arches separating these central rooms. The archway between the front and back parlors also has two sideposts with corresponding grillwork placed dado-like between the posts and the woodwork. All downstairs rooms, with the exception of the reception hall and the kitchen, have picture rails. The finish on the wood surfaces described thus far is original. The hardwood floors, parqueted in the dining room and around the outer areas of the parlors, have been refinished. A central panel of pine flooring joins the two parlors. The Plummers used a long custom-made carpet to cover these less expensive floor boards. A particular attraction of the back parlor is a fireplace set diagonally in the southwest corner between the door to the library and the archway into the dining room. The soft gray-green tiles around the opening and on the hearth were imported from Italy. It, like the oak framework and mantel (in this case, a projecting shelf), is unmarred. The framework was likely ordered as a unit. It includes two columns, complete with bases, shafts, and Ionic capitals. These capitals support a wide rectangular molding below which is an oval mirror, beveled and framed by scrollwork superimposed on the wood background. The fireplace screen is original.

Next to the fireplace is a door that opens into the library, which can also be entered from the reception hall. The west wall of this room extends five feet beyond the outer wall of the house to give space for a window on the south wall and a door to the outside on the north wall. There is also a short, high window on the west wall. Custom-made book shelves were added in 1987 to provide space for old books and memorabilia.

The back parlor also leads into a spacious dining room, which has several doors that give convenient access to other areas of the house. For example, one can gain entrance to the east veranda and port cochere via the small vestibule just off the southeast corner of the dining room. A transomed outside door, an inside door with a window, tile flooring and a small stained glass window on the east wall complete the details of this convenient exit. On the west wall of the dining room there is a door to a bedroom. However, information taken from extant letters written by Mrs. Plummer indicates that this room was used, rather, as Lillie's personal office and sitting room. A closet in this room has been turned into a

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**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota****Description (continued)**

lavatory. Adjacent to the door to "Lillie's room" is a door to the back stairway. On the north wall a door leads into the kitchen.

Attached to the north side of the house is a one-story kitchen and pantry. The wall separating this area from the rest of the house is especially wide, constructed of four contiguous rows of brick. The twenty-two-inch-width is apparent in the doorways, one between the dining room and kitchen and the other, opening to the basement stairs. Since a cook stove and not the central heating system warmed this room, the thick wall was obviously designed for its insulating effect and structural stability. The chimney has been closed. An original sink remains in the southwest corner of the kitchen. A door on the north wall leads to outside steps. Windows face east and north. Two narrow pantry windows face north and west.

On the second floor there are four bedrooms. The front/south bedroom has with an alcove leading out to the front balcony, and a bath that was converted into a small room. All rooms open from a north-south hallway joined to the open staircase, and all corridor doors have transoms. Only two of the bedrooms have closets. At the north end of the hallway are enclosed steps leading to the third floor. Room dimensions are as follows:

Front/south bedroom - 13'8" x 14' and alcove, 10' x 7'6" closet - 5'10" x 2'6"

East bedroom - 12' x 14'4" and closet, 5'10" x 2'6"

Bedroom, NE corner - 14' x 15'8"

West bedroom - 12'6" x 6'6"

Bath, NW corner - 8'10" x 6'6"

Whereas considerable work has been done to bring the first floor back to its original appearance, the restoration of the second and third floors remains a future project. Walls need replastering; the woodwork needs stripping and refinishing; and the floors need adjusting and refinishing.

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**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota**

Description (continued)

The house was later converted into apartments. As a result walls, kitchens, and bathrooms were added and later removed when the house was restored. A lavatory for public use was installed in the closet of the downstairs bedroom. Cracked walls were covered with fiberboard and painted or papered. The grillwork was reinstalled and the downstairs floors were sanded and refinished.

The original metal roofing was replaced with asphalt shingles, first in the 1940s, and again in 1969. New storm windows were also installed in 1969, and the house was completely rewired in 1972. A veneer of concrete was poured over the basement floor in the early 1970s. In the early 1980s, extensive restoration continued. Plaster was removed from the walls of the reception hall, upstairs hallway, library, downstairs bedroom, and the kitchen and replaced with sheetrock. The sheetrock was veneered with plaster to reproduce the appearance of the original walls. The three central rooms of the downstairs have remained covered with fiberboard and new wallpaper was installed. Today the main floor appears much the way it did when the Plummers resided in the house.

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Section number 8 Page 7

**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota**

Statement of Significance

Under Criterion C of the National Register Criteria, the Amos and Lillie Plummer House is significant in the area of architecture, because it is the finest example of Queen Anne style architecture in Hillsboro, North Dakota. Designed by John W. Ross, a prominent architect from Grand Forks, the house was built in 1897 and has been a longtime landmark to local residents. The integrity level of the house remains very high.

