

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Creaser Building

Other names/site number: Cooks on Main, Judy's Cupboard, Colonial Shop, JB Lyon  
Women's Wear Clothing, First National Building, 32WI740

Name of related multiple property listing:

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: 224 Main Street

City or town: Williston State: ND County: Williams

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

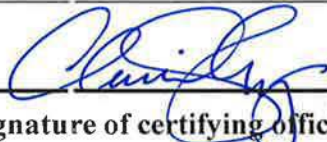
I hereby certify that this x nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

\_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B x C \_\_\_ D

	<u>DIRECTOR</u>	<u>5-23-2016</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:		Date
<u>NDS:HPO</u>		
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		

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In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau  
or Tribal Government

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  
 determined eligible for the National Register  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  
 removed from the National Register  
 other (explain:)

*For Edson H. Beall*  
Signature of the Keeper

7-16-16  
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

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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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Commerce/Trade - Business

Commerce/Trade- Professional

Commerce/Trade-SpecialtyStore

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Commerce Trade- Specialty Store

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial Style**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick and Glass

### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### **Summary Paragraph**

The property located at 224 Main St in Williston ND has been a constant staple for downtown Williston ND for generations. It has held the corner of Main Street and Broadway as other structures were built and demolished.

The two story with full basement building is of masonry construction with blond and dark red brick banding throughout. Expressed structural bays on the exterior provide steady rhythm with regular fenestration along frontage streets. The building is of early commercial style with large commercial frontage on both the west and north sides of the building. Stretching 96'-6" east-west and 24'-0" north-south, the building's proportions provide traditional commercial space on the main floor space with large glazing on Main Street and multi-use rentable space upstairs.

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### **Narrative Description**

The building sits on a full height concrete basement for the entire main floor footprint. Rough cut lumber framing supports the main floor above and bisects the framing with additional post support at north-south midspan. A single interior stairway provides access for primarily storage and mechanical space. A single coal chute on the north side of the building was used for the initial heating supply, but has since been enclosed and paved over on the exterior.

The ground floor street level includes a large 24'x50' commercial space opening west to Main St., commercial kitchen and separate 24'x15' commercial space opening north to Broadway. Original tile and wood floors have been maintained in the large commercial space. The high-volume first floor has its wood grid ceiling set at 14'. Aluminum storefront matching the design of the building in the 1940s still stands on the west and north elevations, but is in poor condition.

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The second floor has been most recently occupied as two apartments with an exterior access stairwell. Since then, demolition of the apartments has started and finishes have been removed to leave only the framing. Throughout demolition, portions of a hand painted advertisement mural was uncovered on the neighboring building's party wall that is exposed on the second floor. This advertisement predates the construction of the building.

The exterior fenestration on the second floor currently includes regular large 4'-0"x6'-8" double hung wood windows along the north and west elevations centered in the structural bays. Historic photos show the fenestration was larger on the second floor at approximately 12'-0"x6'-8" originally and have since been filled in with dark brown metal panel. First floor fenestration other than the storefront is made up of 3 small high-bay fixed wood windows approximately 4'-0"x2'-0" centered in the structural bays. Through historical photos, the building has had multiple different awnings above the Main St. entrance. From fabric to steel to current shakes, the sidewalk protection has changed as uses have changed. Signage has also been varied over the years as tenants move in. Wooden signs, lit lettering and currently lit blade signage has identified the building on the Main street corridor.

The most distinctive features of the building lie in the unique running bond brickwork. Along the north façade, dark red brick forms approximately a 48" tall base anchoring the building to the ground. Above the base, alternating 1' bands of blond and dark red brick march up the building capped by an ornamental diagonal blond brick inlay in soldier course dark red brick centered above each window lintel. Structural bays on the north elevation are expressed on the exterior with simple 2' wide pilasters of red brick every 16' on center that extend from the ground up past the parapet of the building. Each punched window opening has a flat running board bond lintel above and angled brick sill in dark red brick.

