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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Johnson, A. Einar, House

other names/site number CD-WT-N-130

2. Location

street & number 803 First Street Northwest

not for publication

city, town Watertown

vicinity

state South Dakota code SD county Codington

code SD 029 zip code 57201

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

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

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic Resources of the North End
Neighborhood, Watertown, SD

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official

11/16/88
Date

South Dakota SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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:)

Beth Roland

1/3/89

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and early 20th century

Movements/Craftsman

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Concrete

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Situated on a well-shaded corner lot in the heart of the North End Neighborhood, Watertown, South Dakota, the A. Einar Johnson House is a rectangular brick masonry dwelling with Craftsman and Prairie School influences. Rising two stories above a poured concrete foundation and basement, the house is capped by a clipped gable (or jerkin head) roof covered with asphalt shingles. Shed dormers light a shallow half-story attic. An brick chimney rises from the south gable end. A concrete belt course/water table wraps the exterior walls.

On the lower level of the front (east) facade, fenestration is asymmetrical. An entry door flanked by large casement sidelights projects slightly from the north end of that facade. The south half of the facade consists of a wide projecting bay window. The upper level of that street facade is appointed with symmetrical fenestration. On the south end of the house is a sun porch. On the north end is an attached garage with a lighted den above it. All windows, except those in dormers, are multi-paned casement units with unusual hardware. They are reminiscent of Craftsman traditions popular at the time of construction. On the front, facade windows are grouped in bands as prescribed by the Prairie School tradition.

The generally irregular floor plan is approximately two bays wide and two bays deep. A craftsman-influenced fireplace with an engraved design on the mantle is located in the living room. The interior walls of the den are lined with window-height built-in book cases. The kitchen features an original mosaic tile floor.

A small shed roof wooden rear entry is located on the north west corner of the house.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1925

Significant Dates

1925

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Codington County Historical Society

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A

1	4
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6	4	8	7	3	0
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4	9	7	4	4	9	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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 Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the property are contained within the legal description:
Lots 5 and 6, Block 8, Syndicate Addition, City of Watertown, Codington County, South Dakota.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the parcel that has historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sherry DeBoer, Consultant
 organization Codington County Historic Preservation Comm. date September 15, 1988
 street & number 27 First Avenue Southeast telephone 605-886-7335
 city or town Watertown state SD zip code 57201

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Under Criterion C of the National Register Criteria, the A. Einar Johnson House is significant in the area of architecture, because it is an unusual free form dwelling with stylistic influences from the Craftsman and Prairie School movements. Constructed in 1925, it is nearly unaltered from its original appearance and is one of the best examples of early 20th Century housing extant in the North End Neighborhood, Watertown, South Dakota. Under the South Dakota Historical Preservation Plan, the property relates to the following historic context: V. Depression and Rebuilding, A. Changing Urban Patterns, 3. Residential Changes.

According to deed transfers, A. Einar Johnson purchased this parcel of land in 1916 from H. F. W. Schaller. According to Johnson's daughter, Carmen Johnson Clark, the home was custom built in 1925, and the family occupied the house in 1926. Landscaping, and interior furnishings were provided by a Minneapolis firm. The architect and builders are unknown at this time. Johnson was a medical doctor specializing in eye, ear, nose, and throat practice at the Watertown Clinic.

The form of the house is unusual for the stylistic ornamentation it sports, but such inconsistency is common with early 20th Century free form houses. It displays excellent Craftsman details, foremost of which are the unique casement windows. Typical of its era, the design includes a well-lighted den and a sun porch. Windows on the front facade are banded in the Prairie School tradition. These fine craftsman details are repeated on the interior of the house with stylized woodwork, incised scrolling on the fireplace, and finely-crafted built-in cupboards. The attached garage also represents the impact the automobile was having on domestic architecture at the time of construction.

The period of significance for the nominated property does not extend beyond its date of construction in 1925.

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Assessor's Records. Codington County, South Dakota, County Assessor's Office.

Barker, E.M., Compiler. General and Business Directory of the City of Watertown. Watertown, SD: Public Opinion Job Rooms, 1901; Barker and Granger, 1903; n.p., 1904-1905; n.p., 1914-15.

Blumenson, John J.G., Identifying American Architecture: A Pictorial Guide to Styles and Terms, 1600-1945. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, Inc., 1981.

Deed Abstract. Relating to the Legal Description: Sydicate Additon, Block 8, Lots 5 and 6.

Deeds Records. Codington County, South Dakota, Register of Deeds Office.

Gottfried, Herbert, and Jan Jennings. American Vernacular Design: 1870 to 1940. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, 1985.

Hill, Harry L. Watertown City and Codington County Directory. Watertown, SD: Watertown Printing and Binding Company, 1916-1917.

Personal Interview by Sherry DeBoer with Mrs. Josephine Gray (former resident of Johnson House; correspondent with Carmen Johnson Clark) at Watertown, South Dakota, November 6, 1987.

Personal Interview by Sherry DeBoer with Mr. Peter Vinella (current owner of Johnson House) at Watertown, South Dakota, November 6, 1987.

Torma, Carolyn. A Field Guide to Historic Sites Survey in South Dakota. Rev.: Vermillion, SD: State Historical Preservation Center, 1986.

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Section number photos Page 1

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION

1.

A. Einar Johnson House

(Historic Resources of the North End Neighborhood, Watertown, SD)

803 First Street, N.W., Watertown, Codington County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1987

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

East facade, camera facing west

Photo No. 1

2.

A. Einar Johnson House

(Historic Resources of the North End Neighborhood, Watertown, SD)

803 First Street, N.W., Watertown, Codington County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1987

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

South and west facades, camera facing northeast

Photo No. 2

3.

A. Einar Johnson House

(Historic Resources of the North End Neighborhood, Watertown, SD)

803 First Street, N.W., Watertown, Codington County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1987

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

South and east facades, camera facing northwest

Photo No. 3

4.

A. Einar Johnson House

(Historic Resources of the North End Neighborhood, Watertown, SD)

803 First Street, N.W., Watertown, Codington County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1987

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

South facade, camera facing north

Photo No. 4

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5.

A. Einar Johnson House

(Historic Resources of the North End Neighborhood, Watertown, SD)

803 First Street, N.W., Watertown, Codington County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1987

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

West (rear) facade, camera facing southeast

Photo No. 5