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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Bergstrom, Magnus O. House

Other names/site number: Canton Historical Society House Museum

2. Location

Street & number: 415 S. Cedar

not for publication

City or town: Canton

vicinity

State: South Dakota Code: SD County: Lincoln Code: 083 Zip code: 57013

3. 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature and title 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 the Keeper

Date of Action

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:)

for Signature of the Keeper Entered in the National Register Date of Action
Gregory M. Rapsley 3/17/94

Bergstrom, Magnus O. House
Name of Property

Lincoln, SD
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	
<u>1</u>		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>		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)

OTHER/Folk Victorian

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation stone
walls brick
roof wood shingle
other _____

Narrative Description

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

Bergstrom, Magnus O. House
Name of Property

Lincoln, SD
County and State

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1882-1915

Significant Dates

1882

1884

1901

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Bergstrom, Magnus O.

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Canton Historical Society

Bergstrom, Magnus O. House
Name of Property

Lincoln, SD
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 114 169445010 47961180 2
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
3 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: Cornelis Havelaar, w/ tech assistance by Melissa Dirr, shpo staff
Organization: Canton Historical Society Date: November 1993
Street & Number: 606 Poplar Drive Telephone: (605) 987-2339
City or Town: Canton State: South Dakota Zip code: 57013

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: Canton Historical Society
Street & Number: 415 Cedar Telephone:
City or Town: Canton State: SD Zip code: 57013

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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National Park Service

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Narrative Description:

The Magnus O. Bergstrom House is located in a residential neighborhood in the small town of Canton, South Dakota. The two story brick building with common bond courses and a double side gable roof has been restored to its original historical condition. Built from 1882 to 1901 it typifies the Folk Victorian style of construction.

The Bergstrom House was built in three stages. In 1882 Magnus and his wife built the back two rooms or the second gable section of the house. This is the west portion of the building. As their family grew, having four daughters, they needed more room. So in 1884 he built the eastern most rooms, the parlor and the dining room. More detailed than the initial building phase, Bergstrom added a rectangular bay window and the detailed porch to his larger home. Built in 1901, the kitchen was constructed of whitewashed wood clapboards, and was the Bergstrom's final building phase. Located on the north side of the house the kitchen is immediately adjacent to the cellar doors.

The symmetrical main (east) facade, built in 1884, has a slightly sloping shed roofed porch with delicate square posts and lacey detailed brackets. The posts are the only ornaments on the porch. It does not have a railing or balusters. A single detailed wood door and screen door is centrally located with a single four over four double hung sash window on either side. The door retains the still working historic doorbell. A single small flush beadboard door is located directly above the main entrance with a single window on either side. Symmetrical three bay layouts, like this one, are typical in folk Victorian buildings.

A handicap access ramp directly adjacent to the front porch approaches the door that provided access to the original 1882 parlor. This recessed door area is ornamented with the same lacey brackets and porch supports as the main entrance. This entrance opens into the parlor which has a single story shed roof abutting the south facade. The rectangular bay window with its one over one double hung sashes located on the south facade is topped with one window unit located directly under the side gable.

Sometime during the 1940s a porch was grafted to the west facade. It collapsed and was removed in 1989; however, a ghost of its location remains visible on the brick. Three visible bays on this facade are the central gable end where the porch was once located and two shed roofed bays on either side. The northern end houses the kitchen and the southern end the parlor. Fenestration consists of one two over two window in the brick shed capped by a brick segmental arch, and two windows on the second floor. Wood clapboards sheath the kitchen addition. A back door exits from the central bay.

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Cellar doors are located near the kitchen addition on the north facade. One small window pane provides light to the kitchen and three larger four over four double hung sashes penetrate the brick portion. These windows are also capped with brick segmental arches.

Only two owners occupied the house during its private occupation. Once the Canton Historical Society purchased the building their goal was to return it to its original historic condition and retain it as a lasting legacy to the city. From 1989 when the Historical Society took possession to the Fall of 1992 when they had their ribbon cutting and open house much work was done to the building. The porch, added in the 1940s, collapsed and was removed. The front porch had been enclosed and was reopened. Ornamental brackets and posts were replaced or restored to their original appearance. Two layers of asphalt shingles were removed from the roof and new cedar shingles applied to replicate original roofing material. Historically two chimneys appeared on the ridgeline of the house. One along the ridgeline of the front gable (the 1884 section), and one along the ridgeline of the gable on the west facade (the 1882 section). These deteriorated chimneys were rebuilt by the Historical Society according to historic photographs. To return the building to its original appearance the electrical, water and heating systems were removed and the well and kitchen sink pump restored.

A barn was built on the southwest corner of the lot historically, but was torn down at an unknown date. The foundation is still present and plans are to one day rebuild this as well. Wood from the barn was used to construct a garage on the northwest section of the lot. Behind this historic barn was a three seater outhouse which also has since disappeared. However, a replica of the privy the family used is located behind the house. This was moved onto the lot after the historical society took possession. There is now also a wrought iron fence surrounding the front and sides of the house. This is not an exact replica of the historic fence, but is reminiscent of the style.