The storefront on the north elevation is along the east end of the building and deviates from the regular pattern of the building. Bordering red brick pilasters provide framework to the approximately 26'x18' storefront opening. Currently, a buff colored concrete panel in poor condition above the length of the storefront is where signage once hung for the commercial space. Separate doors at this north storefront with an angled entrance provide the only access for the second floor and the commercial space. A base of blonde brick approximately matching the color, but not texture of the rest of the building separates the sidewalk and storefront.

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## 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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1915-1955  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1915-1916  
1925

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Stacy-Judd of Minot  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The First National Bank Building, a 25' x 98' two-story brick building on the corner of Main Street and Broadway in Downtown Williston, is being recommended for National Register of Historic Places under Criteria C. The Creaser Building is significant under Criterion C at the local level for its use of blond and red brick to create a distinctive design that sets it visually apart from all of the neighboring buildings. This property located at 224 Main St. in Williston ND has been a constant staple for downtown Williston for generations. It has held the corner of Main Street and Broadway as other structures were built and demolished.

In 1915, The First National Bank began the work of building a brick block on the intersection of Main Street and Broadway in Downtown Williston. The project was completed in 1916. Once the building was finished, it was referred to as the Creaser Building since the first floor housed the Creaser Drug Store during its first twenty-five years (1915-1940). The Creaser Building is an excellent example of early 20th century commercial style.

The two story with full basement building is of masonry construction with unique brick banding throughout. Expressed structural bays on the exterior provide steady rhythm with regular fenestration along frontage streets. The building is of early commercial style with large commercial frontage on both the west and north sides of the building. Stretching 96'-6" east-west and 24'-0" north-south, the building's proportions provides traditional commercial space on the main floor space with large glazing on Main Street and multi-use rentable space upstairs.

In 1925, the Creaser Building, along with the Jarrell-Johnson Building, which is located on the lot directly to the south, suffered major loss after a late-night fire spread to the Creaser Building.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

In April 1915, the First National Bank purchased the northwest corner of Main Street and Broadway to build a significant two-story brick building in Downtown Williston. At that time, a small old-framed one-story building had been previously moved to this location and housed the Williston Graphic, whose editor was Dick Copeland. It is noted that this framed building was one of the oldest of its kind on Main Street. Then, the William Electrical Construction Company purchased the building from Copeland and resided in the building. With the contract signed for the construction of the First National Bank Building, the old wood structure was demolished to make space for the new structure, the Creaser Building. Williston would experience the largest construction season of its time.



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In early 1916, the \$25,000 Creaser Building was completed. The rear of the main floor would be occupied by the William Electrical Construction Company; the front of the main floor would be occupied by Creaser Drug. The unique use of the blond and red brick banding created a distinctive design that set the Creaser Drug apart from any other building of that time and it still holds that title today. With the expressed structural bay on the exterior provide steady rhythm with the regular fenestration along frontage streets. The building exemplifies the early commercial style with the large commercial frontage on both the west and north sides of the building. Currently, the customers of Cooks on Main still enjoy the intricate original .75" x .75" green and white tile pattern on our retail floor. The tile is throughout the main floor retail space, and many of the customers still comment on this authenticity of the time period. The second floor held offices for numerous businesses including the O.L. Wingate Real Estate, the War Finance Corporation, Burdick and Lake Lawyers, Mortgage Service Corporation, and the United Life Insurance. Presently, the second floor is not being used for residential or commercial purposes.

On December 27, 1925, the Creaser Building suffered damage from a fire that began in the building adjacent to it to the south, the Jarrell-Johnson Hardware. While the fire started around 2:00 A.M. in the Jarrell-Johnson Hardware Store, it quickly spread to the Creaser Building even though the shared second-floor hallway was equipped with a large metal fire door that was supposed to release when the safety wire would reach a certain temperature. The fire department was not able to determine if the fire spread through the fire door or from the shared roof. Despite the Creaser Building receiving over \$100,000 in damage from smoke and fire, the Creaser family reopened the store after it had been renovated.

