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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 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.

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SEP 18 2015

1. Name of Property

Historic name: John and Elsie McMillan House

Other names/site number: Jack and Annie Hale House

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

Name of related multiple property listing:

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

2. Location

Street & number: 1611 Davenport

City or town: Sturgis State: SD County: Meade

Not For Publication: Vicinity: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 xC D

<u>Jay D. Vogt</u>	<u>09-14-2015</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>SD SHPO</u>	Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

John and Elsie McMillan House

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Dakota
County and State

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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): _____

Joe Larson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

10-30-15
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

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Site

Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</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>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register n/a

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Victorian: Queen Anne

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Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Wood: Weatherboard, Shingle; Asphalt; Stone

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.)

Summary Paragraph

The John and Elsie McMillan House (1887) is located at 1611 Davenport Street in Sturgis, Meade County, South Dakota. The two-and-a-half-story house sits on a large lot at the southwest corner of the intersection of Davenport and Shephard Streets. Mature trees and lawns add to the residential feel of the neighborhood, which is comprised largely of older homes. Constructed in the Queen Anne style, the McMillan House features a cross-gabled roof, wood clapboard siding, wood shingles in variety of patterns in the gables, large one-over-one wood windows (often paired), cutaway bay window, and stained glass windows in the parlor and stairwell. The foundation is stone while the roof is asphalt shingles. All windows in the home are wood with metal storms unless noted elsewhere in the nomination.

The exterior of the home has been minimally altered. A small, original porch on the northeast corner was enclosed at an unknown date. (Sanborn maps of Sturgis from the late 19th century and early 20th century do not cover this area of town.) The enclosure matches the exterior materials on the house, making it appear a relatively early enclosure. The porch on the southeast corner of the home retains its original turned balusters, although a round porch column replaced the original at an undetermined time. Also, kitchen windows at the rear of the home were replaced at an unknown date.

Not included in this nomination, a small, insignificant wood clapboard-sided shed sits behind the house. It is the only other feature on the lot. Historically a one-and-a-half story carriage house sat behind the house. It was removed at an unknown date.

Narrative Description

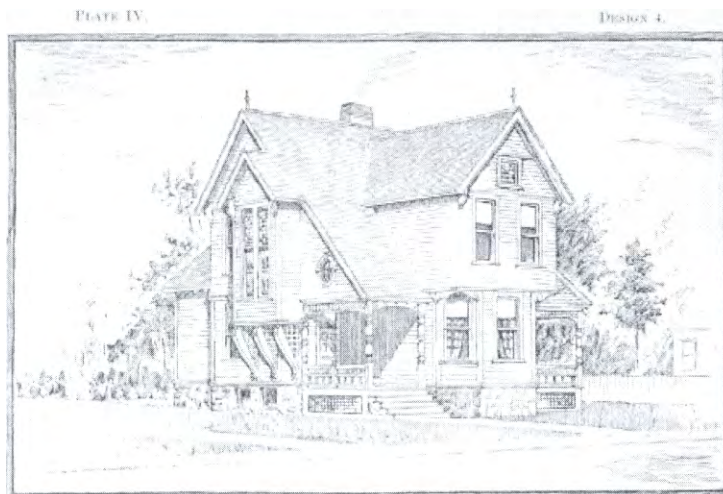
The McMillan House bears a striking resemblance to Plate IV, Design 4, in J.H. Kirby's *Modern Cottages* published in 1885 (see inset sketch). As in the Kirby design, the house originally had two front porches, a cross-gable roof, wood clapboard and shingle siding, and closely matching fenestration featuring a distinct stained-glass window that enlightened the stairwell. The interior

John and Elsie McMillan House

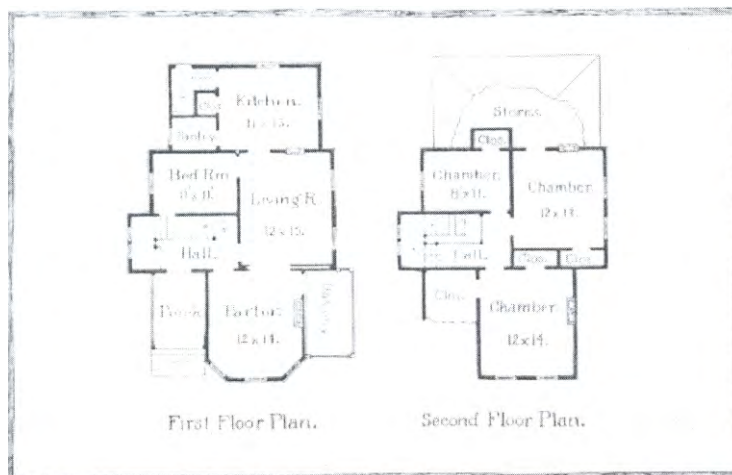
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layout is also similar to the Kirby design (see inset plans). The main difference between Kirby's design and the McMillan House is that the second story of the McMillan House extends over the first floor kitchen, whereas in the Kirby design the second floor is slightly smaller. Given the similarities, the McMillan House was likely based on Kirby's design or one very similar from this period.



From *Modern Cottages*



From *Modern Cottages*

Exterior

East Elevation (Front of home)

The east elevation faces Davenport Street. The entrance is located at the southeast corner of the house and features a round column with knee-high turned balusters forming a balustrade eight feet in length on the south side of the corner porch. Opposite the balustrade on the house is a cottage window. The entrance on the porch features a windowless wood door behind a modern

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metal storm door. To the north of the porch is the central two-story portion of the east elevation. The first story forms a cutaway bay with four one-over-one double-hung wood windows, which are paired on the east elevation and single on the canted sides. Decorative scrolls cap the windows on the sides of the cutaway bay. The second story contains paired one-over-one double-hung wood windows. The gable has three bands of wood shingles in a variety of patterns including square, hexagonal, and octagonal.