The interior remains in tact with many of the furnishings belonging to the Bergstrom family. All the dishes, pots and pans, and cookstove remain in the kitchen. Furnishings, such as rockers, desks, eyeglasses, dining table and chairs, and beds also remain. The only modification remaining is a bathroom in one of the second story bedrooms. This is an awkward layout with a stool and sink along one wall divided from the room only by a curtain. Overall the Magnus O. Bergstrom House retains a high degree of historic integrity, and is an excellent example of Folk Victorian architecture.

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Narrative Statement of Significance:

The Magnus O. Bergstrom House is locally significant under criterion B and criterion C. It is an excellent example of the Folk Victorian building style unadulterated by modern conveniences. It is also significant locally for its association with Magnus O. Bergstrom, a Norwegian immigrant who established himself as a pioneer citizen in Canton through his plow company that modernized and made more convenient turn of the century farming in southeastern South Dakota. Under the South Dakota Historic Preservation Plan the Bergstrom House relates to the context labelled IV. Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement (1858-Present), D. Urban Development, 2. Residential Living (1858-1899).

Presently the city of Canton is considered a bedroom community of Sioux Falls, the largest city in South Dakota. However, settlement in the city of Canton began in 1861 with a small log-front fur trade dugout. Permanent settlement did not commence until 1866 with immigrants from Missouri. In 1867 the Territorial Legislature organized Lincoln County with Canton as the county seat. Soon after this, the population doubled when in June of 1868 twenty-three Norwegian immigrant families camped in the center square of town until they could build sod or log houses on their homesteads. These families provided the ethnic base for the city which retains that strong tie today. The railroad came through Lincoln County in 1880 and directly through Canton. By this time the government opened approximately 24,000,000 acres of land to homesteaders. This was the Great Dakota Boom from 1878-1890.

It was during this time that Magnus O. Bergstrom immigrated to this country and to South Dakota. Born in 1844 in Christiania, Norway, Bergstrom had a desire to own land so he came to America. After brief periods in Minnesota and Iowa he arrived Canton to start his family and revolutionize farming techniques. In the early 1880s Magnus bought property on South Cedar, built his home and opened a blacksmith shop. This occupied his professional career until 1900 when he opened the Bergstrom Plow Company. Within a year his plow company was flourishing and he made 300 plows in 1901 alone. The company employed 8 men and continued to prosper. He focused on modernizing unsatisfactory farm equipment used in the area and patented two of his plows and a corn shovel.

By 1914 there were 14 people at the Plow Company and besides making a variety of plows they were also producing harrows, cultivators, and other farm equipment and parts. This prosperous chapter in Canton's history and in Bergstrom's life came to an end in 1915 when a dispersal sale of all the property and equipment of the Bergstrom Plow Company commenced. Magnus survived his declining years in the house blind and sickly until he died in June 1926.

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The house he left as his legacy remains an excellent example of Folk Victorian architecture and a monument to him and his family. It retains a high degree of historic integrity and typifies a building style common among immigrant farmers in the area. The basic symmetrical design of the main building provide the family with uncomplicated massing that was easily ornamented through detailed porches and wood work.

The care taken in restoring this house to its historic function and appearance has been great. It represents a time period that is not often available in such pristine condition for exposure to the general public. The period of significance ranges from 1882, the commencement date for construction, to 1915 when Magnus Bergstrom closed his plow company and retired.

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Bibliography:

Lincoln County Tax Assessor Cards

Oral Interview by Rolene Schliesmann with Don Pottratz, President, Canton Historical Society. August 31, 1992.

Oral Interview by Melissa A. Dirr with Cornelis Havelaar, November 1993.

The History of Lincoln County, South Dakota. Canton, SD Lincoln County History Commission, 1985.

Schell, Herbert S. History of South Dakota. Revised edition. Lincoln, Nebraska, University of Nebraska Press, 1975.

Sioux Valley News. Obituary July 1, 1926.

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Verbal Boundary Description:

The legal description of the property at 415 South Cedar is section 23 township 98N range 49N lots 4, 5 block 32 of the Hills addition.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary of the nominated property includes the lot historically associated with the Bergstrom House.

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Section number photos

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1.

Magnus O. Bergstrom House
Lincoln County, SD
photo by: Melissa A. Dirr, SHPO staff
November 1993
State Historical Preservation Center
View of east facade, camera facing west
No. 1

2.

Magnus O. Bergstrom House
Lincoln County, SD
photo by: Melissa A. Dirr, SHPO staff
November 1993
State Historical Preservation Center
View of southeast facade, camera facing northwest
No. 2

3.

Magnus O. Bergstrom House
Lincoln County, SD
photo by: Melissa A. Dirr, SHPO staff
November 1993
State Historical Preservation Center
View of northwest facade, camera facing southeast
No. 3

4.

Magnus O. Bergstrom House
Lincoln County, SD
photo by: Melissa A. Dirr, SHPO staff
November 1993
State Historical Preservation Center
View of southwest facade, camera facing northeast
No. 4