The Plummer House was designed in the Queen Anne style, which was popular for domestic housing throughout the state and nation in the latter part of the 19th century. Growing out of the work of English architect Richard Norman Shaw, the Queen Anne style met both high praise and harsh criticism from architects and scholars; however, the public generally embraced it for its picturesque qualities and adaptability to comfort and domesticity. At the high point of the architectural movement between 1880 and 1900, Queen Anne stylistic elements most often included irregular floor plans, roof lines, and spatial massing, multiplicity of siding materials especially the use of stained and leaded glass, multiple-light windows, and unique decorative treatments to gables, wrap-around porches, projecting bays, and chimneys. The overall exterior of a Queen Anne style house is highly decorated, displaying a carnival of textures, shapes, and colors. Richness and comfort are emphasized in interior spaces with elaborate woodwork, staircases, fireplace mantels, and furnishings. The Plummer house illustrates these typical features in one of the oldest extant dwellings in Hillsboro.

The house was designed by prominent Grand Forks architect, John W. Ross, who was described as "the northwest's leading architect" in North Dakota, History and People, a 1917 publication. Born in Germany on April 9, 1848, Ross came to America in 1852 with his parents who settled in Sauk Center, Wisconsin. Later he studied architecture under his brother, Charles Ross, then a noted architect in LaCrosse. In 1880, John Ross moved to Grand Forks, North Dakota, where he opened his architectural office and designed buildings such as St. Stanislaus Catholic Church at Warsaw, a building listed in the National Register in 1979. Ross designed buildings in and around Grand Forks from 1880 until he died in 1914.

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 8

**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota**

Statement of Significance (continued)

Geographically, Traill County lie on the west bank of the Red River of the North, which forms the very eastern boundary of what is now North Dakota. The county was created in 1874-1875 and named for Walter John Strickland Traill, an employee of the Hudson Bay Company and later a resident of the county in 1870. Also in 1870, the first settlers arrived to the area which was to become Hillsboro. In 1880, the Great Northern Railroad began service to the fledgling townsite. Under orders from James J. Hill, owner of the Great Northern Railroad, the town was replatted in September of 1880, and the town formally organized in May of 1882. Originally called Comstock, the name of the town changed to Hill City and then to Hillsboro in honor of the railroad magnate. Hillsboro became the county seat in 1891, after an election to move the county seat from neighboring Caledonia, and it remains the seat of government today.

During the 1890s, Hillsboro's population increased and business flourished. Businesses included two national banks, seven general stores, three hardware stores, three drug stores, two jewelry stores, five hotels, three weekly newspapers, five blacksmith shops, meat markets, billiard halls, saloons, and a laundry. There was also a starch factory, an egg crate factory doing nationwide business, and a thriving brickyard. Today, Hillsboro continues to be a vital community with a population of nearly 1,500, a hospital, schools, grain elevators, grocery stores, insurance agencies, banks, taverns, restaurants, and the oldest weekly newspaper in North Dakota, the *Hillsboro Banner*. Hillsboro is increasing in importance as a bedroom community located halfway between the state's largest and third largest cities, Fargo and Grand Forks.

Amos L. Plummer was born June 24, 1836, in Bangor, Maine. He grew up there and left to find his fortune in the West. After homesteading in Spring Valley, Fillmore County, Minnesota, he moved on to Forest City, Iowa, where he opened a general store. In 1868 he moved to Rockford, Iowa, where he again engaged in trade and began banking. He married for the first time and from this union was born one child in 1871, a daughter named Minnie. Little is known of Amos's first wife, only that she died in Iowa.

Amos moved to Hillsboro, North Dakota, where he again engaged in banking. Amos and Mr. A. L. Hanson established the Hillsboro Bank in 1881 and converted it into the National Bank of Hillsboro in 1886. Also in 1881, Amos hired builders to construct the Plummer House hotel, a

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Section number 8 Page 9

**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota**

Statement of Significance (continued)

large establishment with a regional reputation. In July of 1892, there were 450 registered guests registered at the Plummer House hotel. A fire destroyed the hotel on March 25, 1901. Amos also operated a general store, and he and Mr. S. W. Woodhull established the law firm of Plummer and Woodhull. Interestingly, there is no evidence that Amos practiced law or earned a law degree. Amos also farmed three sections of land at Clifford, North Dakota, on the west edge of Traill County. In 1894, he was elected the ninth mayor of Hillsboro, and served the city for a second term beginning in 1903.

On October 29, 1886, Amos married a second time, the bride of his later life and twenty-four years his junior. She was Lillie Wilson, born in 1860 in Portage, Wisconsin. They had no children together. Trained as a business woman, Lillie kept meticulous records, typing her letters on carbon and binding them into a volume, and recording pertinent facts about their lives; she also listed every book in the library and every piece of furniture that was in each room of the Plummer House. These records are located in the archives of the Traill County Historical Society.