The one-story porch on the northeast corner was enclosed at an unknown date. The enclosure has a steeply-pitched shed roof extending to the north with wood shingles in bands in the east end mimicking, but not matching, the central gable. A one-over-one double-hung wood window with a wood lintel is the only fenestration on the enclosure.

North Elevation

The enclosed porch has no openings facing north. The central cross-gabled portion of the elevation protrudes from the façade slightly. The first story has a rectilinear bay with a partially-hipped roof, wood brackets, and four one-over-one double-hung wood windows, which are paired on the north elevation and single on the sides. Two rectangular wood panels are located at the base of the bay. The second story has paired one-over-one wood windows. The gable has a smaller, centered, one-over-one wood window. The square, hexagonal, and octagonal shingles in the gable match the appearance and design of the east, west and south elevations' gables. The western portion of the north elevation has two one-over-one double-hung wood windows on the first story and the second story has a gabled wall dormer with a one-over-one double-hung wood window.

West Elevation

The west elevation is the rear of the house and is quite plain. The first floor has a small replacement window south of center and the second floor a small centered one-over-one double-hung wood window. The square, hexagonal, and octagonal shingles in the gable match the appearance and design of the east, north and south elevations' gables. A rear entry porch is located at the southwest corner. A single round column supports a southward-extending shed roof. A six-over-one square light wood window faces west. The entrance contains a wood door behind a metal and glass storm door.

South Elevation

The south elevation of the home is the most architecturally interesting. Starting in the west, above the rear porch is a gabled wall dormer with a one-over-one window. East of the porch and wall dormer on the cross-gabled section are one-over-one double-hung wood windows; one is located on each story. In the gable above these windows is a small, one-over-one double-hung wood window. The square, hexagonal, and octagonal shingles in the gable match the appearance and design of the east, west and north elevations' gables. However, a large dormer is above the roofline on this gable. The gable of the bay features square, hexagonal, and octagonal shingles. Centered in the bay are two fixed-pane, thirty-over-ten stained glass wood windows. The panes of glass are rectangular in the top sash and nearly square in the bottom sash. Colors of glass include: orange, green, dark green, blue, light blue, white, cream, red, red-orange, yellow, purple,

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and brown. The bottom of the bay is supported by three massive wood brackets and lattice. To the east of the bay, and above the front entrance, is a four-pane, fixed circle wood window with stained glass of yellow, orange, green, and blue and a wood surround with radiating keystone motif. Surrounded by square, hexagonal, and octagonal shingles, this circle window lends light to a hidden room located off the main stairwell.

Interior

General Characteristics

The McMillan House retains its original layout on the second floor with only minor modifications on the first floor. These modifications occurred to the kitchen and bathroom. Wood floors are found throughout the house. Original four- and five-panel doors are found throughout the house with vertical or cross panels. Trim found throughout the interior is square edge and mitered cornered.

First floor

The main entrance of the house is via the porch on the southeastern corner. Inside the main entrance is a small entry hall which also contains the stairwell to the second floor (Room 1A). A closet has been added to the space under the stairwell on the south side of the entry hall. The stairwell is the most prominent feature of this room, with elegant turned wood balusters and newel posts linking the interior of the home with its exterior Queen Anne detailing. The stairs along the west wall of this room go up southward to a landing between the first and the second floors, and then turn 180 degrees to continue up northward to the second floor. Additionally, the stairway landing contains the two very large thirty-over-ten stained glass windows that allow light into the stairwell.

Moving from the entry hall to the east is the parlor (Room 1B) with its prominent cutaway bay window facing east. This room has its original wood floor and trim, including baseboards and window and door trim. On the north wall is a five-panel wood door that originally led to the northeast porch. Now, this door leads into the porch enclosure (1C).

The dining room (Room 1D) is accessed through an arched opening on the west wall of the parlor. This opening was square originally, and may have been modified to current form to hide plumbing and HVAC updates. Also, at some point, the dining room was altered to include a beamed ceiling and partial rock wall. This room tries to mimic an Arts and Crafts feel with the arched room segway, beamed ceiling and partial rock wall. However, the size and dimensions of the room have not changed and it retains its original wood floor.

South of the dining room is the utility room (Room 1E), which was created from a bedroom. The room retains its original wood floors and also provides an access space to the basement via a steep wood staircase.

West of the laundry room is a bathroom (1F).

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The west end of the first floor contains the kitchen (Room 1G). Like most homes, the kitchen has been modified over the years with updated cabinets, appliances, and furnishings. However, the original layout remains intact.

Second Floor

The second floor of the house is intact. It retains its original floors, trim, and layout. The windows throughout the second floor are large enough to extend nearly floor to ceiling. At the top of the stairwell, a door leads to a hidden room, which is used for storage space (Room 2A). This storage space is several steps down from the second level in the area above the entry porch.

Immediately north of the storage space is one of four upstairs bedrooms. This bedroom (2B) is located on the east side of the house and has a five-panel wood door. It has its original wood floors. A wood wainscot and chair rail were added to the room at an unknown date.

A hallway leads west from bedroom 2B to the remainder of the second floor, containing three additional bedrooms (2C, 2D, 2E) and a bathroom (2F). Bedroom 2C is in the north-central portion of the second floor, while bedrooms 2D and 2E are on the south-central section and southwest corner of the second floor, respectively. All three bedrooms retain their original wood floors and trim, large one-over-one windows, five-panel wood doors, and plaster walls. The bathroom (2F) is located in the northwest corner of the second floor and has been updated through the years.

Attic

The attic in the house is accessed through the hallway ceiling on the second floor. It is partially finished with wood-paneled siding on portions of the wall and ceiling. A portion of the attic is unfinished with batt insulation between the rafters.

Basement

The basement is accessed through the laundry room. The south half of the basement is finished with a bedroom and bathroom. The north half is unfinished with exposed coursed ashlar rock walls. The unfinished space is used for storage. The south half has wood paneling and a sheet rock ceiling, installed at an unknown date.

