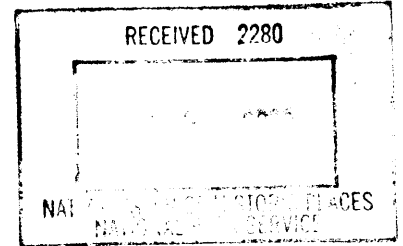


**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

121



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 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Skartvedt House  
other names/site number Irons-Beachler House

**2. Location**

street & number 224 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street not for publication N/A  
city or town Canton vicinity N/A  
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 1986, 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 \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide x locally. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jay D. Vogt  
Signature of certifying official

01-07-2000  
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 commenting or other official

Date

**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:)

Signature of the Keeper: *for Edson A. Ball*  
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
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

Skartvedt House  
Name of Property

Lincoln County, South Dakota  
County and State

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**6. Function or Use**

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**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic	Sub: Single Dwelling
Secondary Structure	Garage
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic	Sub: Single Dwelling
Secondary Structure	Garage
_____	_____
_____	_____

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**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian, Queen Anne  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation	Stone
roof	Slate
walls	Wood
other	_____
	_____

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

See Continuation Sheets

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### 8. Statement of Significance

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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 a 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Period of Significance

1898 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Skartvedt House  
Name of Property

Lincoln County, South Dakota  
County and State

**Significant Dates**    1898  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**    (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
                                 N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**    N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**    Builder- John Ulhom  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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(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: South Dakota State Historical Society, Pierre, SD



Skartvedt House  
Name of Property

Lincoln County, South Dakota  
County and State

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**Property Owner**

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Keith and Susan Irons Beachler  
street & number 224 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street telephone 605-987-3011  
city or town Canton state SD zip code 57013

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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. 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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## Narrative Description:

The Skartvedt House is a spacious and elegant Victorian Era Queen Anne style home built by Scandinavian carpenters and craftsmen lead by John Ulhom in 1897 for the Gudmund Skartvedt family in Canton. It is located in a residential neighborhood and the surrounding homes were built during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The general appearance of the home is one of symmetry and unity, which reflects it's overall balanced design.

The exterior and interior still reflect the family's tastes and style of 1898. The house has a platform frame construction resting on a cut stone foundation. The stone foundation was laid one year prior to construction of the home. It was the first home in Canton with a full basement. It is a two-and-one half story structure, with narrow clapboard siding. The home has a high pitched slate roof with four lower crossed gables. The chimney is brick with a flared top. There is a wrap around porch with a cement deck, baluster and eleven columns. There are seven beveled and leaded glass windows with ornate designs. There is a bay window on the North side of the house. The gutters are original to the home and constructed of half-round galvanized tin.

The South (façade) elevation is the main entrance to the house. The cross gable has detailed ornate designs of sunbursts and bargeboard. The surface treatment of the gable end includes horizontal, vertical and diagonal clapboard designs. Located in the gable end are two one-over-one double hung windows. The second floor has three one-over-one double hung windows and a doorway from the Master bedroom, which leads out onto the roof of the wrap-around porch. The first floor features two box windows that are symmetrically located on the façade. The windows are identical and feature star and diamond shapes highlighted with circles at the bottom. Over the two box windows is a shed roof. On the southwest corner of the first floor is a one-story solarium. It has two fixed glass windows with a beveled leaded glass transom. The stairs to the front entrance have two newel posts made of cast concrete. The wrap around porch starts at the stairs and continues to the east elevation.

The East elevation reflects a cross gable. The gable end has detailed ornate designs of sunbursts and bargeboard. The surface treatment of the gable end includes horizontal, vertical and diagonal clapboard designs. Located in the peak of the gable, on the third floor, are two one-over-one double hung windows. The second and first floor of the gable end are constructed to resemble a bay window. The second floor has two, one-over-one windows in the center with decorative brackets at



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the corners of the bay. The north side of the wing has three one-over-one windows. The first floor has a fixed pane window in the center portion of the bay with a beveled leaded glass transom. The side portions of the bay each have a one-over-one double hung window. The wrap around porch continues on the east elevation. From the bay window north, the porch is screened. Seven of the eleven ionic capitals are visible and are symmetrically located along this elevation. The porch railings and spindles are ornamental cast concrete. The deck of the porch is also concrete. The east entrance to the porch is highlighted with two ornamental stands also of concrete.

The North elevation consists of the cross gable and screened porch. The gable end has a centered one-over-one double hung window on both the third and second floor. Also on the second floor is a door, which leads onto the roof of the porch and a one-over-one double hung window in the wing section of the north elevation. The first floor has a new replacement bay window. The rear entrance to the home though the porch, is a wooden screen door. The original icebox outside door is still intact. The stone foundation highlights the first two feet of the north elevation.

The West elevation has a cross gable with detailed ornate designs. The gable end has detailed ornate designs of sunbursts and bargeboard. The surface treatment of the gable end includes horizontal, vertical, diagonal and scalloped clapboard designs. In the peak of the gable is a half-round divided light window. The slate roof with downspouts are original to the home and constructed of half-round galvanized tin. There is an eyebrow window to the south of the cross gable. There is a stained glass elliptical window at the south end of the second story. Along the first story there are two large beveled leaded glass windows. The stone block foundation highlights the first two feet of the elevation.

### INTERIOR

There are hardwood floors throughout the house. All the oak woodwork is original to the house including the doors. There is dentil woodwork throughout the formal rooms of the home. Walls are plaster throughout the house. Plates were displayed on the egg and dart designed plate rail that runs along the walls. The house is heated with hot water that circulates through radiators in each room. All ceilings in the home are 10 feet in height.

