

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 26 1977
DATE ENTERED JUL 15 1977

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

Andres O. Ness House

AND/OR COMMON

Hatton Eielson Museum (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Oak Avenue at Sixth Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Hatton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

North Dakota

CODE
38

COUNTY
Traill

CODE
097

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

__DISTRICT

__PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

__AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

__UNOCCUPIED

__COMMERCIAL

__PARK

__STRUCTURE

__BOTH

__WORK IN PROGRESS

__EDUCATIONAL

__PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

__ENTERTAINMENT

__RELIGIOUS

__OBJECT

__IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

__GOVERNMENT

__SCIENTIFIC

__BEING CONSIDERED

__YES: UNRESTRICTED

__INDUSTRIAL

__TRANSPORTATION

__NO

__MILITARY

__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Hatton Eielson Museum and Historical Association

STREET & NUMBER

Oak Avenue at Sixth Street

CITY, TOWN

Hatton

VICINITY OF

STATE

North Dakota 58240

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Traill County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Post Office Box 148

CITY, TOWN

Hillsboro

STATE

North Dakota 58045

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

North Dakota Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1976

__FEDERAL STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
State Historical Society of North Dakota
Liberty Memorial Building

CITY, TOWN

Bismarck

STATE

North Dakota 58505

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR
 DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The former Ness property on the west corner of Oak Avenue at Sixth Street in Hatton occupies a 116 by 150-foot lot planted in grass and shaded by two large weeping birches and a maple tree. An iron fence encloses the lot on the northeast and southeast, and a flagpole rises above a museum dedicatory monument in the southeast yard. The buildings on the site are a residence, a carriage house, and a privy, all of which are constructed from concrete blocks. Their neutral-colored walls form a striking contrast to maroon-colored structural trim (quoins, water table, belt course, sills, and lintels) made from concrete blocks to which ochre was added. The carriage house is located in the west corner of the lot and will eventually hold a collection of early vehicles. It has a gabled roof, the ridge of which is straddled by a louvered cupola with bellcast roof and finial. The mow door on the facade is protected by a pediment on the roof slope above, and below are a doorway and a carriage entrance. Immediately southeast of the carriage house is the privy with its 4-panel door and pyramidal roof. Both outbuildings are connected to the house by concrete walkways.

Including its porches, the 2½-story house measures 36½ by 45 feet and has a native stone foundation with partially exposed basement. The hipped roof (which with those of the carriage house and the privy was covered with asphalt shingles in the summer of 1976) carries on each slope a large gabled dormer with stained-glass window and shingled pediment. An iron balustrade encloses a roof deck which is pierced by a pair of chimneys. Extending the full length of the facade (northeast) and the southeast elevation is a wraparound porch anchored at the corner by a polygonal tower with conical roof, topped by a finial. The roof of the porch, as well as that of the small portico sheltering the rear (southwest) entrance, is supported by Ionic-type wooden columns on concrete-block pedestals. Carved Academic Revival motifs (ribboned wreaths and swags) embellish the panels of the 1-light front door, flanked on the right by a small rectangular stained-glass window, corresponding to the stairhall inside, and on the left by a triple window with stained-glass transom which illuminates the parlor.

In addition to stairhall and parlor, the first-floor interior of the house consists of reception room, dining room, bedroom (now an office), kitchen, service stairway, and bath (originally a pantry). The second floor contains a hallway, five bedrooms, and a former closet converted to a bath. The corner blocks of head casings for doors and windows on the second floor are carved in a tulip pattern, rendering those openings more ornate than their counterparts on the first floor, which have the more usual cornice headings. Floors are maple, and originally all walls and ceilings were plastered, although during recent repair work, wallpaper and acoustical ceiling tile were applied in some rooms. At the same time, a new furnace was installed in the basement (the original heating system was steam and there are no mantelpieces in the house). Deep baseboards and molded cornices are found throughout, and there is a plate rail in the dining room. The principal stairway, a half-turn type with landings, has a particularly fine balustrade (spool-shaped turnings on balusters placed three to a tread).

