

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received AUG 24 1987

date entered

SEP 25 1987

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

1. Name

historic Jensen, Governor Leslie, House

and/or common The Jensen House, or Christian Jensen House

2. Location

street & number 309 South Fifth Street

___ not for publication

city, town Hot Springs

___ vicinity of

state South Dakota

code 046

county Fall River

code 047

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Gene E. and Gloria J. Dillon

street & number 1123 Ninth Street

city, town Rapid City

___ vicinity of

state South Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Fall River County Courthouse

street & number River Street

city, town Hot Springs

state South Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title NA

has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes no

date

___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

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

See Continuation Sheets

United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1 Governor Leslie Jensen House

The Jensen House is a simplified vernacular Queen Anne cottage constructed of brick masonry. The nomination of this property includes two contributing buildings: the house and a carriage house.

Situated at the east-central edge of Hot Springs, in the southern Black Hills of South Dakota, the picturesque two-story brick house rests on a rubblestone masonry foundation. Sheathed with historic wooden shingles, the roof is of an irregular plan forming a T-shaped intersecting gable configuration with a large wall dormer intersecting on the north facade and a small gable roof dormer over the off-center street entrance on the west. A single chimney constructed of brick masonry rises from the center of the roof. An open porch, with simple square support posts and a hipped roof, spawls across the asymmetrical street facade. The front steps ascend to the porch on the southwest corner of the house.

Fenestration includes long Italianate window openings, with four-over-four double-hung windows capped by brick jack arches. Several of the windows on the first floor and the front entry door contain original beveled colored-glass panes. Gables on the west (street facade) and on the south feature Eastlake styled bargeboard, whereas the wall dormer on the north displays a Stick Style motif. There is an outside entry to the basement along the south facade.

Of an informal floor plan, the house is entered via a large room on the southwest corner. Space on the first floor is generally divided into two bays in depth and three bays in width. Special interior features include French doors opening into the parlor (center-front bay), a chandelier in the entry bay, and original hardwood floors. Only the kitchen has undergone modernization with new cabinets and appliances.

An original carriage house is located to the east of the house. Sided with weatherboard, it is a two-story wood frame structure built into an embankment in the alley. On the second story, it has a large sliding door in the center of the east facade opening onto the alley and a small door on the south facade opening onto a porch that is no longer extant. Entry on the lower level is gained through a large sliding door on the south facade. This building has a gable roof covered with wooden shingles.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1899 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

See Continuation Sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Hot Springs, SD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000.

UTM References

A

1	3	6	2	3	8	5	0	4	8	0	9	4	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries of this property are contained within the legal description: Lot 3 and South one-half of Lot 2, Block 7, Petty Addition, Hot Springs, Fall River County, South Dakota

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state NA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

(with technical assistance by John E. Rau, State Historical Preservation Center, P. O. Box 417, Vermillion, SD, 57069, ph: 605-677-5314)
name/title Gloria J. Dillon

organization date June 11, 1987

street & number 1123 Ninth Street telephone 605-343-1913

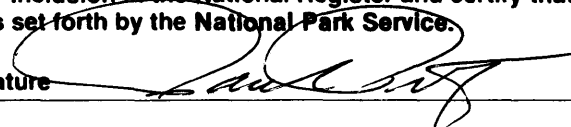
city or town Rapid City state South Dakota

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 

title Director, SNPC date 8-20-87

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered 8-25-87
National Register date 9-25-87

Keeper of the National Register 

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Section number 8 Page 1 Governor Leslie Jensen House

The Jensen House is significant in the areas of architecture, and politics/government. It is a relatively unaltered example of late-Victorian cottage architecture and was built for one of the area's earliest residents, Christian Jensen. It also was the lifelong home of South Dakota's fifteenth governor, Leslie Jensen, son of Christian. Under the South Dakota Historical Preservation Plan the property relates to the following historic context and subcontexts: IV. Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement, D. Urban Settlement, 2. Residential living; and IV., E. Government Related Activities.

The Jensen House was built for Christian Jensen in 1899. It is a simplified vernacular adaptation of popular Victorian themes on a moderate-sized brick cottage. Stylistic features include a picturesque, informal, asymmetrical street facade complimenting an informal floor plan and an irregular roof plan. In addition, the house displays Eastlake and Stick Style decorative elements and contemporaneous colored-glass windows. The carriage house, at the rear of the lot, was also built in 1899 and provided for family and commercial use of horse-drawn vehicles, the main conveyance at the time of construction.

Christian Jensen, a young Danish immigrant, first came to the Black Hills area in 1875 as a member of a squatters' party attempting to enter the gold fields illegally. Turned back by the U. S. Army, he returned in 1876, after White settlement in the area was legalized. At that time, he established a stage service in Deadwood, where he continued to do business for several years. In the 1890's, he moved south to Hot Springs and founded a similar concern. In 1895, he added to this a local telephone business, which remained in the Jensen family for three generations.

Leslie Jensen was born in 1892 in Hot Springs. He was educated in the public schools there and at Culver Military Academy in Culver, Indiana. Later, he received his law degree from the University of South Dakota. He was a veteran of World War I, having served in France. His early life was spent doing line work for his father's telephone company, of which he eventually became the manager. From 1922 to 1934, he served as the Collector of Revenue for the State of South Dakota. In 1925, he married Elizabeth Ward of Aberdeen, South Dakota. He was elected governor in 1936 on the Republican ticket.

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**National Register of Historic Places
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Section number 8 Page 2 Governor Leslie Jensen House

Governor Jensen's political fortune was emblematic of a resurgence of conservatism in the state following four years of Democratic control at the coattails of the New Deal. In that year, although the citizens of South Dakota still gave President Franklin Roosevelt a majority, the traditionally Republican electorate also returned its favored party to one U. S. House seat, the governor's office, and to a majority in the state legislature. During his tenure, Jensen managed to erase a twenty-year-old budget deficit and to lower bonded indebtedness, despite increased welfare activities. Enacted by only a small margin, his legislative program included a refund of rural credit bonds at a lower rate of interest and a restoration of highway revenues from the state gasoline tax, which had been diverted by the previous administration. After serving only one term, the governor ran for his party's nomination for U. S. Senate. However; he was defeated in that bid and returned to his home and private business in Hot Springs.

The Leslie Jensen House is a reminder of the governor's political and governmental career. It is also a nearly unblemished example of a style of architecture popular when he was growing up in Hot Springs. He and the house were products of his father's ambition to prosper in the fertile economic climate of the Black Hills and South Dakota.

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Section number 9 Page 1

Governor Leslie Jensen House

Early Hot Springs. Hot Springs, SD: Hot Springs Star, n. d. pp. 10, 58.

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1937. p. 439

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Dakota Press, University of South Dakota, 1969. pp. 51.

Schell, Herbert S. History of South Dakota. 3rd ed., rev. Lincoln:
University of Nebraska Press, 1975. pp. 296-297.

Personal Interview with Ann Eisenbraun by Gloria J. Dillon in Hot
Springs, South Dakota, January 20, 1986.