United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form

For NPS use only JUL 2 | 1983 received date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

L.D Miller Funeral Home historic and/or common Miller Funeral Home 2. Location street & number 507 South Main Ave. NA__ not for publication NA vicinity of Sioux Falls city, town South Dakota state code 46 county Minnehaha 099 code Classification 3. **Ownership** Status **Present Use** Category <u>X</u> occupied _ district _ public agriculture museum X building(s) <u>X</u> private Х park unoccupied _ commercial ____ structure both _ work in progress educational private residence **Public Acquisition** Accessible entertainment _ site religious __ object <u>NA</u> in process X yes: restricted government scientific _ yes: unrestricted being considered industrial transportation no military other: 4. **Owner of Property** Roger Nordstrom, Ken Koball, Kent Morstad name street & number 123 S. Duluth, 2525 Old Orchard Trail, 1604 S. 4th NA_vicinity of Sioux Falls state city, town SD **Location of Legal Description** 5. courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Minnehaha County Courthouse 415 N. Dakota street & number Sioux Falls state city, town SD **Representation in Existing Surveys** 6, yes <u>X</u> no has this property been determined eligible? title Sioux Falls Historic Sites Survey 1982 federal <u>X</u> state <u>county</u> local date depository for survey records

Historical Preservation Center

Vermillion city, town

state

SD

7. Description

Condition X excellent good ()	deteriorated	Check one unaltered X altered	Check one X original s moved	ite date
Ian		slightly		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Rectangular in shape and measuring 81 by 220 feet, the L.D. Miller Funeral Home is a distinctive architectural feature in downtown Sioux Falls. The building is constructed of masonry and brick and veneered with a white stucco. Two stories in height, the building has a ceramic tile mansard roof and exaggerated Spanish Colonial details.

Composed in three units with a projecting central portico, the front facade has round head arched windows on the first floor, and 8/8 pane double-hung, sash windows on the second. The frieze has panels outlined in red between the paired brackets. The rear has a more recent one-story loading area and a large, industrial smoke stack.

The basement holds the boiler, while the main floor provides the public spaces. In the center is a chapel with a stained glass skylight. A showroom, lounge, layout rooms and loading area flank the chapel. The second story contains 3 full apartments and the embalming rooms.

The Spanish Colonial motifs are carried to the interior in the metal work light fixtures and arched entranceways.

8. Significance



Specific dates	1923	Builder/Architect	Perkins	& McWayr	ne,	Architects,	Sioux Falls
Statement of Sign	ficance (in one	paragraph)	Carlson		-	eral contrac x Falls, SD	•

The L.D. Miller Funeral Home is the single early example of an architect-designed building constructed as a funeral home and is therefore significant in the areas of architecture and local business. The nature of this business required a large ground floor space, and the firm of Perkins & McWayne created a building which provided not only an attractive commercial image but a pleasant and well-designed structure. The bold details and general assurance of the design suited the commission admirably.

In 1902 (1903 by a second source), the Miller Funeral Home came into existance when Lee D. Miller began a funeral home and livery barn business on S. Main Avenue. He moved his business to 507 S. Main and in later years the Miller business merged with Joseph Nelson and the Burnside Funeral Home. In 1923 he commissioned the Sioux Falls firm of Perkins & McWayne to design a new and large facility. Mrs. Miller, the first licensed lady embalmer in the state, served as an assistant to her husband.

Perkins & McWayne was one of the major architectural firms in the state from 1920-1950. Formed as a partnership between Robert Perkins and Albert McWayne in 1918, The firm designed many landmark buildings. Among their commissions were the Codington County 1929, and Douglas County, 1927, Courthouses. Perkins also became active as a designer and developer of the exclusive Riverview Heights suburb in the 1920s. This building was a somewhat out of the ordinary commission, which the firm seemed to handle with both pleasure and skill.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Charles A. Smith, <u>A Comprehensive History of Minnehaha County, South Dakota</u>, Educational Supply Co.: Mitchell, SD, 1949: 296-297. South Dakota Index on the Built Environment, Perkins & McWayne file, Historical Preservation Center, Vermillion, SD

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property <u>.725 acres</u> Quadrangle name <u>Sioux Falls East</u> UTM References	Quadrangle scale <u>1:24</u> 000			
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Verbal boundary description and justification

The lot lines of the property form the boundaries of the site, which is located in lots 10-12, Block 16 of the Gales Addition to the City of Sioux Falls.

	r properties over	rlapping state or co	ounty boundaries
state _{NA}	code	county	code
state	code	county	códe
11. Form Prepa	ared By		·
name/title Gary Maassen, B	Business Manag	er technical	editing: Carolyn Torma
organization Miller Funera	1 Home	da	ate 2 May 83
street & number 517 S. Mai	n	te	elephone 605-336-2640
city or town Sioux Falls		st	tate SD
12 State Histo	ric Dros	ervation	Officer Certification
national As the designated State Historic Pr 665), I hereby nominate this proper according to the criteria and proce	state reservation Officer rty for inclusion in dures set forth by	for the National Histor the National Register	and certify that it has been evaluated rvice.
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Continuation sheet

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Interview,	Alven S.	Iverson,	former	owner
Interview,	Charles	Schroyer,	former	employee

Item number

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