The following businesses have lived on the main floor of this location:

In 1940, J.B. Lyon Women's Wear Exterior

In 1959, the Colonial Shop

In 1980, Judy's Cupboard

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

First National to Build Block. (1915, April 22). Williston Graphic, p. 10 Col 2

Boom Seen in Building. (1915, April 22). The Williston Herald, p.1 Col 5

Work Started on New First National Bank Building. (1916, June 8). Williston Graphic, p. 1 Col 6

Keiter Directory Company. (1918). Williston City and Williams County North Dakota Directory 1918-1919. Norfolk, Nebraska.

Jarrell-Johnson Block Destroyed by Morning Fire. (1925, December 31). Williams County Farmers Press, p. 1 Col 6

Williston Herald- Progress Edition. (1927, June 23). Sec 4 p.1

Jarrell-Johnson Hardware Store Fire was Tough on the Fireman. (1999, October 5).

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Williston Herald, p. 1A col 1-2, p. 5A 1-3

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency-ND State Archives
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less than 1 acre

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 13 | Easting: 602540 | Northing: 5333494 |
| 2. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 3. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |

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**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

West 98' of Lot 23 in block 10 of the original town site to the city of Williston,  
Williams County, North Dakota

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries include the land historically associated with the building.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Angela Skogen  
organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number: 1210 East Hillcourt ND 58801  
city or town: Williston state: ND zip code: 58801  
e-mail angela@cooksonmain.com  
telephone: 612-910-1870 (cell) or 701-572-2665 (Office)  
date: March 2016

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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### Property Owner

name/title: Angela Skogen /Owner  
organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number: 1210 East Hillcourt  
city or town: Williston state: ND zip code: 58801  
e-mail angela@cooksonmain.com  
telephone: 701-572-2665

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Creaser Building  
William County  
Eryn Vornous  
4 March 2016

Main Street and Broadway Façade (northwest)

1 of 6

Main Street Façade (west)

2 of 6

Historical Green and White Tiles on the 1st Floor Retail floor

3 of 6

Historical Green and White Tile highlighting the intricate border

4 of 6

Historical Green and White Tile border close-up

5 of 6

Lorna Meidinger

5 April 2016

Broadway Facade (north from northeast corner)

6 of 6

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**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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

**National Register of Historic Places**  
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“J.B. Lyon Women's Wear exterior, Williston N.D.” taken between 1940 and 1959, State Historical Society of North Dakota, William E. (Bill) Shemorry Photograph Collection (1-32A-200-2).

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“J.B. Lyon Women’s Wear window display, Williston N.D.” taken September 27, 1955, State Historical Society of North Dakota, William E. (Bill) Shemorry Photograph Collection (1-32A-203-2).

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J.B. Lyon Women's Wear interior, Williston N.D." taken ca. 1940, State Historical Society of North Dakota, William E. (Bill) Shemorry Photograph Collection (1-32A-201-1).



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“Band Day parade 1961, Veterans of Foreign Wars marching, Williston N.D.” taken 1961, State Historical Society of North Dakota, William E. (Bill) Shemorry Photograph Collection (1-31B-6-22).

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National Park Service

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“Williston, Main Street, N.D.” taken 1931, State Historical Society of North Dakota, William E. (Bill) Shemorry Photograph Collection (1-186-23-3).

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National Park Service

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Ca. 1920 photo, photographer unknown