The South entry to the home is the main entrance. It is enclosed with a large oversized door with beveled glass. This entryway leads to the base of the oak staircase, formal living room and parlor. The open stairway features a banister with thumb rails on each side. Underneath the open stairway

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features two window seats with windows displaying multi-design leaded beveled glass. A large oversized oak door leads to the formal living area. The room has three windows with sectioned leaded beveled glass with ornate designs at the top of two of the windows. Two eight-foot oak pocket doors lead into the parlor. The parlor has a built-in cupboard with a beveled mirror. The southwest corner of the parlor is the indoor solarium. The solarium has two leaded beveled glass windows, which offers afternoon sunlight. The solarium floor is made of encaustic tiles that display geometric patterns and design. It also contains a runoff drain to the basement.

Two eight-foot oak pocket doors lead from the parlor into the formal dining room. The dining room has a built in china cabinet and a plate rail with egg and dart trim. There is also a built in, ornately hand carved, oak clock stand. The floor is oak with a natural finish. Oak hardwood paneled doors with elegant brass handles and fingerplates are on the door leading to the Den.

The kitchen has an entrance to the wrap-around porch. There is a bay window on the North wall. The kitchen was updated in the 1970's. There are many oak cabinets and an eating bar connected to the north wall. A small storage room to the west is present as a food storage pantry. A small east room provides access to water pipes, a laundry chute and space for a washer and dryer. There is also a three-quarter bath attached to the room. The back stairway leads to the second floor, and another leads to the basement. Located in the basement are the laundry room, "stage room", coal room and furnace room. The "stage room" is the southern most room of the basement. The east portion of the room has an elevated wood stage floor. The windows on the East Side of the room are covered with iron bars forming a grid pattern. This room was used for local debates, several sponsored by the local Athenian Society. The debates ranged from local to national issues. They were held weekly and the topics varied from conservative to liberal in nature.

The second floor has all original oak doors, trim and baseboards. It has four bedrooms with closets and two full bathrooms. Also, an office area could be used as a fifth bedroom. In the master suite, on the south wall is a large walk in closet. The rooms are wired for electricity for both overhead lights and wall outlets. There is a large attic-ceiling fan. The hallway has two built in cedar linen closets.

The half-story is unfinished. There are stairs, with a landing, leading to the attic and electric lights and a ventilation fan has been added.

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### Carriage House:

The "Carriage House" is located on the Northwest corner of the property. The structure is a story and a half. It has a sloping-pitched pyramidal shaped roof with a tin cupola and weather vane. It is constructed of a combination of wood and stone block. It has a double sized garage door with one standard door used as the entrance. The Carriage House was used to store the family carriage and stalls for two horses. The half story was used as a hay and grain storage loft. The hay feeding doors and grain chutes are still present. When the family purchased their first automobile, there was a need for gasoline fuel. A 500-gallon holding tank was installed in the ground to hold gasoline fuel. A hand pump was mounted inside the Carriage House that was used to draw the gasoline fuel from the tank. The hand pump is still present.

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Skartvedt House is significant under criterion C for architecture. The house is an excellent example of a Late Victorian Era Queen Anne style home. The building is a well-preserved example of Queen Anne architecture in a rural community. The ornate home continues to provide a sense of high style architectural appeal that made it worthy of notice in the 1890's.

The Skartvedt House is located in Canton in the southeastern part of South Dakota. The Skartvedt's were a prominent Norwegian family in Canton. Gudmund Skartvedt, his wife and children lived in this home. As a family, they traveled extensively throughout South Dakota. His residence was considered large and it was believed that it would increase property value to all of the homes in this area of Canton. Mr. Skartvedt purchased additional lots to the west of his property and built three homes for three of his children. The children never lived in them. The homes are still standing today.

A farming region characterizes the surrounding area. Canton is the county seat of Lincoln County. Settlement in the city of Canton began in 1861 with a small log-front 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.

Mr. Skartvedt was a real estate broker. His business, Thos.' Thorson & Co., specialized in selling of land, loans, insurance, ocean tickets and abstracting. He always listed improved farms and wild land for sale in Lincoln County and the Big Sioux Valley. His business was noted for representing some of the largest and strongest companies in this country. He was an active member in the Canton City School Board for approximately sixteen years and spent several terms as the President. He also served on the Canton Building & Loan Association as a Director. He was a member of the Beloit Orphan's Home Board. He was on the building committee of Augustana College and the local Lutheran Church. Mr. Skartvedt passed away June 8, 1915. It was noted that funeral services were greatly attended and all business houses were closed during the funeral in respect to his memory.

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Throughout the past 100 years, the Skartvedt home has had only 10 different owners. In the late 30's and 40's, a portion of the home was used as a Doctors Office. Several of the local residents were born in the home. The Skartvedt home is virtually unchanged over the past 100 years. The builder's talents combined with the selected construction material and care have made the Skartvedt House an excellent example of a Queen Anne style home.

The Queen Anne style was most popular from roughly 1880 through the turn of the century, although it did persist into the 1900's. The style is typified by irregular, steeply pitched roofs, asymmetrical facades and decorative elements such as differing shingle patterns used to avoid flat walls. The Skartvedt House is a typical representation of the Queen Anne style and the picturesque movement in architecture.

The house exhibits many of the characteristics associated with the Queen Anne style. It has the irregular roof, asymmetrical porch, variations in wall cladding, and decorative spindles and scrollwork. The house has seen few alterations over time and those that have occurred have been mostly cosmetic. There was a small bay window added to the North elevation of the house and an interior renovation of the kitchen.

The Skartvedt House is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, for its architectural value and significance in Canton, South Dakota. It is an excellent example of Queen Anne style homes in the state.

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