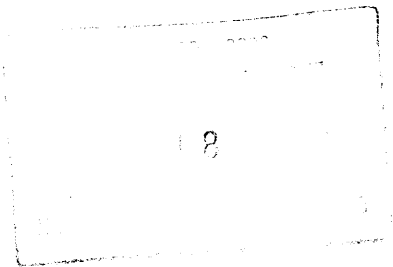


1527

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

**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 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 Downtown Salem Historic District  
other names/site number N/A

**2. Location**

street & number 140, 200 and 201 N Main not for publication N/A  
city or town Salem vicinity N/A  
state South Dakota code SD county McCook code 087 zip code 57058

**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. Voigt 12-15-2003  
Signature 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 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: Edson H. Beall      Date of Action: 1/28/04

**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	
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	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



---

### 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 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**

1889-1914  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**    1889, 1902  
                                 1914  
                                 \_\_\_\_\_  
                                 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Architect/Builder**    Unknown  
                                 \_\_\_\_\_

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

See Continuation Sheets

---

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

---

(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: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 2 acres

**UTM References**

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Salem Quadrangle

A	<u>14</u>	<u>629996</u>	<u>4842448</u>	C	<u>14</u>	<u>629897</u>	<u>4842421</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
B	<u>14</u>	<u>629889</u>	<u>4842441</u>	D	<u>14</u>	<u>629926</u>	<u>4842419</u>

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Lynda B. Schwan  
organization SD SHPO date October 15, 2003  
street & number 9900 Governors Dr telephone 605-773-6056  
city or town Pierre state SD zip code 57501

**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)

Downtown Salem Historic District  
Name of Property

McCook County, South Dakota  
County and State

---

**Property Owner**

---

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

name See attached list  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state SD zip code \_\_\_\_\_

---

**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.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

The Downtown Salem Historic District is located in Salem, McCook County, South Dakota at an intersection on Main Street. It is located in a business district and includes only those buildings remaining in the business district with historical integrity. The buildings were constructed in 1889, 1902 and 1914.

## 1) Sessler Building, 140 North Main, Contributing, 1914

The façade faces west onto Main Street. This Commercial style building is constructed with a concrete foundation, brown brick walls and an asphalt roof. Common elements on this building include a decorative brick cornice, brick sills, brick pilasters and a pressed metal ceiling on the interior.

The façade (west elevation) is divided into three parts by brick pilasters. The northeast third of the building was utilized as a showroom. The exterior has a large storefront window. It historically was one large window. Currently, the window is reduced in size with metal panels and six smaller windows. The façade has a central entry with two sidelights. The transoms have been enclosed with a metal panel. The southeast third of the building has a entry door that has been covered with wood paneling and a garage door opening that has been enclosed with metal. The façade has four evenly spaced brick pilasters. The parapet features a stepped brick pattern.

The north elevation is divided into four parts, divided by brick pilasters. This elevation also has a stepped parapet. The first part, from west to east, has a large storefront window, a door with an enclosed transom and a one-over-one double hung window that has been covered with wood paneling. The second part has two one-over-one double hung windows that have been covered with wood paneling and a garage door. The parapet steps down eighteen inches at this part. The third part has two one-over-one double hung windows that have been covered with wood paneling. The parapet steps down eighteen inches at this section. The final part of this elevation has two one-over-one double hung windows that have been covered with wood paneling. The parapet steps down eighteen inches. At each of the four parts on this elevation is a brick pilaster.

The east elevation (rear) is constructed with a red brick. The openings all have brick sills and arched brick lintels. From north to south the openings are as follows: a garage door, a one-over-one double hung window, a door, a one-over-one double hung window, a garage door and four one-over-one double hung windows. Each of the windows have been covered with wood paneling.

The south elevation is also constructed with red brick. There are eight one-over-one double hung windows on this elevation. They have all been covered with wood paneling. A chimney is located on this elevation.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

---

## Interior:

The ceiling in the front two thirds of the building has pressed metal. Also in the front of the building is a door in the floor that leads to the basement. The rear portion of the building was used as a garage.

### 2) Salem Bank, 200 North Main, Contributing, 1902

The Salem Bank is a two story, brick constructed commercial building designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. It is characterized by the heavy arches at the corner entrance, the use of the dark, rough faced stone on the first floor exterior walls, and the heavy, rough faced lintels. It is a corner lot with the facade of the building facing Main Street and the south elevation facing Norton Street. The building has a quartzite foundation with a full basement. The building is five bays wide with two separate storefronts.