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1908 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Andres O. Ness (Builder)
Ed Coltom (Contractor)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The ensemble of concrete-block residence, carriage house, and privy which comprise the former Ness property in Hatton is a stylish demonstration of a local structural technology of the period. It reflects the taste of a successful farmer and merchant who emerged from the influx of Scandinavian immigrants who settled the area in the closing decades of the nineteenth century.

Andres O. Ness (1850-1913) was a native of Ness, Hallingdal, Norway. One of twelve children of Ole and Hjertrude Ness, he came to Rice County, Iowa, in 1868 and also lived at one time in Highlandville, Iowa. He later worked on steamboats in the southern states and as a hired hand in the cotton fields of Tennessee and Louisiana. Ness eventually homesteaded about three miles southeast of Hatton and operated a large grain farm prior to moving to town and entering the mercantile business. In 1884 he had married Ragnhild Enrud (1852-1921), born in Iggidahl, Norway, and they had one child, Julia (1886-1957), educated in the Hatton schools and at the Lutheran Ladies' Seminary in Red Wing, Minnesota, and Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota.

In 1900 Ness purchased lot 4, block 27, townsite of Hatton, for \$115, and about eight years later erected a house and outbuildings on the site. The contractor was Ed Coltom, remembered locally as having drawn up his own plans and specifications for projects on which he was employed, but it is not known if he was responsible for the design of the Ness buildings. Fritz Holter and Lars Bjertness were two craftsmen working with Coltom, and the concrete blocks used were manufactured at the Hatton Concrete Company, owned by Gilbert C. Ness, a relative of Andres O. Ness. (The firm is still operated by Gilbert C. Ness' descendants under the name Ness Lumber Company.) The blocks were made from a mixture of cement and gravel which was poured into forms pierced by a cylinder, packed, and dried. Andres O. Ness also built a concrete-block general store next door to his residence, to the southeast across Sixth Street. Groceries and dry goods were sold on the first floor and there were several apartments on the second floor. The building was demolished in the fall of 1958 and replaced by a dwelling.

After Andres O. Ness' death, his wife, his daughter, and his son-in-law, Helmer P. Thompson (who had married Julia Ness in 1911) continued to occupy the family home, and Mr. and Mrs. Thompson operated the store. They had no children, and two years after Mrs. Thompson's death in 1957, the Ness residential property was purchased by Mrs. Louise Stavens Awes for \$2300. In 1974 it was lost to the city of Hatton for taxes and

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Larson, Mrs. Arne (niece of Andres O. Ness). Hatton. Telephone interview, November 15, 1976.
 Lynch, Mrs. Lillian. President, Hatton Eielson Museum and Historical Association. Personal interview and files of association, November 5, 1976.
 Maddox, Dawn. Personal inspection, June 18 and November 5, 1976.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	4	6	1	5	5	1	0	5	2	7	6	9	1	5
ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

B

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING							

C

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING							

D

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING							

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Dawn Maddox, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

State Historical Society of North Dakota

DATE

December 28, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Liberty Memorial Building

TELEPHONE

(701)224-2666

CITY OR TOWN

Bismarck

STATE

North Dakota 58505

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

James E. Henry

TITLE

N.D. State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

January 14, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

2/15/77

DATE

6-1-77

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 26 1977

DATE ENTERED JUL 15 1977

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

in 1975 conveyed to the Hatton Eielson Museum and Historical Association, formed in 1973. The acquisition was made because the association (1) recognized the intrinsic significance of the property, both historically and architecturally; and (2) required an appropriate setting for its collection of artifacts depicting local history.

After years of nonoccupancy, the house and its outbuildings were the object of an intensive refurbishing in the spring and summer of 1976. Designated one of Hatton's Bicentennial projects, the museum complex received a matching \$5000 grant from the federal Bicentennial Commission and was officially opened to the public on July 4, 1976. The formal rooms of the house are furnished to type to reflect the era of construction. Additional exhibits include memorabilia of Colonel Carl Benjamin Eielson (1897-1929), famed Arctic and Antarctic aviator for whom the museum is named (and whose Hatton home is a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places). A room is also dedicated to the memory of Dr. A.A. Kjelland, who served the Hatton vicinity as physician for forty years.