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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

1887

Significant Dates

1887

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

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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 McMillan House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for **Architecture**. Its significance is local. It is a good example of the Queen Anne Style in Sturgis and one of the few Victorian influenced homes in Sturgis that retains high integrity. Sturgis businessman John C. McMillan built the home in 1887.

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

The McMillan House – Queen Anne

Of all the residential architecture introduced in America 1885-1905, Queen Anne was the most widespread from coast to coast.¹ Influenced by British architects, the style spread quickly amongst the building class of Americans.² Eclecticism – the mix of historical styles with modern elements – was accepted as inevitable in the architecture of the time, yet seemed to become even more complicated in America as architects reorganized relationships between styles like Queen Anne and Colonial Revival.³ The result was some varied subtypes of these popular styles.

Queen Anne homes can be broken down into four shape subtypes and four subtypes based on decorative detailing. The shapes are hipped roof with lower cross gables, cross-gabled roof, front-gabled roof, and townhouse.⁴ Decorative subtypes include spindlework, free classic, half-timbered, and masonry.⁵ General characteristics of the style include:

- asymmetrical composition
- different wall textures
- bays and turrets
- horizontal siding

¹ Richard J. Cawthon. *Victorian Houses of Mississippi*. (Oxford, MS: University of Mississippi, 2005), 10.

² Joel Shrock. *The Gilded Age*. (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2004), 74.

³ Linda E Smeins. *Building and American Identity: Pattern Book Homes 1870-1900*. (Walnut Creek, CA: Alta Mira Press, 1999), 227.

⁴ McAlester, 345-346.

⁵ *Ibid.*, 345-346.

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- fishscale/diamond shingles (often in gables)
- Queen Anne windows (often with colored glass)
- spindlework (in some examples)
- porches, often full length or wrap around
- contrasting materials on different stories
- generally simple door and window surrounds
- most sashes only have a single pane of glass
- steeply pitched, irregularly shaped roofs
- overhangs and wall projections⁶

The use of balloon framing techniques allowed for the irregularities in wall plane that came to embody the Queen Anne style and make complicated shapes possible. George Washington Snow is credited with inventing the balloon frame in 1830s Chicago.⁷ Its origin was closely connected with the industrialization occurring in America and took what was a complicated craft – homebuilding – and made it into an industry.⁸ Almost every house built in America from 1850 to 1900 was a balloon frame and information about its use was disseminated across the United States through trade catalogues, builders’ journals, and architectural periodicals.⁹

Balloon framing involved the use of studs and thin plates – which run the length of the building and are connected with nails – that replace traditional mortise and tenon connectors in timber framing.¹⁰ The basic difference between timber and balloon framing is that with balloon framing, every stud in the frame is a load-carrying element.¹¹ In timber framing, only the posts carry structural load and the studs are merely a brace to put sheathing on.¹² Despite a balloon frame’s flimsy “skeleton” appearance during construction, it acts as a single, strong membrane once a skin of sheathing links all members.¹³ Balloon framing technology was also easy to package and sell. Full house kits based on balloon framing could be delivered to a variety of places courtesy of the developing railroad system. The technology fueled a surge in mail-order

⁶ John J. Blumenson. *Identifying American Architecture: A Pictorial Guide to the Styles and Terms: 1600-1945*. (Nashville, TN: American Association for State and Local History, 1977), 63. McAlester, 345-348.; Rifkind, 63.;

⁷ J.H. Kirby. *Modern Cottages 1885*. (Syracuse, NY: Hall and McChesney Printers and Binders, 1885), 35.

⁸ Sigfried Giedion. “The Balloon Frame and Industrialization.” *Roots of Contemporary American Architecture: 37 Essays from Mid-Nineteenth Century Through Mid-Twentieth Centuries*. (Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons, 2003), 201.

⁹ *The Old-House Journal*. “Traditional House Framing: Getting Under Your House’s Skin.” V8, No.12, (December, 1980), 197.; Jan Jennings. “Cheap and Popular Dwellings in Popular Architecture.” *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture*. V5 (Gender, Class, and Shelter), 1995, 133.

¹⁰ Giedion, 201.

¹¹ Old-House Journal, 197.

¹² Ibid., 197.

¹³ Ibid., 197.

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homes, architectural plan books, and builders' journals that largely influenced the United States' building stock.

As the country embraced Queen Anne architecture in the 1880s, pattern books and mail-order house plans gave the public the roadmaps to build.¹⁴ Drawings of Queen Anne style houses in these various formats— often pictured amongst graceful landscapes – quenched the public's desire for picturesque residential streetscapes.¹⁵ Pictures often included floor plans that inspired the use of specialized spaces like parlors, sewing rooms, nurseries, dining rooms, and libraries.¹⁶ This was a departure from earlier housing plans where single rooms often served many purposes.¹⁷

Variety was another hallmark of Queen Anne homes – in style, shape, and size. Savvy architects and marketers produced an assortment of house plans targeting both the middle and upper class. While complex designs were architect-guided, many plans were builder-generated. A good craftsman could look at a set of plans and come up with his own plan based on the design seen in a mail-order catalogue or pattern book.¹⁸ This dynamic makes it difficult to distinguish full kit houses from pattern book houses from builder-designed houses based on a familiar plan.

While the exterior of a Queen Anne home could be generated in a variety of ways, interiors were more predictable. Mass production of millwork and a reliable railroad system resulted in standardized interiors during the Queen Anne's years of prominence, making interior design and construction more predictable. However, it still took the skill of the craftsmen involved to install the millwork, which often arrived unassembled and without instruction.¹⁹

Hardwoods were typically used for interior millwork in stain-grade applications, while softwoods were used for paint-grade interior millwork as well as exterior features.²⁰ Hardwoods – such as walnut or cherry – were often quarter sawn or rift sawn for interiors to expose the desired visual effect. This increased the cost, since the cuts wasted more of the already expensive wood, but produced the beautiful woodwork used in Queen Anne homes of the period.²¹ From about 1870-1940, softwoods – such as eastern white pine, southern long-leaf

¹⁴ McAlester, 350.

¹⁵ Jennifer Eastman Atteberry. *Building Idaho: An Architectural History*. (Moscow, ID: University of Idaho Press, 1991), 64.

¹⁶ Marcia Reis. *Architectural Details*. (San Diego, CA: Thunder Bay Press, 2004) 31.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, 31.

¹⁸ Daniel D. Reiff. *Houses From Books: Treatises, Pattern Books, and Catalogues in American Architecture, 1738-1950 A History and Guide*. (University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University, 2000), 95.

¹⁹ Brent Hull. *Historic Millwork: A Guide to Restoring and Recreation Doors, Windows, and Moldings of the Late-Nineteenth Century Through the Mid-Twentieth Centuries*. (Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons, 2003), 2.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, 6.

²¹ *Ibid.*, 8.

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yellow pine, red cypress and western fir – were used in less prominent areas or where painting was intended.²²

From the 1860s through the 1890s, most doors, door frames, windows, mantels, brackets, staircases and other complex features were made in factories and shipped to the building site.²³ Most millwork during the 1880s, when the McMillan House was built, came from the Great Lakes or the South.²⁴ However, Farley Loetscher Manufacturing Company was established in Dubuque, Iowa in 1876 and was one of the largest millworks in the world.²⁵ It is possible that this was the closest major millwork to South Dakota at the time and supplied the state. Farley Loetscher produced robust catalogues and established a distribution center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota in 1911, demonstrating their involvement in the state.

The combination of exterior designs and technology available from mail-order kits, pattern books, and builders' journals coupled with the variety of millwork catalogues made countless renditions of Queen Anne homes possible. Some followed plans exactly, while others were modified into new creations. While it's difficult to point to an exact source of inspiration for a particular Queen Anne home, sometimes existing plans and houses are so close it is necessary to assume the probability of their association. This is the case with the McMillan House.

McMillan House

Architect J.H. Kirby published his *Modern Cottages* portfolio in 1885, around the time the McMillan House was constructed. *Modern Cottages* was intended "as suggestions to people interested in building," allowing them to pick the essence of the plans they liked before acquiring the services of a professional architect.²⁶ Kirby laid out plans for several cottages in the \$1,000-\$10,000 range that "will always look well."²⁷ He also admitted that most of his designs followed what was then just becoming known as Queen Anne and that the style was calculated to be pleasing to the eye yet comfortable and practical.²⁸

One of Kirby's designs matches the McMillan House's original look very closely. Design #4 is described as:

"A small frame cottage. Exterior – Foundation walls of stone, cellar under the entire house. Good stone cistern in the cellar. Brick chimneys, start from cellar bottom. Eighteen-foot posts. First story nine feet high. Second story eight feet six inches. The entire frame sheathed with matched lumber and covered with

²² Ibid., 8.

²³ Reiff, 120.

²⁴ Hull, 8.

²⁵ Kirby, 7.

²⁶ Ibid., 7.

²⁷ Ibid., 8.

²⁸ Ibid., 8.

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building paper. Narrow clapboards for body work. Roofs shingled. Staircase window on brackets. Nice porch and balcony. Interior – seven rooms and staircase hall, all finished throughout. Staircase window of stained glass. Sliding doors between parlor and living room, kitchen and pantry wainscoted. Wood work throughout of pine, natural finish. Approx. cost - \$1,700 – not include plumb and heating.”

The McMillan House is a cross-gabled subtype by shape. About 20 percent of Queen Anne homes have simple cross-gable roofs without a central hipped unit.²⁹ For decorative detailing, the house is classified as a spindlework. Spindlework Queen Anne houses have milled porch supports and balusters for ornamentation.³⁰ This commonly occurs on porches or in a frieze suspended from the porch ceiling.³¹ It is also used in gables and under cutaway windows that overhang the wall.³² “Lacy decorative spandrels” and “knob-like beads” are also common ornaments of the subtype.³³ The elaborate porch detailing is commonly referred to as “gingerbread.”

Though classified as spindlework subtype, the McMillan House is not overly decorated with gingerbread. The home originally had two porches on the façade. The north porch was enclosed at an unknown date and its spindlework detailing removed. The south porch, which is the main entrance, retains a small balustrade with turned bead-and-bar balusters. The porch, along with the corners of the bay window on the first level of the façade, also has decorative fretwork brackets. However, the features of this Queen Anne home still align more with the spindlework subtype than the others identified.

Other Queen Anne features found on the McMillan House exterior include horizontal wood siding; square, hexagonal, and octagonal shingles in the gables; simple door and window surrounds; primarily one-over-one single-pane windows; stained glass bays or projections; and a steeply-pitched roof.

McMillan House and Queen Anne Architecture in Sturgis

Settlers and military officers from neighboring Fort Meade platted the town of Sturgis in 1878, shortly after the fort’s construction.³⁴ Fort Meade’s purpose was to remove the American Indians, mostly Lakota, from the region to allow for settlers and miners to move into the Black Hills. Fort Meade was viewed as an essential garrison linking Fort Laramie to the south with the Army’s presence in Montana. As customary with the times, where an Army fort developed a town soon followed to “scoop” the soldiers of their pay. Sturgis became known as “Scooptown,”

²⁹ McAlester, 346.

³⁰ Ibid., 346.

³¹ Ibid., 346.

³² Ibid., 346.

³³ Ibid., 346.

³⁴ Charley Waldner. *Early Days of Sturgis and Fort Meade in the Beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota 1874-1910 Volume 1*. (self-published, 1964), 35

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a historical nickname still recognized in the local high school whose moniker is the “Sturgis Scoopers.”

With business from the fort and the mining industry in the Black Hills, the town grew quickly, making additions to the plat in 1880, 1883, 1884, and 1885.³⁵ As businesses prospered in the early years, so did the residential section of town as many beautiful homes were constructed. Sturgis became home to some of the finest houses in the region.

It is important to note that the majority of houses built during the homestead period in South Dakota were simple, often rectilinear gabled houses based on simple plans or ethnic traditions.³⁶ While many of these homes were constructed in Sturgis, a number of larger styled homes were also built. Since many of these homes were erected in the mid- to late-1880s, Victorian influences and the Queen Anne styles are popular in the older residential area. However, many of these homes have been significantly altered over time.³⁷

The area around Junction Avenue, the main north/south thoroughfare through Sturgis, has the highest concentration of historic homes. This core area extends east and west from Junction for about two blocks to the east and four blocks to the west. In this area, there are three eligible Queen Anne homes: 1442 Pine, 1429 Pine and 1611 Davenport (the McMillan House). A considerable number of remodeled homes were likely Queen Anne historically but no longer retain any integrity. There are also two hip-roofed, two-story sandstone homes from the early period that are considered eligible.

There are a few simple, vernacular homes in the Folk Victorian tradition in this residential area. However, they are not individually eligible. There is also no possibility of a residential district in the area due to unsympathetic alterations and infill dating from the early 1900s through mid-century. It appears that larger historic lots were subdivided at a later date and their barns and carriage houses removed and replaced by houses. This gives most of the neighborhood an uneven feel architecturally and makes it difficult for an eclectic group of houses to convey common significance. A handful of Craftsman style homes, a foursquare, and a Pueblo Revival may also be determined individually eligible in this area with more research.

The other two Queen Anne houses are also spindlework subtypes by decoration and cross-gable by shape. The house at 1442 Pine has a partially wrapped around porch and 1429 Pine has a three-quarter-width porch. With the larger porches, both have more gingerbread decoration than the McMillan House, which was designed with two small porches (one of which is enclosed). The McMillan House is the largest of the three and both 1429 Pine and the McMillan House have patterned shingles in the gables.

³⁵ Ibid., 35.

³⁶ David Erpestad and David Wood. *Building South Dakota: A Historical Survey of the State's Architecture to 1945*. (Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 1997), 37.

³⁷ SHPO windshield survey conducted in October 2014.

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The interior of the McMillan House has been changed very little. Like many older homes, the bathrooms and kitchens have been upgraded. The north porch was enclosed, though the purpose of the enclosure is not known. The dining room was remodeled at some point; beams were installed and an archway between the parlor and dining room was installed. It was believed that this archway replaced the rectilinear opening between rooms to cover the installation of plumbing. The other rooms, hallways, and stairwell remain unchanged. Wallpaper covers plaster walls in most rooms while carpet and rugs cover some of the wood floors.

Overall, the McMillan House possesses good integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association. The addition of a small, sunlight window on the eastern roofline and the enclosure of a porch do not detract from the other character-defining features present on the house.

History of the House

It is believed that John C. McMillan had this home built in the summer of 1887. An article in the 16 January 1887 edition of the *Black Hills Times* notes that “Messrs. Potter and McMillan, of Sturgis, have both contracted for elegant residences to be erected this coming summer.”³⁸

McMillan was born at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, in 1846. He spent his early years there completing his primary schooling before enlisting with the 22nd Wisconsin Volunteers in 1865. After the Civil War, he went to work in a dry goods store in Milwaukee, spent three years in Chicago, and eventually went to work for a lumber company in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. He worked in the lumber business until 1878 when he moved to Sturgis.³⁹

He took up a 160-acre homestead claim near town and cultivated it while also working for a trader at the nearby Fort Meade. Two years later, he successfully engaged in the shoe and boot business in Sturgis, which eventually led to the McMillan Mercantile business in 1881. He was also active in politics, serving as city councilman, mayor, and chairman of the state and county Republican central committees.⁴⁰

Before heading for Sturgis in 1878, McMillan married Elsie Whittaker in Beaver Dam. They had five children: Jessie, Burt, Herbert, Nora, and John. He passed away in 1912 at Battle Mountain Sanitarium at the age of 66.⁴¹

It appears that McMillan experienced some financial difficulties in 1896, when the home went up for a sheriff’s sale.⁴² It was purchased by Wesley Stuart, who sold it to John (Jack) and Annie Hale in 1903.⁴³

³⁸ Black Hills Daily Times 16 January 1887.

³⁹ *Memorial and Biographical Records of the Black Hills Region*. (Chicago, IL: George A Ogle and Co., 1908), 276.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, 276.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*, 276.

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Jack Hale was born in Grayson County, Virginia, in 1847 where he received his primary schooling in a log cabin. He came west in 1867 via Omaha, Nebraska, and Cheyenne, Wyoming, where he was employed by the McGrath Forwarding Commission Company.⁴⁴ In 1868, he moved to Montana to engage in mining.⁴⁵ He then moved to Salt Lake City, but returned to Battle Creek, Nebraska, in 1877 to engage in farming.⁴⁶

Before too long, Hale came to South Dakota and engaged in the freighting business, which proved lucrative with the absence of railroads.⁴⁷ He owned a train of seventeen oxen-pulled wagons and freighted for three years before settling near Tilford, South Dakota.⁴⁸ Hale began raising livestock and founded the Pleasant Valley Stock Farm.⁴⁹ He raised stock on this ranch for twenty-one years, owning 1,680 acres and leasing extensive tracts of land.⁵⁰ When Meade County, South Dakota, became too crowded for his liking, Hale relocated his stock operation to Crook County, Wyoming, where he raised purebred horses along with livestock.⁵¹

Hale was elected a member of the Territorial Council of Dakota and served eight years in the House of Representatives and six years in the Senate.⁵² He was on the committee that lobbied the federal government for the division of Dakota Territory into North and South Dakota and was later appointed to the committee to organize South Dakota into precincts and to set up local government positions.⁵³ Hale also served on the Ways and Means, Agriculture and Manufactures, and Mines and Mining committees while in the legislature.⁵⁴

Outside of his public life, Hale was on the board of directors of the Deadwood National Bank and Lawrence County Bank.⁵⁵ He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge for over fifty years, was a thirty-second degree Mason, a Knights Templar, and a member of the Shrine.⁵⁶ He

⁴² Sturgis and Meade County Historical Society file – Mark Rambow.

⁴³ Ibid., 276.

⁴⁴ George H. Kingsbury. *History of Dakota Territory Volume 5*. (Chicago, IL: Clarke Publishing Company, 1915), 486.

⁴⁵ Ibid., 486.

⁴⁶ Ibid., 486.

⁴⁷ Ibid., 487.

⁴⁸ Ibid., 487.

⁴⁹ Ibid., 487.

⁵⁰ Ibid., 487.

⁵¹ Ibid., 487.

⁵² Ibid., 487.

⁵³ *Black Hills Daily Times* 15 October 1884

⁵⁴ *Black Hills Daily Times* 21 January 1881.

⁵⁵ *Black Hills Daily Times* 3 October 1885; *Black Hills Daily Times* 26 October 1886.

⁵⁶ *Sturgis Weekly Record* 16 May 1929.

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married Annie Kost in 1880 and they had one daughter, Mary Florence Naftzger. Jack Hale passed away 9 May 1929 at 81 years of age.⁵⁷

The Hales passed the house to their daughter, who sold it in 1938 to Walter and Edith Farun (or Tarun). The house was passed through a succession of many owners over the years before being purchased by the current owner in 1991.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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⁵⁷ Ibid.

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Sturgis Weekly Record

The Sturgis Advertiser

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
- Federal agency

John and Elsie McMillan House

Meade County, South
Dakota
County and State

Name of Property _____

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

2. Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

3. Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

4. Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: 13 Easting: 618797 Northing: 4918324

2. Zone: _____ Easting: _____ Northing: _____

3. Zone: _____ Easting: _____ Northing: _____

4. Zone: _____ Easting : _____ Northing: _____

John and Elsie McMillan House

Meade County, South
Dakota
County and State

Name of Property

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

Potters Second, Lots 13-16 Incl, Block 12.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes only the lots associated with the house.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kate Nelson and Chris Nelson
organization: South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office
street & number: 900 Governors Drive
city or town: Pierre state: SD zip code: 57501
[e-mail chrisb.nelson@state.sd.us](mailto:chrisb.nelson@state.sd.us)
telephone: 605-773-3103
date: 15 June 2015

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.)

John and Elsie McMillan House

Meade County, South
Dakota
County and State

Name of Property

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

Name of Property: John and Elsie McMillan House

City or Vicinity: Sturgis

County: Meade

State: SD

Photographer: CB Nelson

Date Photographed: 1 September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 12.

SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0001	SW
SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0002	W
SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0003	E
SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0004	S
SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0005	W
SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0006	W
SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0007	S
SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0008	E
SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0009	E
SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0010	S
SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0011	W
SD_MeadeCounty_JohnandElsieMcMillanHouse_0012	N

John and Elsie McMillan House

Meade County, South
Dakota
County and State

Name of Property

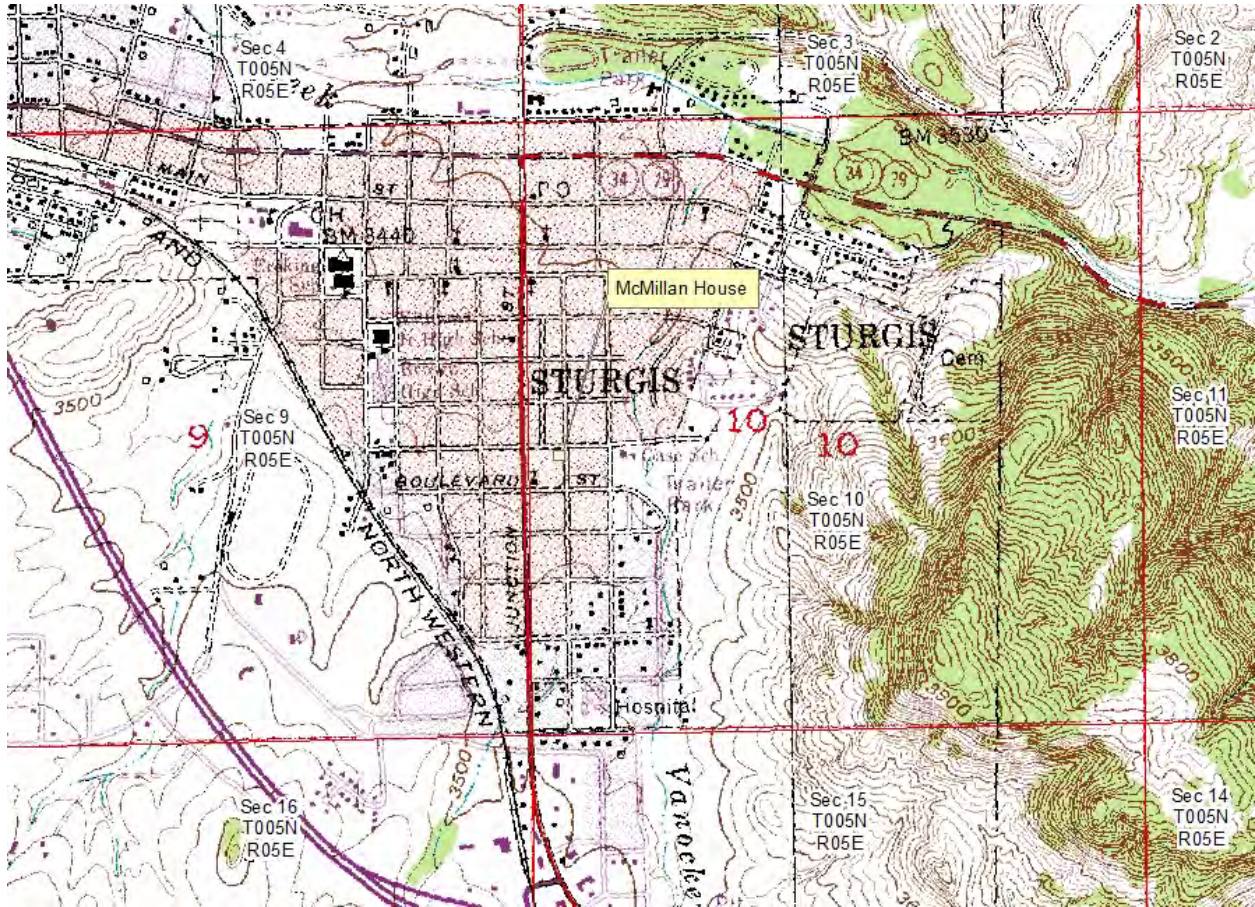
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

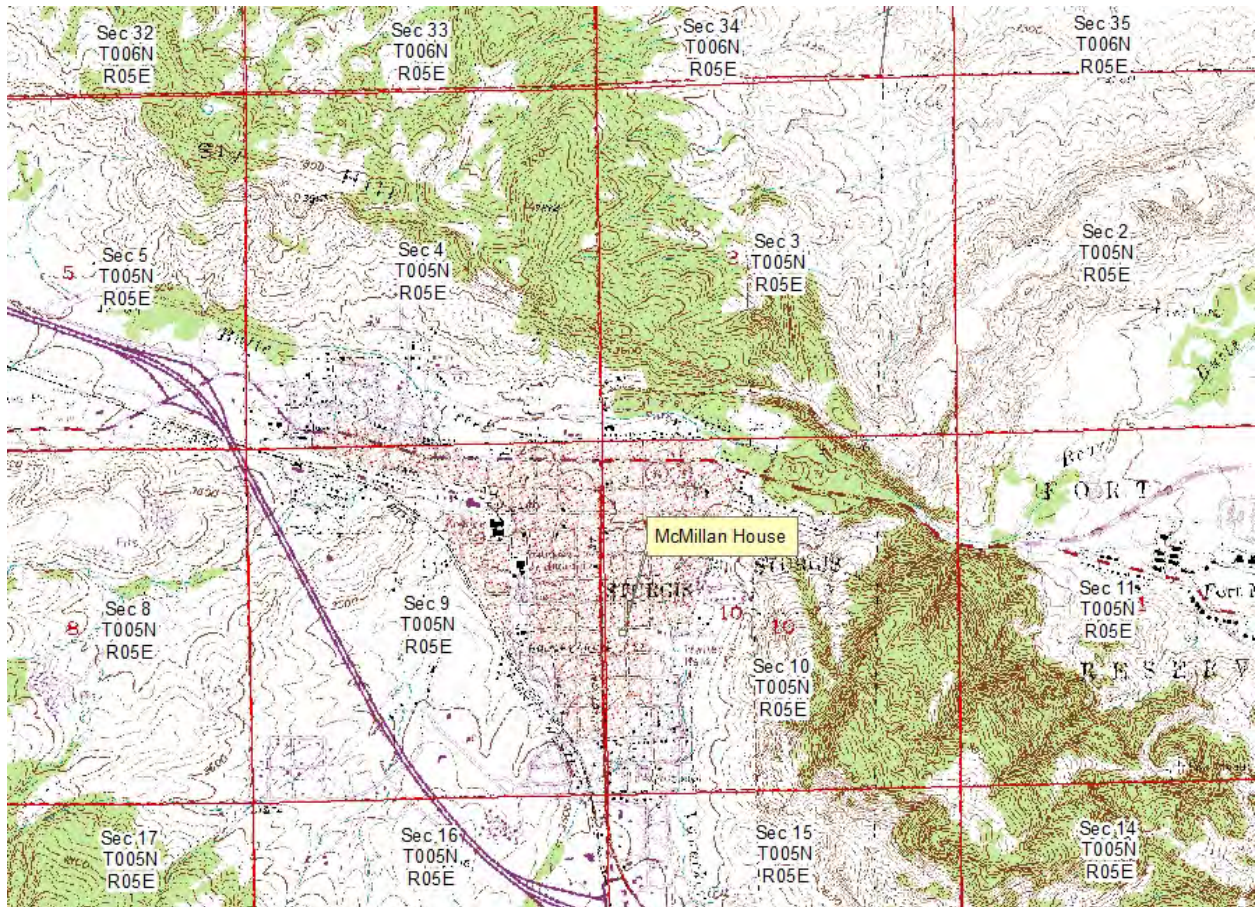


SD_MeadeCounty_McMillanHouse: NW¼, SW¼, S1
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Produced in ArcMap 16 June 2015.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 2

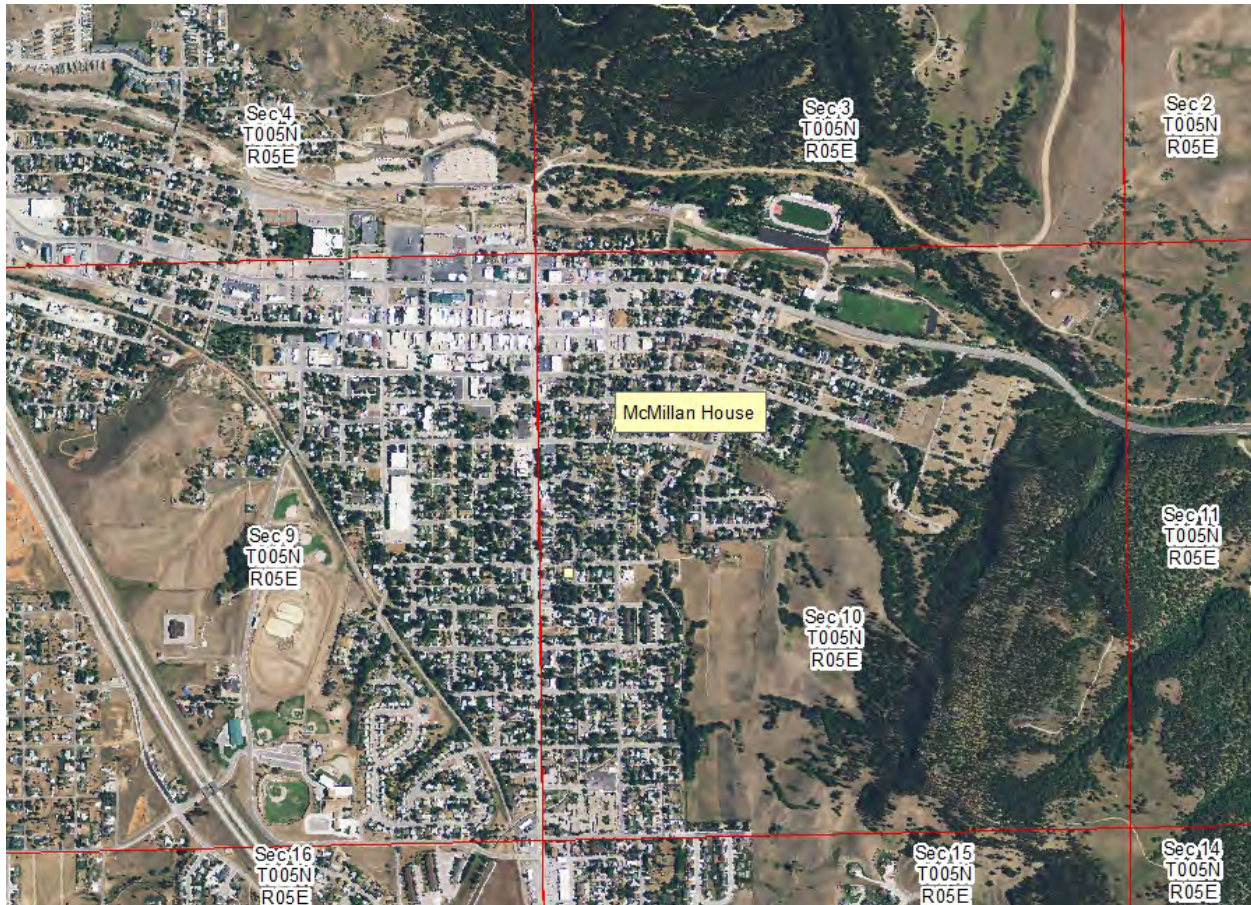


SD_MeadeCounty_McMillanHouse: NW¼, SW¼, S10, T005N, R05E ; UTM Z=13 1.E=618797, N=4918324. 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map, 1:24,000. Produced in ArcMap 16 June 2015.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 3



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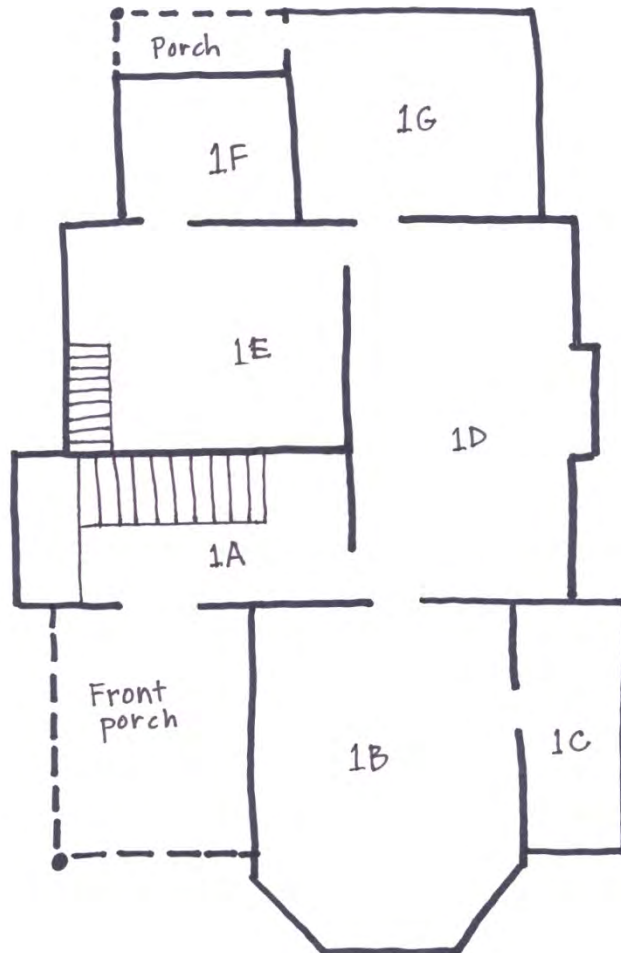
United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 4

McMillan House
First Floor

N →



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

Section number 10 Page 5

McMillan House
Second Floor

N →















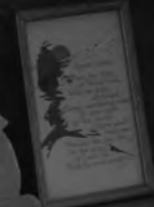












UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: McMillan, John and Elsie, House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: SOUTH DAKOTA, Meade

DATE RECEIVED: 9/18/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/14/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/29/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/03/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000765

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 10.30.15 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

SEP 18 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

14 September 2015

Keeper of the National Register
National Register of Historic Places
National Parks Service
1201 Eye St NW
8th Floor (MS 2280)
Washington DC 20005

Dear Keeper of the National Register:

Enclosed are two National Register of Historic Places nominations approved by the South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees and State Historic Preservation Officer Jay D. Vogt. The nominations enclosed are for the *John and Elsie McMillan House* and the *South Dakota State Capital Complex (Boundary Decrease/Additional Documentation)*.

If you have any questions regarding any of these submittals, please feel free to contact me at 605-773-3103 or at chrisb.nelson@state.sd.us.

Sincerely,

Chris B. Nelson
Historic Preservation Specialist