In 1897, the house, costing just under \$10,000 to build, was completed. The brick house cost just under \$10,000 to build. The bricks used in the construction were fired in the brickyard kiln in Hillsboro. The brickyard was located along the Goose River, where high quality clay and a good supply of water were accessible. This was the key to success of the company. In its first year in 1896, it had nearly 100,000 bricks ready for the kiln. By 1910, the company was making as many as 2,000,000 bricks per season and by 1919, 30,000 per day. The bricks were used in a variety of buildings in Hillsboro including the John E. Paulson block, the telephone building, and the interior of the Traill County Courthouse. The brickyard was known for a time as the Hillsboro Brick and Tile Company. Later it was sold c. 1923 to the Grand Forks Brick Company and the buildings were dismantled.

The stained glass windows for the Plummer House were shipped in from New Orleans, and the tile in the fireplace was imported from Italy. Exquisitely carved grillwork was installed in the parlors. Except for the kitchen, oak and walnut woodwork was used throughout the house. Standing seam copper roofing was part of the original exterior. It was removed in 1940 and replaced with asphalt shingles.

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**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota**

Statement of Significance (continued)

In 1903, reportedly after enjoying a lutefisk dinner at one of the churches, Amos returned to his office and died suddenly, presumably of a heart attack. After his death, Lillie continued operating the First National Bank. Later in 1911, while traveling by train to oversee her land holdings, Lillie suddenly became ill and died. In 1912, Lillie's brother, Frank Wilson, purchased the house and surrounding lots for \$2,250 from six other heirs. Frank Wilson lived there with his family until 1937 when he died and left sole ownership to his wife Marian. Mrs. Wilson leased some of the rooms while living in an apartment on the second floor. A sign on the front lawn read "Wilson's Wayside Inn."

In 1945 Marian Wilson sold the house, 12 lots, and portions of two other lots, to Harry M. Anderson for \$4,100.00. Through the next twenty years, a succession of four different owners used the house as an apartment building, installing temporary walls and improvising kitchens to create separate units. Fortunately, the alterations did not harm the woodwork, doors, stained glass windows, wooden grillwork, or fireplace. All remained intact and virtually unmarred, preserving the historic character of the interior.

In 1965, the local chapter of the Daughters of the Pioneers, sensing the eventual dereliction of this property, approached William C. Meline of Hillsboro, the most recent owner, with the intent of purchasing it. He generously gave them the house and lots 19, 20, 21, 22, and five feet of lot 18, his only stipulation being that they make a final payment of \$780.00. Without sufficient funds to undertake the home's restoration, the Daughters of the Pioneers gave the property to the Goose River Historical Society, which was dissolved and reestablished as the Traill County Historical Society. In October of 1965, this newly formed society was judged eligible to become the first county historical society formed under the by-laws of the state. This approval meant that it could receive a one-quarter mill levy for the support of a museum. Members agreed that the Plummer house should become a museum.

Plans were made to restore the house. Fortunately, volunteers found the architect's original blueprints in Lillie's extensive records in the attic. The plans proved to be invaluable guidelines. Using the plans, volunteers removed the apartment partitions, extra kitchens and baths. Society

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 11

**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota**

Statement of Significance (continued)

members located furniture similar to those in Lillie's notes and decorated the rooms. Only one dining room chair remains of the Plummer's personal possessions. The Grand Opening of the museum was held in May of 1967. In 1968 the furnace was replaced, and a year later the house was resingled and new storm windows were installed. The house was completely rewired in 1972. In the early 1980s, the work was concentrated on the first floor to bring it back to its original appearance. In 1992, using the original blueprints, skilled contractors recreated the wrap-around porch.

The museum has served Hillsboro and Traill County since 1965, offering a place for community gatherings, fundraisers, educational tours, and research. The museum has collected visitors' names in old ledger books since 1965. The roster includes addresses from all 50 states and many foreign countries. Hillsboro is indeed fortunate to have the Amos L. and Lillie Plummer House. It is a source of pride to local residents, a center for commemorative functions, a popular tourist attraction, and an educational place for the local schools to tour.

The period of significance of the nominated property does not extend beyond its date of construction in 1897.

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**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota**

Bibliography

Abstract of Title No. 4931 to Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24; the east 15 feet of Lot 7, and the east 5 feet of Lot 18 in Block 2 of White's First Addition to Hill City, now called the City of Hillsboro. Traill County Historical Society Museum.

Abstract of Title No. 5794 to Lots 23 and 24 of Block 2 of White's First Addition to Hill City, now called the City of Hillsboro. Traill County Historical Society Museum.

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**Amos and Lillie Plummer House
Traill County, North Dakota**

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property includes the house and land that occupies the east five (5) feet of lot 18 and all of lots 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24 of Block 2 of White's First Addition to the City of Hillsboro in Traill County, North Dakota. The boundaries used in this nomination are those legally accepted by the Traill County Courthouse in Hillsboro, North Dakota.

Boundary Justification

The house is located near the center of the nominated property and land in these lots is historically associated with the property.