

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

1. Name

historic Lewis Byron House

and/or common Serolod

2. Location

street & number Cemetery Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Keystone

N/A vicinity of

congressional district

Second

state South Dakota

code 46

county Pennington

code 103

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Dolores Hagel McDermand

street & number Cemetery Road

city, town Keystone

N/A vicinity of

state SD 57751

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Pennington County Courthouse

street & number 315 St. Joseph Street

city, town Rapid City

state SD 57701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located on the hillside above Rapid Creek and the town of Keystone the site consists of a 1927 log house and garage and natural landscaping. The structures have unusually fine craftsmanship, which is dramatically evident in the boulder chimney.

The single-story dwelling is a 40 by 40 foot rectangle, apparently built as a summer house. The plan consists of a large central room, which extends from one gable-end wall to the other and is flanked by a tier of rooms on either side. The southwest corner is a recessed porch area which leads into the dining room and on the southeast, the kitchen. The owner states that she changed the door to the outside and opened a passageway between the dining and kitchen areas, which formerly were connected by an outside porch. Along the opposite side of the house are the bedrooms separated by a bath. An open loft area runs along the northwest, gable-end wall and the massive fireplace and chimney dominate the opposite wall. The present owner replaced the flanking multi-pane windows with the large plate glass windows. The house rests on a full basement which opens onto the lower patio, and a porch extends along the northwest side of the house.

The log construction technique employs stripped, unhewn logs joined with a saddle notch. This is sometimes referred to as Lincoln Log building. The ends of logs are sawn and the tapering crowns extend beyond the corner as a decorative feature. The low-pitched roof extends beyond the wall in a wide eave both as an arts and crafts/Prairie School/Western Stick style feature and to protect the crown ends. Covered in cement tile the roof was originally covered in wooden shingles. Throughout the house, furnishings and woodwork are details found commonly in domestic rather than resort buildings. Brass strap hinges, electrical "Kerosene" lamps and dark grained woodwork are among the decorative devices. The most striking feature of the house is the fireplace built by a reknowned local mason named Nystrom. The huge rocks or boulders are laid up in loose rubble fashion. Both the skillful use of colors and the slight variation in shape at the corners give the massive chimney an elegant, polished effect. The mason's skill is most evident in the spare use of cement mortar which allows the rocks to appear to be piled upon one another without any visible mortar. The house rests on a stone foundation which was probably done by some other mason. These walls are flush with rough running courses of chipped or slightly dressed stone. A retaining wall behind the house is built in the same manner.

A garage is located to the northeast and is also built of log and finished with arts and crafts details. The site is landscaped in a studied, natural manner and features wild and domesticated flower beds, rough flagstone steps, and foot paths which follow the natural terrain.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1927	Builder/Architect	A. I. Johnson, engineer (plan) Nystrom, mason
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Significant in the area of architecture, the Byron House is an excellent example of single-family resort architecture in South Dakota. The house was constructed by local craftsmen, who also worked on several fine resort buildings in the area. Devastated by a flood in the early 1970's, the community of Keystone has few remaining early houses, and this structure is the best example of post-World War One architecture.

Keystone was settled in 1876 and the community organized in 1891, long before the northern Black Hills were exploited as a tourist recreation area. After the First World War the automobile helped bring about the new tourist industry and in the 1920's and 1930's many fine resort buildings were constructed as lodges, visitor's centers and private dwellings. Log construction was frequently employed for these ornate and fanciful structures. The Byron House was built in part by Mr. Nystrom, a mason who worked on the Custer State Game Lodge.

The house was built for Lewis Byron in 1927 from plans drawn by his company engineer, A. I. Johnson. Byron re-opened the Holy Terror Mine, which has closed after a serious fire around 1900. The Holy Terror had been the major mine in Keystone since 1894. Byron died in 1940 before the mine produced a profit and it was subsequently closed. Fred and Edythe Sackett, who operated a business in Rapid City were the second owners. In 1967 the house was sold to the present owner .

NEW YORK STATE
ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

9. Major Bibliographical References

Watson Parker & Hugh Lambert. Black Hills Ghost Towns. Chicago; The Swallow Press. 1974, p. 122.
Oral Interview, A.I. Johnson, July 26, 1981 and September 22, 1981
Oral Interview, Frances Vincent, September 8, 1981
Oral Interview, Ewald Hayes

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 5 acres

Quadrangle name Mount Rushmore, S. Dak.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>113</u>	<u>6216</u>	<u>81910</u>	<u>418</u>	<u>610</u>	<u>21210</u>
	Zone	Easting		Northing		
C						
E						
G						

B						
	Zone	Easting		Northing		
D						
F						
H						

Verbal boundary description and justification The lot lines of the property form the boundaries of the site located in Fuller Lode I, including Lot 1, and Keystone Mineral Outlot #22, Section 8, T2S, R6E, all SE of Private Road, Mining Survey #1380.

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

state	code	county	code
<u>N/A</u>			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dolores McDermid Editing: Carolyn Torma

organization Historical Preservation Center date 28 Jan 82

street & number USD, 216 Clark Street telephone 605-677-5314

city or town Vermillion state SD 57069

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:
 national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Junius R. Fishburn
title Director, Office of Cultural Preservation date May 3, 1982

For HCRS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Dolores Bryan
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 6/17/82

Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

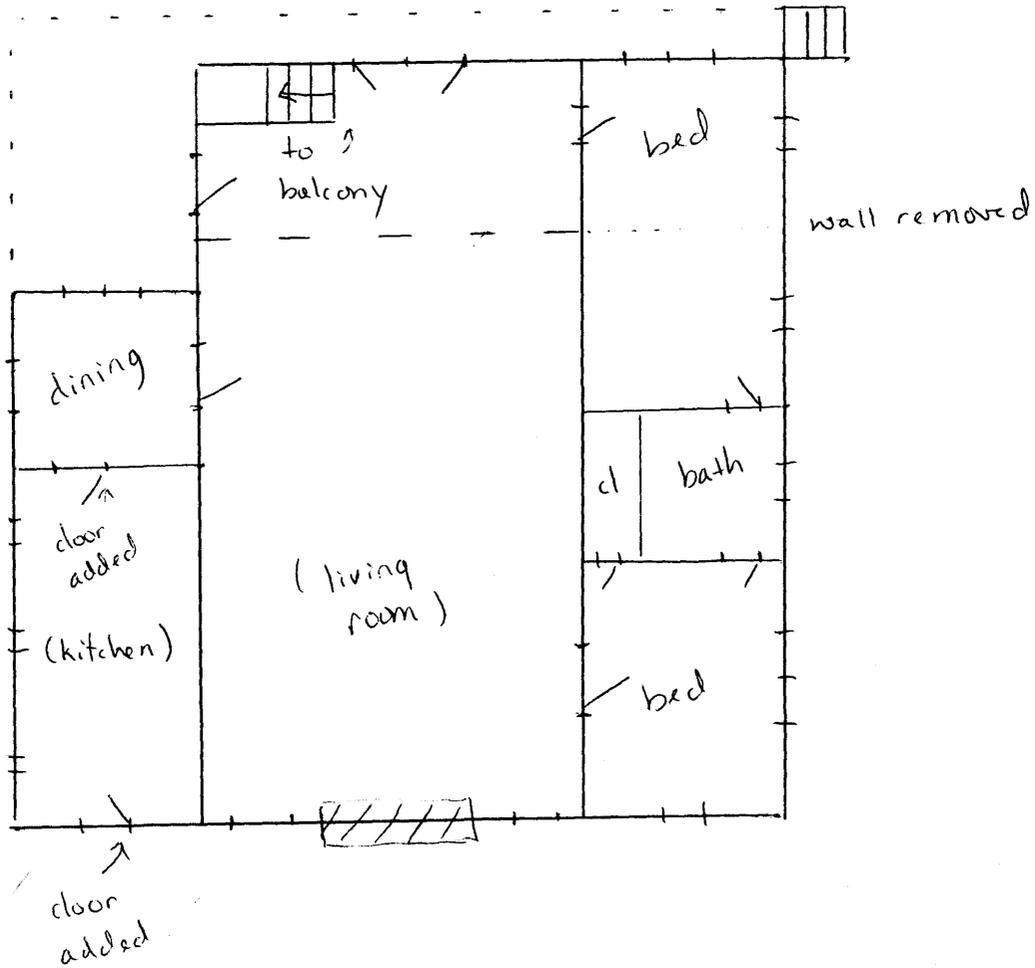
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received
date entered

Lewis Byron House
Continuation sheet

Keystone, Pennington Co, SD
Item number

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hillside