The first floor features a recessed corner entry highlighted by rough faced quartzite. The heavy arched entryway is supported by a short marble column. It also has one arched window. Under this opening are located two awning windows giving light to the basement. The second storefront also has a recessed entry under a metal sign board. This recessed entry had one glass door at an angle into the business and one wood door giving access to a second floor apartment. To the north of the entry are two plate glass windows.

The second floor constructed of brick, features six, one-over-one, double hung windows. The two center windows are narrower than the other four. Each window has a quartzite lintel. Above the windows starts a decorative, brick, stepped cornice, which is topped by a parapet wall.

The south elevation is constructed in three parts. The first block of the building displays the same characteristics as the facade. It has two arched window openings that have been filled in with clapboard siding. The second opening has a single pane, fixed window. Located under these window openings is a stairway giving access to the basement. There are two awning windows and a wood door that at one point had sidelights and a transom. These have now been enclosed with wood. The second floor constructed of brick, features three, one-over-one, double hung windows. Each of the windows has a quartzite lintel. Above the windows starts a decorative, brick stepped cornice, which is topped by a parapet wall.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

---

The middle part has a quartzite foundation and the rest of the building is constructed of brick. The foundation has two, single paned, fixed windows. The first floor has two, one-over-one, double hung windows with transoms above each. The windows have a quartzite sill and a brick lintel with a quartzite keystone. The second floor has two, one-over-one, double hung windows with quartzite sills and lintels. The second window is covered with plywood. Above the windows is a continuation of the decorative, brick cornice.

The third part of the Salem Bank building is built on a slab foundation. The first floor has a steeped pitch shed awning with a recessed central entry. On either side of the door are sliding single pane windows. Brick pilasters with quartzite bases are a decorative element on either end of the third part of the building. The second floor has two, one-over-one, double hung windows with the second one covered in plywood. They both have quartzite sills and lintels. The third section is also topped with a decorative, brick cornice.

The rear of the building is five bays wide. The first floor has a one bay wide attached metal garage. The second floor has a central door and two, one-over-one, double hung windows to the north of the door and two, two-over-two windows to the south of the door.

### 3) 1899 Bank Building, 201 North Main, Contributing, 1889

The Old Salem Bank faces east on to Main Street. It is a two story brick commercial building designed with both Italianate and Queen Anne details. The foundation is brick and stone, the walls are constructed of brick and the roof is asphalt. Common elements found on the building include brick arched lintels, stone sills, Queen Anne windows and brackets

The façade (east elevation) has a corner entry at the northeast corner. The entry has two wood doors and a large arched transom. This opening has a decorative brick lintel. There is a large storefront window at the southeast corner. It has a stone sill and a decorative brick lintel. Between the first and second floor is a decorative brick band that extends to the south elevation. The second floor has four narrow windows which are laid out as pairs. The top sash is a Queen Anne window, the bottom sash is a single pane of glass. There is a double arch lintel over the two pair of windows. A decorative brick band extends along the façade and south elevation at the level of the lintels. The cornice has decorative panels divided by brackets. The façade has four brackets. Above the roof, at the northeast corner, is an arched pediment. The pediment has the date "1889" in it.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

---

The first floor of south elevation has the following openings: two large storefront windows, two four-over-four double hung windows under one arched lintel, a door, two four-over-four double hung windows under one arched lintel and a door. Each opening on the first floor has a decorative brick lintel and a stone sill. The second floor has the following window sequence: two windows, one, window, two windows, one window, two windows and one window. Each window has a single pane glass sash on the bottom and a Queen Anne upper sash. Each set of two windows has a double arched brick lintel. Each single window has a single arched lintel. Each window has a stone sill. The same decorative cornice from the façade extends around one-third of the south elevation. This portion has three decorative brackets.

The west elevation has no openings. There are no openings on the north elevation. It has been covered in smooth stucco.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

The Downtown Salem Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a representation of the type of architectural styles that were built during the period of Salem's early development that occurred in the late 1880s and the early decades of the 1900s. The Downtown Salem Historic District embodies the years through which it was developed. These buildings in this district are the only buildings left in the Salem business district that exhibit architectural integrity. The District tells the history of Salem visually and through the lives of its residents, and represents the city's values, architectural designs and technological progress.

McCook County was established in 1878 by the Legislature and measured 573 square miles. While it was not recognized as a county by the Legislature, the first recorded settlements in McCook County occurred in circa 1870 in Miller's Gulch on the Vermillion River. By 1882, Salem was established as the county seat.