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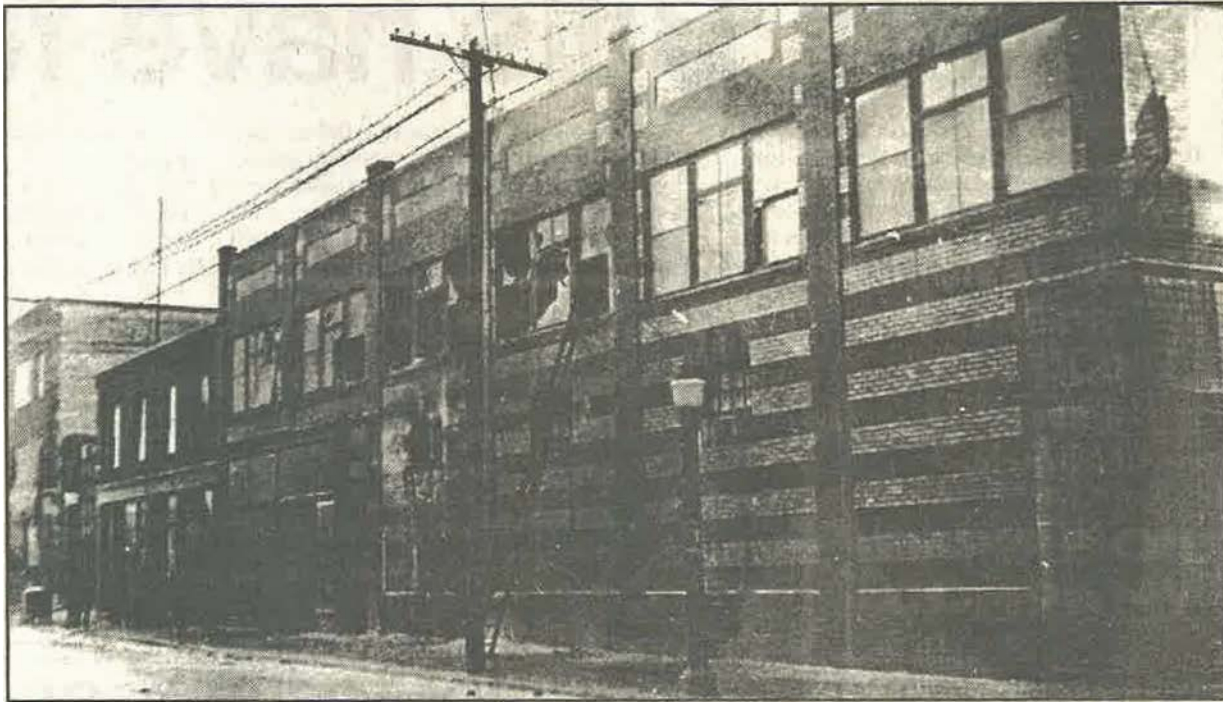


Photo Courtesy of Sylvia Larvick Rockney

The north side of the Creaser building is pictured the morning after the big fire. The ladder leaning on the wall was the only means of access to the second floor, the regular stairs facing Main Street having been destroyed. In back is the telephone building which was saved with only small smoke damage.

1925 photo published in the Williston Herald on October 5, 1999.



Published in Section 4 on page 1 of the Williston Herald Progress Edition 1927 June 23.

