

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**



1392

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 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. 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 Stavig, Andrew & Mary, House

other names/site number Stavig House Museum

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 112 First Avenue West not for publication n/a
city or town Sisseton vicinity n/a
state South Dakota code SD county Roberts code 109 zip code 57262

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jay D. Vogt 10-07-97
Signature of certifying official Date

State or 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 commenting or other official Date

name of property Stavig, Andrew & Mary, House county and state Roberts, South Dakota

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Edson H. Beal 11/7/97

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 Keeper Date
of Action

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

name of property Stavig, Andrew & Mary, House county and state Roberts, South Dakota

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Two columns of horizontal lines for entering historic functions.

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation and Culture Sub: Museum

Two columns of horizontal lines for entering current functions.

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian, Queen Anne

Two horizontal lines for additional architectural classification.

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete Block

roof Shingles

walls Clapboard

other

Two horizontal lines for additional materials.

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

name of property Stavig, Andrew & Mary, House county and state Roberts, South Dakota

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.
X B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
X 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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or a 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Ethnic Heritage/Scandinavian

Period of Significance 1916-1947

name of property Stavig, Andrew & Mary, House county and state Roberts, South Dakota

Significant Dates 1916

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Stavig, Andrew

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Arndt and Hilman Rice/Builders

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository South Dakota State Historical Society, Pierre, SD

name of property Stavig, Andrew & Mary, House county and state Roberts, South Dakota

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1	<u>14</u>	<u>651725</u>	<u>5058044</u>	3
2	_____	_____	4	_____
	_____ 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 Kay F. Nikolas, Yvonne Hippen, and Michelle C. Saxman-Rogers SHPO Staff
 organization Heritage Museum of Roberts County; Sisseton HPC date February 24, 1997
 street & number P.O. Box 302 telephone (605)698-3401
 city or town Sisseton state SD zip code 57262

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)

name of property Stavig, Andrew & Mary, House county and state Roberts, South Dakota

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name/title Heritage Museum of Roberts County, INC

street & number P O Box 215

telephone

city or town Sisseton

state SD

zip code 57242

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Description

The Andrew and Mary Stavig House is a spacious and elegant Victorian - Queen Anne style home built by Scandinavian carpenters and craftsmen Arndt Rice and Hilman Rice in 1916 for the Andrew Stavig family in Sisseton. It is located in a residential neighborhood in which the homes for the brothers/business partners of Andrew Stavig were built during the early 20th century. The general appearance of the home is one of symmetry and unity, which is reflected in the balanced design of the north and south elevations.

The exterior and interior still reflects the family's tastes and style of 1916. The house has a platform frame construction resting on a rusticated concrete block foundation. It is two-and-one-half stories, with narrow white clapboard. The home has a high pitched hipped roof with four lower cross gables and a tower. The chimney is corbelled brick in a tulip design. Two story bay windows are found on both the North and the south sides of the house.

The East (facade) elevation which is the main entrance to the house contains a wraparound porch, a tower, and a cross gable. The cross gable has a Palladian type window and sunburst gable detailing. The tower is located at the far northeast corner of the building. On the first story, the tower is interrupted by the porch and on the second story by the band of roof. Designed to reflect the appearance of an octagonal-shaped tower, in reality half of the tower on each floor is actually incorporated into the main structure of the house. It features four twelve-over-one double hung sash windows on the first and third level. The second level of the tower contains four one-over-one double hung sash windows. A ribbon of three one-over-one windows, a diamond window, and a single one-over-one window is also featured on the second level. The east elevation entrance is through a glazed door with eight light sidelights. A triple window is located on the first level at the south end of the porch featuring a cottage window with leaded bevel plate. The front porch features Doric columns. There is a sunburst design found in the pediment over the front porch which is repeated in the third floor gable.

The north elevation contains a two story canted bay, and a cross gable. The cross gable features a Palladian type window and a sunburst gable detailing. The second level of the bay has a single one-over-one window, a cottage window with leaded bevel glass, and a single one-over-one window. The second level of the north elevation also features a pair of one-over-one windows. The first level of the bay contains a single eighteen-over-one window with leaded bevel plate, a single one-over-one window to the left and right of the bay. The north elevation also contains three cellar windows. There are single panel small windows in the back stair wells.

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The west elevation also contains a cross gable with a Palladian type window and sunburst gable detailing. The second floor features a single one-over-one window, and a ribbon of four twelve-over-one windows. The first floor has an outside entrance to the basement, a ribbon of three one-over-one windows, and a single leaded glass window. This elevation also features two cellar windows.