The town of Salem was platted in 1880 and incorporated in 1885. Its location, like many towns in South Dakota, was determined by the railroad. The Chicago and Northwestern was the first railroad to come through Salem. It arrived in the Fall of 1880. Salem grew very rapidly in the first ten years of existence. By 1887, the town had a hotel, roller mill, two lumber yards, furniture store, hardware store, two banks, harness shop and other specialty stores.

The three buildings in the Salem Downtown Historic District exhibit specific architectural styles that make them important in Salem's history. The 1889 Bank Building was constructed in 1889 by Willis Shepard. He in turn sold the building to the Salem Bank. They moved into the building in 1890. The 1889 Bank Building is designed in the Italianate style with Queen Anne influences. The identifying features of an Italianate building include: two to three stories, wide overhanging eaves with decorative brackets, tall narrow windows and elaborate window hoods or lintels. The 1889 Bank Building exhibits all of these Italianate details. The building also has Queen Anne upper sashes on the double hung windows. This is a very distinctive Queen Anne style detail.

The Salem Bank was constructed in 1902 by Delmont Goldsmith. The Commercial State Bank operated in the structure until 1924 when it failed. In 1925, the McCook County National Bank opened on the first floor where it operated until the 1950's. Banks of this type provided farms and merchants in the area with a source of credit in their community. Also important to the commerce of Salem is that the second floor housed office space for prominent business men including attorney W.E. Van DeMark of Montrose, as well as a dental and physicians office. The Salem Bank is identified as Richardsonian Romanesque architecture. Identifying features include round-topped arches occurring over windows, porch support or entrances, masonry walls with rough faced stonework, and an asymmetrical facade. The Salem Bank exhibits all of these features.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

---

Architecturally, the building is the only surviving example of the Richardsonian Romanesque architecture in the downtown area or Salem at large.

The Sessler Building was constructed in 1914 by the Sessler Family. They owned an automobile business out of the commercial building. During the course of their ownership, they also rented out space to other entrepreneurs. Other businesses located in the building included the International Harvester Company and the Iron Wheel. Also important to the building is that during WWII the basement was used to hand out rations. Many of the historic signs can still be found in the basement. The Sessler Building was constructed in the Commercial style. The Commercial style building is characterized by its multiple stories, although the Sessler Building is only one story, that it is mostly constructed of masonry and has multiple bays with large storefront windows and an entryway. Commercial buildings by their nature have often times had alterations to the storefront and the Sessler Building is no exception. Over the course of the building's history, it has had a variety of appearances but it still exhibits the Commercial style in Salem.

The town of Salem suffered many fires over the course of forty five years. The first fire in 1900 destroyed one Main Street business when it was struck by lightning. The building was reconstructed but destroyed again by fire in 1944. The next fire of 1907 destroyed three buildings on Main Street. A fire in 1910 destroyed the seven buildings on the east side of Main Street. There are very few historic buildings left in Salem and of the ones left, the three buildings in this district are the only ones that exhibit any architectural integrity at the local level.

The Downtown Salem Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a representation of the type of architectural styles that were built during the period of Salem's early development that occurred in the late 1880s and the early decades of the 1900s.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 & 10 Page 7

---

## Bibliography

*Architectural History in South Dakota.* South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, 2000.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses.* New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2000.

*Within these Borders.* McCook County 1976.

## Verbal Boundary Description

Starting at an imaginary point in the alley, 5 feet southeast of the southeast corner of the Sessler Building, the boundary extends north to an imaginary point in the alley 5 feet northeast of the northeast corner of the Salem Bank Building. Turning west the imaginary line extends to a point 5 feet northwest of the northwest corner of the 1889 Bank Building. Turning south, the imaginary line extends to a point 5 feet southwest of the southwest corner of the 1889 Bank Building. Turning north, the imaginary line extends to the center of the intersection of Norton and Main Streets. The imaginary line turns south to an imaginary point 5 feet southwest of the southwest corner of the Sessler building. Turning south, the point ends at the original starting point.

## Boundary Justification

The boundary includes all buildings in Salem with architectural integrity.

## UTM References Continued

E  
Easting 629931  
Northing 4842379

F  
Easting 629986  
Northing 4842377

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number      Owner      Page      8  
                                 list

---

## Owners List

**140 North Main**  
Iron Wheel Sales and Service  
140 N Main  
Salem SD 57058

**200 North Main**  
Troy Pulse  
750 N 4<sup>th</sup>  
Canistota SD 57012

**201 North Main**  
Constance Mays  
201 N Main  
Salem SD 57058