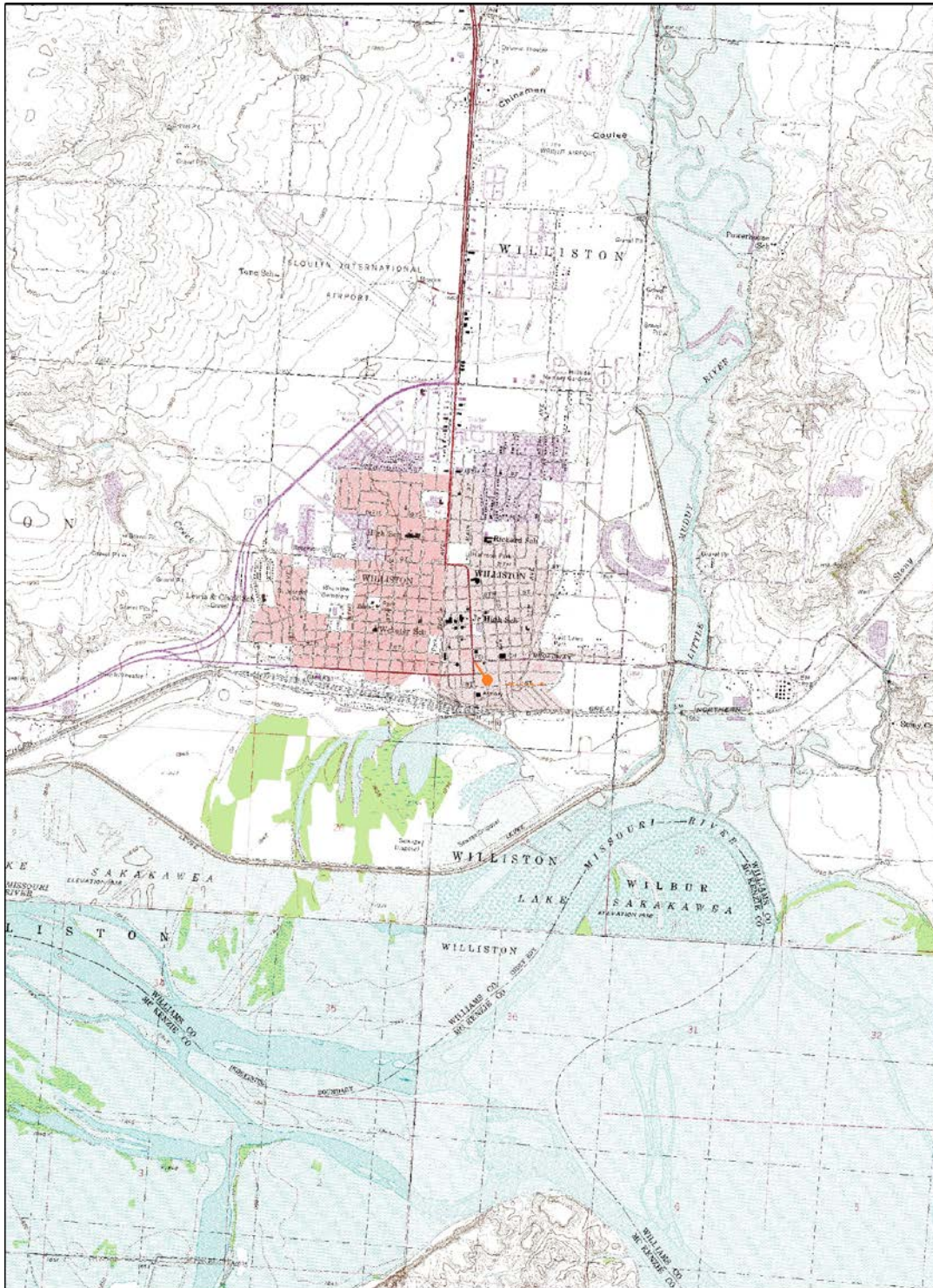
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UTM NAD 1983  
13 602540 5333494