The south elevation is dominated by the bay shaped two stories canted bay window. The unit has a fixed eighteen-over-one leaded bevel glass in the center window, and has single one-over-one double hung sash windows on each side. This feature is repeated again on the second floor. Also found on this side of the house are single one-over-one double hung sash windows, two on the first floor and two on the second floor.

The southwest corner of the house features a sun porch, with a walk-out balcony on the second floor. Overlooking the sun porch on the second level are two single twelve-over-one double hung sash windows. Access to the sun porch is through a door located in the rear sun room.

INTERIOR

Hardwood floors throughout the house feature interesting patterns. The floors were not sanded, but scraped with a homemade tool consisting of a sturdy handle and a sharp glass edge. Walls are of plaster throughout the house. Pictures were hung from the picture rail that runs along the ceiling. The house is heated with hot water that circulates through radiators in each room. All of the oak wood work is original to the house.

The east entry to the home is enclosed with double doors with beveled glass. This entry goes into the reception hall. The reception hall features window seats and multi-paned twelve-over-one upper windows. The open stairway features a special banister with thumb rails on each side. There is a front hall closet built under the stairs with a beveled glass mirror. During the building process, part of the banister rail was installed backward with the thumb groove on the wrong side. Arndt Rice, the builder, corrected this by cutting a second thumb groove on the correct side of the banister.

The front parlor and reception hall are separated by wood colonnades with bookcase doors having leaded glass inserts. Wood colonnades divide the front and back parlors on the south side of the first floor, with bookcase doors having leaded glass inserts. Ornate curtain and drapery rods in the rooms are original to the house.

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The back parlor has the bay shaped window with fixed eighteen-over-one window units. The back parlor also features a fireplace with tile surround, matched with expert craftsmanship. An antique thermostat control appears on the north wall of the back parlor. The electrical switch for the overhead light is original.

The dining room is separated from the back parlor by a one-piece pocket door. There is a built-in china cupboard on the west wall. The dining room has a beamed ceiling and a plate rail with two grooves for displaying dishes. A dumbwaiter on the east wall to the basement is run on pulleys and ropes.

There are no cupboards in the kitchen. It is located on the west end of the building. There is a storage area in a pantry to the North of the kitchen. The kitchen was updated to the 1950s. A small sewing room is found off the south end of the kitchen with a door also leading to the back parlor. Behind the kitchen pantry is a small, secret room which provides access to water pipes, the laundry chute and originally had a water reservoir tank connected to the cook stove. The back stairways off the kitchen lead to the second and third floors as well as to the basement where laundry room, fruit cellar room, coal room and furnace room are found.

The second floor has five bedrooms and a bathroom. All bedrooms have closets, some with beveled mirrors on the door. The southeast bedroom closet has the diamond shaped window visible from the front walk. The rooms are wired for electricity for overhead lights, but there are no wall outlets. Transoms are featured above all the doors to provide ventilation to the rooms.

The northeast or tower room was designed as a library. The master bedroom on the south side has a design in the wood floor which complements the bay windows. The back, south bedroom has the walk-out balcony which was used by the maids to shake rugs. The remaining bedrooms are found in the southeast and on the north.

The hallway has a built in linen closet of doors and drawers. The bathroom remains in the original condition except for an updated sink and stool. A laundry chute to the basement is found in the bathroom.

The third floor has a landing area and four spacious bedrooms. Electric lights, heat radiators and closets in each room as well as a laundry chute made the third floor available for guests, newly arrived immigrants and clerks who worked at the Stavig Brothers Store. The quality of the materials

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and workmanship throughout the house suggest that the home was created to be a home, and not just a showcase for the rising merchant class in Sisseton.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Stavig House is significant under criterion C for architecture. The house is an excellent example of a Late Victorian style house. The building is a well-preserved example of Queen Anne house in a rural community. It has had no exterior alteration and only the kitchen on the interior has been altered since the building was constructed in 1916.

The Andrew and Mary Stavig House is also locally significant under criterion B, for significant person, concerning Andrew Stavig. Andrew Stavig contributed to the development of Sisseton through his development of and prosperity in The Stavig's Brothers Store. Mr. Stavig influence the development of Sisseton by bringing immigrants over from Norway to work in his store and live in his house. The community of Sisseton grew as store prospered and more immigrants came to the area. The Stavig House relates to the South Dakota State Context in the area of Permanent Urban and Rural Pioneer Settlement from 1860-1930, under Ethnic Heritage.

Historical background and significance:

The Stavig House is located in Sisseton in the northeastern part of South Dakota. The surrounding area is dotted with glacial lakes, and is characterized by a lowland farming region to the east and the Coteau des Prairies (or "hills of the prairies") to the west. Sisseton is the county seat of Roberts County and the center of the surrounding trade area.

While the Coteau des Prairies region was explored as early as the 1830's by French mapmaker Joseph N. Nicollet, treaties in 1851 and 1867 by the United States government with the Dakota tribes who lived in the area effectively limited Euro-American settlement in the immediate area until 1892. In 1892, after each Native American selected his or her allotment of land on the reservation, the balance of the Lake Traverse Reservation was terminated and the remaining land ceded and sold to the U.S. Government to be opened for homesteading. At noon on Friday, April 15, 1892, the reservation was officially opened to homesteaders and the town of Sisseton was founded.

Andrew Stavig immigrated in 1876 with his parents, Lars and Maren Stavig, and his brothers Hans and Magnus, from Norway to what would become northeastern South Dakota. The Stavigs were part of the huge wave of immigration to this country between 1825 and 1925, when some

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800,000 immigrants arrived in this country. Andrew Stavig, following a pattern set by his father Lars, exchanged personal letters for a half century with relatives who had remained in Norway. This correspondence which covers a period from the 1870's to the 1930's survives to this day and has been translated into English. These letters provide a first person insight into the immigration experience.

From his youth, Andrew Stavig was involved in merchandising, raising and selling watermelons to soldiers at Fort Sisseton, an Army outpost some twenty-five miles from what would become the town of Sisseton. Andrew completed his high school education in Webster, South Dakota. He clerked in stores in Webster and in Wist, South Dakota, earning money to attend Willmar Seminary in Willmar, Minnesota. At the seminary, Andrew took commercial courses. Thereafter, he returned to South Dakota and sold household goods door to door in neighboring Day County.

In 1896, Andrew Stavig went into business on the main street of the young town of Sisseton with M. L. Sateren selling food and general merchandise in a typical store of its time. Andrew and his new bride, Mary, lived in the back of the store. It was not uncommon for Andrew to gather up some supplies in his wagon and drive out to the countryside to peddle goods to the new homesteaders.

By 1898, Andrew Stavig had bought out his partner M. L. Sateren and purchased three buildings in Sisseton. Andrew went into partnership with his two brothers, Hans and Magnus, thus beginning the partnership of the three Stavigs and the Stavig Brothers Store. The store was also known as "Koska Mazopiya" by the Indian people, meaning "Younger Brother's Store." In 1898, Stavig Brothers Store did the largest volume of business of any store in Roberts County. The store continued to grow and by the 1930s, the Stavig's Brothers, Inc. was the largest retail business between Minneapolis and Denver. Nearly every family in Sisseton has had a family member employed at Stavig Brothers store at some time during the store's 100 year history.

The Andrew Stavig House was closely connected to the Store. Early on, many of the clerks at the store were immigrants, mainly from Norway, but from other European countries as well. Until they were able to find and afford accommodations of their own, many clerks resided at the house, occupying the third floor with others, including persons hired to assist Mary Stavig with the care of the home. Andrew often brought out of town customers home for a meal.

The Stavig House is an excellent example of a Queen Anne style house in a small community. Having lived behind his first store and in other, smaller dwellings with his family, Andrew decided to

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build a larger home for his family. His brothers Magnus and Hans had built Victorian style homes prior to 1916 and by 1916, it was Andrew's turn to build a larger family home.

The house remained in the Stavig family throughout its eighty year history. From 1916 until the late 1930's, the household included Andrew and Mary Stavig and their five children. The third floor of the Andrew Stavig house was known through the years to have housed many newly arrived immigrants, especially Norwegian immigrants, as well as clerks who worked at the store. Relatives also came and went, and on occasion a school teacher lived with them.

After the deaths of Andrew and Mary Stavig in 1935 and 1937, respectively, the home accommodated their sons and daughters returning from college to work at the Stavig Brothers Store, as well as their spouses and young children until they found homes of their own. One daughter, Mathilda, lived her entire life in the house. Mathilda died in 1994, leaving the house to the Heritage Museum of Roberts County. Significantly, the house has undergone no alterations. Mathilda chose not to modernize the house with the exception of the kitchen which reached the 1950's era. Everything else in the house remains the same as when it was built in 1916.

Bibliography

Norma Johnson and Oliver Swenumson, eds. Across the Years: History of Sisseton, South Dakota 1892-1992 (Watertown, SD: Interstate Publishing Co., 1992)

Norma Johnson, Wagon Wheels, Volume 5: Stavig Bros. Inc., 1986

E. Hogen, Stavig House Self-tour, pamphlet, 1996.

Verbal boundary description

Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, and Lots 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21, Block 103, Town of Sisseton, Roberts County, South Dakota

Verbal boundary justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the house.