N ↑



Main St

Williston  
FIGHT  
CLUB  
& YOGA

GRAND SLAM  
GAMING CARDS  
AND COMICS  
572-8650

Jeep

RYAN

St

CM  
COOKS  
ON  
MAIN  
*for the  
everyday  
chef*

Williston  
FIGHT  
CLUB  
&  
YOGA

COOKS ON MAIN  
*for the everyday chef*

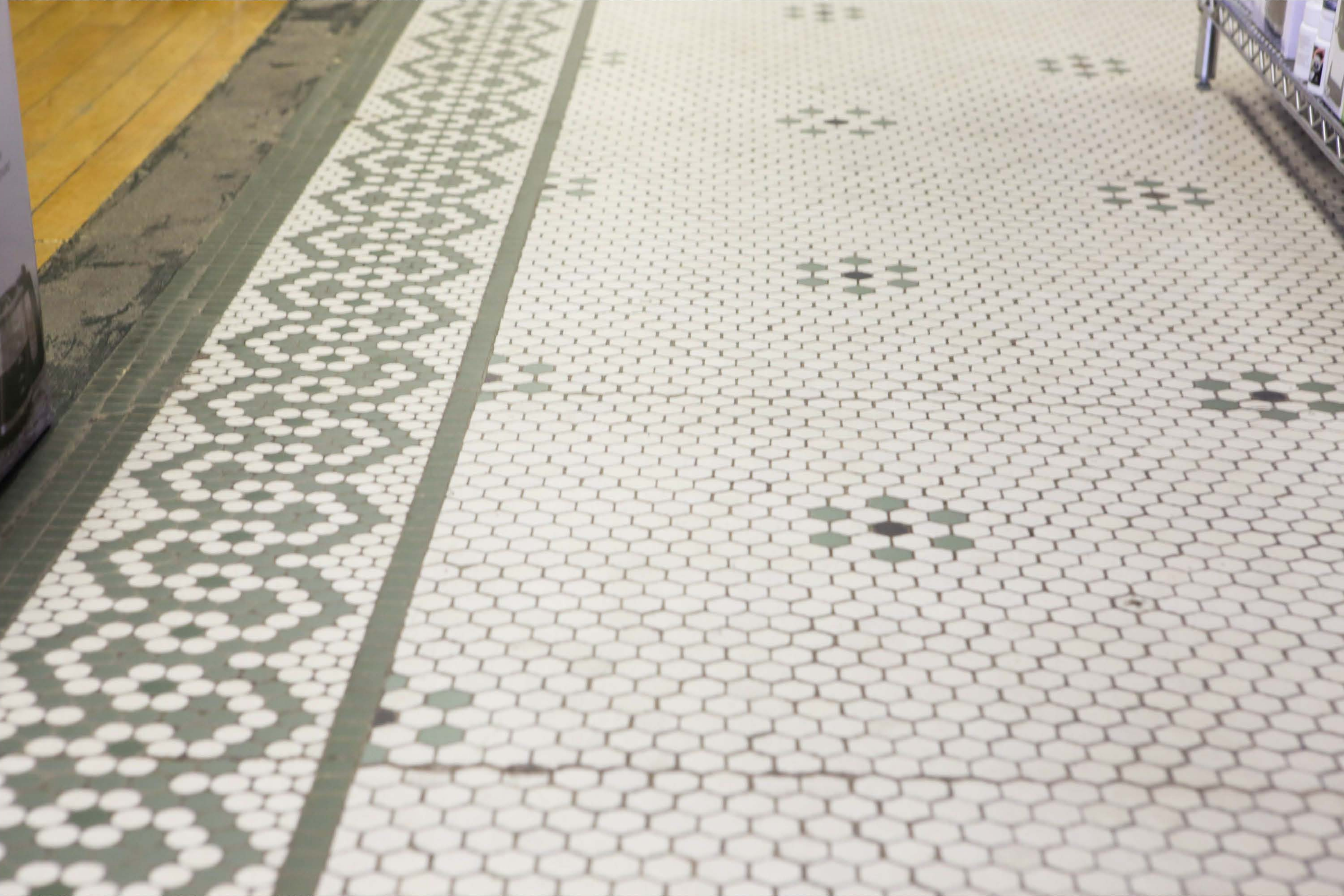
221  
HOURS  
Monday-Friday  
9am-6pm  
Saturday  
9am-1pm

OPEN













CM  
COOKS  
ON  
MAIN  
*for the  
unapologetic  
chef*

225

225



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Creaser Building  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NORTH DAKOTA, Williams

DATE RECEIVED: 5/26/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/11/16  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000442

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 7.11.16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

RECEIVED 2280

MAY 26 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

To: Keeper, National Register of Historic Places  
From: Claudia J. Berg/ Lorna Meidinger  
Date: 23 May 2016  
Subject: National Register Nomination

The following materials are submitted on this 23rd day of May 2016, for the nomination of the Creaser Building to the National Register of Historic Places.

\_\_\_\_\_ National Register of Historic Places nomination form on archival paper

\_\_\_\_\_ Multiple Property Nomination form on archival paper

\_\_\_\_\_ Photographs

\_\_\_\_\_ USGS map(s)

\_\_\_\_\_ Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)

\_\_\_\_\_ Pieces of correspondence

\_\_\_\_\_ 2 CDs

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Signature Page

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

\_\_\_\_\_ Please insure that this nomination is reviewed

\_\_\_\_\_ This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67

\_\_\_\_\_ The enclosed owner objections \_\_\_\_ do \_\_\_\_ do not constitute a majority of property owners.

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: