

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.

**1. Name of Property**Historic name: Laura A. Smith House

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

**2. Location**Street & number: 519 N Lee AveCity or town: Madison State: South Dakota County: LakeNot 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 Xlocal

Applicable National Register Criteria: \_\_\_\_A \_\_\_\_B XC \_\_\_\_D\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title:\_\_\_\_\_  
Date\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

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#### 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): \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 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 ☐

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

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

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

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

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

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

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

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

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

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

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

Principal exterior materials of the property:

STONE: Granite

ASPHALT

WOOD: Weatherboard

BRICK

## 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 Laura A. Smith House sits on the southwest corner of the intersection of NE 5<sup>th</sup> St. and N. Lee Ave. in a residential area of Madison, South Dakota. The house is a two-and-a-half story Queen Anne style home featuring a wrap-around porch, corner tower, bay windows, and hip roof with lower cross gables and asphalt shingles. The building's form is asymmetrical, typical of its architectural style. The house was built using wood balloon framing and the exterior is clad in horizontal weatherboard siding. It sits on a raised stone and concrete foundation. A prominent exterior element of the home is the many windows, several of which feature historic geometric sash patterns. The interior of the house contains plaster and lath walls and original woodwork, including doors, trim molding, and wood staircase and railing. Curved radiators, push-button light switches, and a brick coal chute are other surviving historic features.

A non-contributing L-shaped multi-use garage, which is not related to the Queen Anne architectural significance of the property, lies along the west edge of the lot along the alley. It has undergone several additions and now partly contains a residential apartment (currently using the address: 215 NE 5<sup>th</sup> St.).

The Smith House is significant example of Queen Anne architecture in its local context. It retains a high level of integrity being in its historic location and residential neighborhood context for integrity of setting, feeling, and association. The house retains integrity of design, materials and workmanship in its historic massing, cross-gables with shingle siding and scroll-cut brackets, corner tower with bell-curved roof, multiple bay windows, many original windows, and historic weatherboard siding, as well as interior wood trim, staircase, and brick fireplaces. These important features support the house as a fine example of local architectural history. Recent rehabilitation work on the prominent wrap-around porch retained the historic porch floor and roof with patch repairs to the frieze. However, the latticework, railing, decking, front steps, and roof balustrade were severely deteriorated. Except the roof balustrade (to date), these features have been replaced in-kind, except that the new wood railing is taller to align with contemporary local building codes. The Doric columns were selected to be a close match to the deteriorated historic columns' style and profile but are a fiberglass version.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State

On the street-facing north elevation, between 1956 and 1965, a semicircular alcove off the formal dining room was extended a few feet outward and converted into a one-story bedroom.<sup>1</sup> The addition used similar exterior design features in the siding, trim, and balustrade, though the frieze board is a slightly different width and, on the interior, the wood wainscoting paneling of the dining room is different on the wall between it and the addition. It is likely that the two curved windows on the north side of the addition were reused from the historic alcove. Overall, this small one-story addition does not excessively detract from the extant historic design and massing of the house.

From approximately the 1960s to the 1990s, the second story was used as apartments which resulted in some structural and functional changes. The house is now again a single-family residence. The apartments were accessed via the back door and rear stairwell so a partition wall along the main stairwell had separated the first floor from the second-floor apartments, but it has since been removed. The upstairs contained up to two apartment spaces, each with a kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, and living room. The kitchens have been removed and the spaces restored to functions noted in the detailed description that follows. Screen doors were replaced around the house in c. 2002.

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## Narrative Description

The Laura A. Smith House is located at 519 N. Lee Ave. in Madison, Lake County, South Dakota. The house sits on the southwest corner of the intersection of Lee Ave. with 5th St. NE. It is on the northeast quarter of Block 2 of Kennedy's Addition. This area is a tree-filled residential neighborhood in north-central Madison. Blocks are generally square with central alleyways running north-south. One block north of the Smith House property is Dakota State University, which extends from 6<sup>th</sup> St. north to the edge of town. It is a public university that was founded as the first teacher's college in Dakota Territory. To the north and west is the Madison Historic District, which contains residential dwellings, Memorial Park, and some Dakota State University campus buildings. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. About three blocks south and across S.D. Highway 34 is the center of Madison with civic buildings, downtown businesses, and an industrial district along the line built for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad.

### *Overall*

The Smith House's lot is slightly raised and slopes to the city concrete sidewalks along 5<sup>th</sup> St. and Lee Ave. The house sits about thirty feet back from each sidewalk. A concrete walk with three steps leads up from Lee Ave., crosses the city sidewalk, and extends to the house's front porch steps. A narrow concrete walk goes from the front porch around the house to the south. A concrete driveway slopes up from 5<sup>th</sup> St. to the garage, and gravel paving extends to a space for

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<sup>1</sup> "519 Lee Ave N, Madison, South Dakota," 1956 and 1965 Aerial Maps, <https://historicaerials.com/viewer>, accessed online: November 17, 2025.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State

vehicle parking between the house and garage. A wood-slat fenced side yard lies off the southwest corner of the house.

Although largely hidden by the lattice of the house's wrap-around porch, the raised stone foundation is parged with concrete at the west rear end of the house.

Around the house, unless otherwise noted, the exterior walls are clad in wood weatherboard siding with corner boards and wide frieze boards at the cornice and along a band above the first floor. The windows typically have narrow board surrounds with simple sills and are set against the frieze, so they have no caps or hoods except in the gable ends where there is a simple cap trim. Most also have one- or two-part wood storm windows.

The house's complex and steeply pitched hip roof with lower cross gables is a common form used for Queen Anne houses. There are cross-gables extending north, west, and south, and the east slope has a hip gable with a dormer window at its peak. At the northeast corner of the house is a tower with a bell-curved roof. West of center on the north elevation, there is a one-story addition built between 1956 and 1965, which has a flat roof. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The eaves include narrow, angled fascia and wood soffit of moderate width. Two tall brick chimneys extend from the roof along the north slope (east of the lower cross-gable) and towards the east end of the south slope. Each has brick in a running bond pattern with recessed center panels, slight corbeling at the cornice, and a concrete cap. Also, a modern exhaust pipe extrudes from the west ridge slope.

The one-story open wrap-around porch is also characteristic to the Queen Anne style. The porch covers the east façade and continues partially on the north and south elevations. At its south and north ends, it is semi-circular against the south cross-wing and the northside addition. There are wide wood front steps near center on the east section of the porch. The porch is covered with a low flat roof except for where it circumvents the tower. While the decking continues (albeit narrower), the roof resumes on the north elevation. The porch has wood lattice work at its base. The flooring is tongue and groove wood, and the ceiling is bead board. Doric type columns vertically connect the porch deck to the roof entablature, which has a wide frieze with only a small band of stepped molding, board soffit, and narrow molded fascia. A railing with square balusters extends between the columns. Around the tower, where there is no porch roof and no columns, the balustrade is intersected with square capped piers between each section of balusters. In 2024-2025, the owners undertook porch repairs that included patching sections of deteriorated wood along the roof frieze, and replacing in full the deteriorated porch railing, columns and square piers around the tower, lattice screening below, and floor decking. The replacements were in-kind for design and use of wood materials, except that local codes required the main porch railing to be taller and the columns were replaced with a fiberglass version. Side railings were also added to the front steps in a compatible design to the rest of the porch railing. The short balustrade that historically extended along the porch roof was deteriorated and removed and has not, at this time, been reconstructed.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State



House at 519 N. Lee, 20 February 1974, Historic Preservation Office photograph, collections of the South Dakota State Archives, #2012-06-06-356.

### *East Façade*

The east façade has canted bays with windows at its south bay, and on the north bay the main entrance on the first floor and a single sash window on the second.

At the south end of the wrapped porch, a shorter casement wood sash window is located against the main body of the house on the east-facing side of the south gable projection.

On the first floor, the bay window has a triad of one-over-one wood double-hung sash windows, one set into each face of the canted bay. All these windows are the same height, but the center window is slightly wider than those that flank it. A narrower one-over-one wood double-hung sash window sits between the bay and the front door. The single-leaf front door is wood with a large glass light and a modern storm door.

The second-floor canted bay contains three individual double-hung windows in the three faces of its projection. Like the first-floor bay, the center window is wider than its flanking windows. In the upper sashes of these three windows, there are decorative diamond muntins. Pairs of scroll-cut wood brackets are found along the soffit to either side of this bay. To the north of the bay window, is a single one-over-one double-hung sash window.

The first story of the northeast corner tower is polygonal with five flat faces. The three largest and central faces each contain an individual one-over-one double-hung window. The second story of the tower is rounded and has a central triple window, and while the wall of the building envelope is curved, each one-over-one double-hung window contains flat pane glazing.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State

At the roof/attic level, a gabled dormer juts out the hip gable projection (covering the bays on first and second floors). The small window has diamond muntins in the upper sash. In front of this dormer is a small balustrade resembling the porch railings. Square wood shingles clad the siding of the dormer and the small knee walls at each end of its balustrade.

### *North Elevation*

The north elevation faces NE 5th St. On the first floor, in the east first bay under the porch, there is a single-leaf entrance with a large window light and a modern storm door. West of the porch is the one-story addition that was constructed between 1956 and 1965. The addition has a single one-over-one window on its east-facing side, two double-hung windows on its north side, and no windows on the west side. Windows on the east and north sides have a convex curve shape and thirty-six over one light sashes, with storm windows that are also curved. It is likely that these were reused from the historic alcove that had a semicircular section. West of the addition, on the main massing of the house, there are a pair of shorter six-over-one modern thermal windows, which are wood with exterior cladding.

On the second floor of the north cross-gable wing are two one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. The gable end of the projecting wing has a wall plane that is nearly flush with the eave but recesses at the center in the shape of a Gothic arch and flares to a pent roof at the bottom edge. At the center, there is one small window with diamond-shaped muntins in the upper sash. Along the soffit are four scroll-cut brackets, two left of the arch and two to the right. The siding in the gable end is square wood shingles.

### *West Elevation*

The west elevation is the rear of the house. The raised stone foundation is visible above ground level across the entire elevation. Basement window openings are infilled. On the first floor, there is a one-over-one double-hung wood sash window on the west-facing wall of the north cross-gable wing. To the south, on the main massing of the house, there is a shorter six-over-one wood clad modern window. A substantially smaller wall projection with a hip roof is inset in the ell with the west gabled wing. Historically, a small rear porch was in this ell.<sup>2</sup> On the first floor of the gabled wing are two six-over-one wood clad modern windows. A small one-story addition (built after 1931) projects from the south end of the wing and contains a rear entrance door with non-historic wooden stairs, which have a small landing and run down to the north.

The second story of the gabled wing has two one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. The pedimented gable end has a rake and eave that form an equilateral triangle. In this sits a round-arched single-hung wood window with a multi-light upper sash, keystone surround, and two narrow sidelights.

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<sup>2</sup> Sanborn Map Company, *Map of Madison, Lake County, South Dakota* (January 1914), 2, and (January 1931) from the Collections of the South Dakota State Archives, Pierre.



Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

### *South Elevation*

On the ground in front of the westernmost bay, is a concrete pad covered by a modern metal shed roof canopy with narrow square posts that serves as a back patio. A wood door with three lower panels and a large light, with storm door, is set at ground level (it is set at a midpoint on the basement stairs inside). On the first floor, the projecting central cross-gable wing has a canted bay with three windows. The center wood picture window has a storm window with four lights. The windows on the sides of the bay are one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. The bay window has a low flat roof and a small roof balustrade resembling the one on the porch. The wraparound porch begins in the third, easternmost bay. Under the porch, one double-hung window sits in the east corner of the house.

The second story's first bay lacks any fenestration. The center gable wing contains two identical one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. The third bay has a one-over-one wood double-hung sash window near the east end.

The gable end of the projecting central wing has the same details as the north gable, with a recessed Gothic arch, small window with a diamond-shaped muntins, pairs of scroll-cut brackets, and square wood shingle siding.

### **Interior**

Except for the front rooms of the first floor, the house is mostly laid out in a traditional closed floor plan. Walls or other divisions between the front rooms and main hall may have been removed in years past. Gathering spaces and kitchen are located on the first floor while personal spaces are located on the second floor. The attic and basement are unfinished. Interior walls and ceilings are constructed from plaster and wood lath. Historic wood board floors run throughout the house. Decorative elements include crown molding, baseboard molding, some paneled wainscoting, door and window surrounds, and oak doors. Wood elements are cohesive in their design with matching coloring and linear profiling throughout the house. Most of the doors are uniform in their design with five horizontal raised panels with surrounds having butted casings and cap trim. There is one double pocket door between the north parlor alcove and dining room, which has a pair of large six-paneled doors. Historic doorknobs and plates as well as window sash lifts and locks are retained, and most have scrolled Victorian detailing. There are also still heating pipes along some walls, curved metal radiators, and push button light switches.

### *First Floor*

Inside the front door is a vestibule with a closet on its south end, which has a five paneled wooden door. Another wood door with a large glass light leads to the main floor. The front area lacks partitions and opens to parlor areas on the north and south. In the south parlor space, a curved metal radiator follows the curve of the front bay window. Along the south wall is a brick fireplace and an alcove with a built-in wood bookshelf. Extending back along the south side of the house is a bathroom and a family room.

The center hallway of the first floor features a prominent oak stairway off-center to the south, which leads up and turns north to the second floor. The balustrade begins with a large box newel

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State

post, and smaller box newel posts are located at the quarter-turn and at the top of the staircase. The balustrade has three turned balusters attached to each step and all topped with a Colonial profile handrail. This stairway features a built-in oak sitting bench that extends across the wall spandrel. Past this bench and under the quarter-turn of the stairway, is a closet with oak door.

In the north parlor space at the east end of the house, there is a curved radiator within the tower's alcove. A fireplace is in an angled wall between the north wall and the next room, the dining room. A double-leaf pocket door is in the wall to the dining room. The solid oak doors are decorated with six horizontal raised panels and have a surround with butted casing and cap trim. The dining room is lined with oak wainscoting, which has some paneling and a plate ledge as its crown trim. The formal dining room has two doors that lead into the north addition, which has been used as a bedroom. A swinging wood paneled door on the dining room's west wall leads into the kitchen.

The kitchen at the back northwest corner of the house is partially divided between the functional kitchen at the center and alcove to the north. The kitchen was remodeled in c.2000. The ceiling is currently covered with wallpaper to resemble metal panels. Non-historic cabinetry wraps around the brick furnace chimney.

In the southwest corner of the kitchen, a door leads to the west rear entrance, its landing, and the back staircase to the second floor. That staircase has carpeted floors and wall-mounted handrails, but also historic baseboard trim. It has a turn shortly before the doorway to the second-floor hallway; that door is wood with three lights over two panels and a latch rather than doorknob.

From the southeast corner of the kitchen, a door leads to a staircase to the basement, on which a mid-point landing leads to the south side entrance door. Those steps have laminate flooring, historic baseboards and beadboard wall paneling.

### *Second Floor & Attic*

The second floor includes bedrooms, bathrooms, and storage closets. The second floor does not feature crown molding but still has oak baseboard molding. Doors are five-paneled wood doors with historic surrounds with butted casings and cap trim. The largest bedroom is in the northeast tower and therefore has a rounded corner wall. The bedroom in the southeast corner aligns with the second-floor bay window on the façade. A third bedroom is centered on the south wall. All bedrooms contain walk-in closets. There are also two bathrooms and a laundry. An oak door along the east side of a bump-out into the landing leads to the wood stairs to the attic. A wood double-hatchway door leads into the unfinished attic, which has a wood floor and open rafters.

### *Basement*

The basement is unfinished, with post and beams supporting the floor rafters above. The flooring is poured concrete. The foundation walls are a mix of fieldstone granite, stacked in a random uncoursed masonry pattern. The internal walls are lath and plaster. The windows high in the wall allow light into the basement. There are two main rooms, one on the west end with a four-panel door leading to the rest of the basement, which is used for utilities and storage.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State

**Secondary Building, Non-contributing, c.1920**

(garage, storage, and secondary residential apartment with address 215 NE 5<sup>th</sup> St.)

Along the west edge of the lot is a non-contributing auxiliary structure comprised of a garage, residential space, and storage shed. This structure has historically had a variety of uses including a carriage house, an outhouse, and workshop. It was built between 1914 and 1921 as an auto garage. Multiple additions from the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century have been added to it on the south and extending slightly east into an L shape.<sup>3</sup> This auxiliary structure is included with non-contributing status because it does not relate to the architectural significance of the property.

At the north end of the now L-shaped structure, the garage's two vehicle bays face 5<sup>th</sup> St. The wood frame garage has wood lap siding and a gable roof with wide, open eaves and asphalt shingles. The east vehicle bay has a modern overhead door, and the west bay has an original wood-braced door with beadboard siding that hangs on a sliding track. The south end of the garage building is now part of the residential apartment. Along the east elevation, starting from the south end, are a wood paneled entrance door with aluminum screen door, a four-over-one wood sash window, a small window set high on the wall, two-paneled wood door with beadboard upper panel, and two four-over-one wood sash windows. Windows and doors have board surrounds with simple caps. The west elevation has four four-over-one windows, though the second is currently boarded over.

South of the gabled garage volume is a shorter hyphen addition from the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, which has a low roof, wood lap siding, door with diamond-shaped window light and wood screen door, and a short sash window on its east side, and a small window on the west side. In the southwest corner is a square volume with a pyramidal asphalt shingle roof and minimal fenestration. A smaller shed addition with a flat roof is attached on its east side. Its north side has two rectangular windows on either side of a single wood door.

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<sup>3</sup> Sanborn Map Company, *Map of Madison, Lake County, South Dakota* (January 1914), 2, (August 1921), 3, and (January 1931) from the Collections of the South Dakota State Archives, Pierre.

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

## 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

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

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**Period of Significance**

1906

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**Significant Dates**

1906

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**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

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**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

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**Architect/Builder**

Theophilus J. Habeger (builder)

Daniel Habeger (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 Laura A. Smith House is nominated under Criterion C for its architecture and high artistic value at the local level of significance. The period of significance is 1906, the year that construction was likely completed. Laura A. Smith had had construction started on this house in the spring of 1905, a time when Madison was in a period of economic and physical growth. Although her husband Irving D. Smith was already in poor health and did not survive to occupy

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State

the house, passing away in February 1906, Laura Smith lived in the house with her youngest children.<sup>4</sup> The name of the property used in this nomination recognizes Laura's assumed substantial influence on the original design of the house and first primary occupant.

The house retains a high level of integrity despite a small mid-20<sup>th</sup> century addition on its north side and recent rehabilitation and replacement of deteriorated porch elements. The Free Classic Queen Anne style of the house is embodied in its asymmetry, wraparound porch, corner tower, bay windows, and complex roof form with lower cross-gables that retain their shingle siding, decorative window types, and scroll-cut brackets. The additional level of integrity of interior features in the staircase, windows, doors, and trim molding in main parlors, halls, and dining room contributes to the significance of the house. Although several good examples of the style are extant in Madison, starting from its earliest years in the 1880s, there are increasingly fewer as the years go on, and this is a fine example to represent the late period Free Classic variation of the Queen Anne style.

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

Historically, various indigenous tribes populated the land that eventually became South Dakota in 1889. At the time of European and American settlement in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, it was largely the home of the Oceti Sakowin of the Great Plains. The Dakota tribes of the Oceti Sakowin lived primarily east of the Missouri River, while the Lakota lived west of the river. In the eastern area that became Lake County, the primary inhabitants by the 1850s were the Ihanktonwan Dakota.<sup>5</sup> Other tribes who lived in the region included the Arikara, Mandan, Hidatsa, Cheyenne, Crow, and Pawnee.

As European countries first colonized what is now the United States, France claimed the land that is currently South Dakota in 1743. The United States acquired the land in 1803 as part of the Louisiana Purchase. The greater region was included in the Territory of Minnesota from 1849 to 1858 until the Yankton Treaty of 1858 ceded most of present-day eastern South Dakota to the United States, and present-day Madison was included in Indian Land Cession 410.<sup>6</sup> Under the 1858 treaty, a Ihanktonwan (Yankton Sioux Tribe) reservation and federal agency was established on the east side of the Missouri River around present-day Charles Mix County. Dakota Territory was established in 1861, and the U.S. Congress divided it to make North Dakota and South Dakota into states in 1889.

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<sup>4</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), May 6, 1907–June 3, 1907.

<sup>5</sup> *Oceti Sakowin* translates to “The People of the Seven Council Fires” and have also been called the Sioux Nation. Office of Indian Education, South Dakota Department of Education, “Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings and Standards,” 2012.

<sup>6</sup> Charles C. Royce and Cyrus Thomas, “Indian Land Cessions in the United States,” North Dakota and South Dakota, Plates CXVIII, CXIX, CXX in the *Eighteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, 1896-1897*, part 2 (Washington D.C.: GPO, 1899), accessed online, November 15, 2025: <https://www.loc.gov/item/13023487/>.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State

After the 1858 treaty there continued to be networks of fur-trading posts along rivers, a U.S. military presence, and some agricultural settlement through the Pre-Emption Act. After 1862, thousands of farmers and land developers took advantage of the opportunities to own land provided by the Homestead Act and the corresponding 1873 Timber Culture Act. Still, it was the extension of railroad networks that made a high volume of settlement increasingly possible. As the lines expanded between 1878 and 1887, the first “Dakota Boom” marked a period of rapid growth in the territory, particularly in the eastern part, as towns and farmsteads proliferated. Then, in the economically healthy first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a second “Dakota Boom” brought about additional new construction, new businesses, investment in transportation infrastructure, and expanded social and civic institutions in the eastern counties of South Dakota. Between 1860 and 1930, public and private interests (especially railroad companies) platted more than 500 townsites in South Dakota.<sup>7</sup>

### *Lake County and Madison History*

The numerous glacial lakes in the area, which geographer Joseph Nicollet had mapped in his expeditions of the 1830s, served as the basis for the naming of Lake County when it was officially organized in 1873.<sup>8</sup> Among the county’s first permanent American settlers were the Luce family. During the Civil War, the United States had posted military units in Dakota Territory during the conflict with Oceti Sakowin groups following the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. While serving in the 2nd Minnesota Cavalry Regiment, military volunteers spent a severe winter near the future Lake County. One of these men was William Luce who, after his military service, returned in 1870 with his father Herman Luce to homestead near one of the lakes, which is now called Lake Herman. They created a village also named for Herman, which they formally platted in 1878.<sup>9</sup>

Also in 1870, William Lee and John M. Walker arrived from Wisconsin and established the original town of Madison on the south shore of Lake Madison (then called Skunk Lake).<sup>10</sup> Both town and lake were named after Madison, Wisconsin. In 1873, when Lake County was established, that settlement was designated as the county seat. But it was not until 1875-1876 that the town was officially platted and named by William Van Eps.

In 1878, Charles B. Kennedy came to the Dakota Territory and homesteaded in a drained valley between Lake Madison and Lake Herman. This homestead and tree claim was 320 acres. At that

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<sup>7</sup> Michael P. Conzen, “Understanding Great Plains Urbanization Through the Lens of South Dakota Townscapes,” *Journal of Geography* 109 (2010), 3.

<sup>8</sup> Federal Writer’s Project, Works Progress Administration. *South Dakota Place-Names*. Vol. 1-3. Vermillion: University of South Dakota, 1940, 413.

<sup>9</sup> The Luce Cabin is now within Lake Herman State Park. Steven D. Ruple, “Herman Luce Cabin,” Lake County, SD, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1977, NRIS: 78002561; “William Luce Soldier Details.” Civil War Soldier Search. National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-soldiers-detail.htm?soldierId=9C7CACB4-DC7A-DF11-BF36-B8AC6F5D926A>, accessed online: July 14, 2025; “Civil War Military Units from Minnesota: 2nd Regiment of Cavalry,” *LibGuides at Minnesota Historical Society Library*, <https://libguides.mnhs.org/cwm/cavalry2>, accessed online: July 10, 2025.

<sup>10</sup> Another man, Joseph Mason, was with them in the spring of 1870 but ultimately did not file a claim or return to Madison that fall. *History of Lake County* (Madison, SD: Lake County Historical Society, 1995), 19.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

time, there were still only about nine settler families living in the county.<sup>11</sup> Although homesteading was difficult, agricultural endeavors to raise livestock and grow cash crops in Lake County benefited from multiple bodies of water: the lakes, the East Fork of the Vermillion River, and several creeks. Agriculture was typically grain crops with the raising of hogs, sheep, and eventually dairy and stock cattle also being profitable.<sup>12</sup>

The expanding railroad network determined the fate of these towns. In 1880, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad (also known as “the Milwaukee”) built a line west from Flandreau to Kennedy’s homestead. Because of the railroad’s importance, Kennedy invited Madison residents to move to his homestead and form a new town of Madison. Kennedy also extended his invitation to neighboring towns, but they were not eager to relocate. The towns of Herman and Wentworth were displeased because of a years-long contention over where the permanent county seat would be located, since being the seat of county government operations benefited towns economically. Before an election could be held to decide on the seat, men in New Madison went in the night to the largely abandoned Old Madison to move the safe of county records, along with the shack it was housed in, on skids to New Madison.<sup>13</sup> After initial grumbling, the county seat stayed at New Madison.

The first train arrived in Madison on January 18, 1881.<sup>14</sup> Also in 1881, C.B. Kennedy, now a representative in the territorial legislature, secured Madison as the site for the first teacher’s education school, or “normal school,” in Dakota Territory.<sup>15</sup> Madison continued to attract more residents and business offerings because of the school, being the county seat, and having a train depot. It was a market and retail hub for the surrounding agricultural areas. Madison incorporated as a village in May 1881 and as a city in 1885.<sup>16</sup> Early Madison residents came primarily from New England, the Midwest (Old Northwest), Scandinavia, and the British Isles. Early businesses included a fairly typical range of general merchandise, banks, newspaper, implements, liverys, bakeries, drug stores, flour mills, meat market, theater, restaurant, and saloons.<sup>17</sup> The town residents established public schools, churches, and, in 1905, a public library.<sup>18</sup> Although there were carpenters and builders in Madison as early as 1880-1881, the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was a high point for new houses and business blocks in town.<sup>19</sup> In 1901, the local newspaper reported that construction activity in Madison that year had primarily been residences “thereby making more permanent the character, population and business growth of the city.”<sup>20</sup> On nearby Lake Madison, one of the state’s only permanent Chautauqua grounds started in 1890, and they built facilities like a hotel, auditorium pavilion, dining hall, barns,

<sup>11</sup> *History of Lake County*, 210-211; Alice R. Costlow, *Pioneer Days* (Self-published, 1966), 20.

<sup>12</sup> Allyson Brooks and Steph Jacon, with Michael Bedeau, ed., *Homesteading and Agricultural Development Context* (Vermillion: South Dakota State Historical Preservation Center, 1994).

<sup>13</sup> *History of Lake County*, 993.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, 34.

<sup>15</sup> Carla Callies, “Matthew W. Daly House,” Madison, Lake County, SD, National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, 1988, NRIS: 88000571.

<sup>16</sup> *History of Lake County*, 214.

<sup>17</sup> *History of Lake County*, 211, 282.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*, 211-212.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, 211.

<sup>20</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), December 31, 1901.



Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

bathhouse, and campsites. Additionally, regular attendees invested in putting up their own lakeside cottages in the vicinity. The Chautauqua brought speakers and recreational events together for several weeks each July for all who attended, and it operated until 1932.<sup>21</sup>

The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Depot in Madison (rebuilt in 1906) functioned as a passenger station until 1953, at which time it was used as administration offices until company bankruptcy in 1979. In the 1940s, the company had employed seventy-seven conductors, brakemen, and other crewmen out of the Madison depot; by 1975, there were only three.<sup>22</sup> After the bankruptcy, the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway bought the property and the rail line. It continued to use the old depot until 1981. Starting in the 1910s, automotive vehicles had begun to steadily outpace the railroad as the main form of transportation. Madison is still positioned near a key highway intersection point, with South Dakota State Highway 34 running east-west and U.S. Highway 81 running north-south. Madison's population grew through the 1960s and has since steadied. In 1970, the population rose to just over 6,300 and has stayed within 200 people of that number in each decennial census since. Madison has continued to be the county seat, a retail hub, and home of the college, which is now Dakota State University and emphasizes education opportunities in technology.

### *The Smith House and its Ownership History*

To start the history of the lot where the Smith House was eventually constructed in 1906, Charles B. Kennedy purchased the land from the U.S. in 1881. Kennedy intended to further develop the town and platted acres into blocks that became known as "the Kennedy Addition." This gridded section of land developed into a residential neighborhood between the college to the north and the downtown and railroad to the south. In 1884, Charles and May Kennedy sold the northeast quarter of Block 2 to farmer Nathan Downs for \$300.<sup>23</sup> In 1891, Nathan and Louisa Downs sold the land to Laura A. Smith of Plymouth County, Iowa, for \$1,400.<sup>24</sup>

Laura Amelia Beecham (1862-1940) was born to Thomas Beecham (an English immigrant) and Amy Crabtree in Benton County, Iowa.<sup>25</sup> In October 1885, she married Irving D. Smith (age 59, his second marriage). Irving Daniel Smith had been born to farmers in Herkimer County, New York in 1826.<sup>26</sup> In 1850, he moved west to California in hopes of profiting in the gold mines. Without much success there, he returned to New York in 1853, where he married his first wife, Jane Marie Champion (1830-1918).<sup>27</sup> In 1854, Irving patented over 240 acres of farmland in

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<sup>21</sup> *History of Lake County*, 444-452.

<sup>22</sup> *History of Lake County*, 38; Ted Weiland and John Rau, "Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad Depot at Madison," Madison, Lake County, SD. 1989. NRIS: 89001719.

<sup>23</sup> Lake County Register of Deeds, Book I, page 114, Warranty Deed, April 12, 1884.

<sup>24</sup> Lake County Register of Deeds, Warranty Deed, September 29, 1891.

<sup>25</sup> George W. Kingsbury, *History of Dakota Territory*, vol. 4 (Chicago: S. J. Clarke, 1915), 388; "Laura Amelia Guerin," [https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/111647897/laura\\_amelia-guerin](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/111647897/laura_amelia-guerin), accessed online: October 10, 2025.

<sup>26</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), June 17, 1905–June 19, 1905; Kingsbury, *History of Dakota Territory*, 388.

<sup>27</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), June 17, 1905; "Jane Marie Smith,"

[https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/87291358/jane\\_marie-smith](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/87291358/jane_marie-smith), accessed online: October 10, 2025.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

Illinois.<sup>28</sup> They had at least two children who survived to adulthood and lived in New York with their mother after Irving and Jane separated in about 1870.<sup>29</sup> Though he had acquired some land in Wright County, Iowa, as early as 1855, he moved to Benton County, Iowa, around 1867, to continue acquiring and improving farms.<sup>30</sup> He made another move west to Plymouth County, Iowa, in 1877. He also fostered two children, James C. and Justina Pike, during his time in Iowa.<sup>31</sup>

In the summer of 1891 (just before Laura bought this town property), Irving started buying land in South Dakota, including Lake County—eventually, a reported 101 farms.<sup>32</sup> I.D. Smith made money through the income from his farm tenants rather than just from land sales or other investments. According to a 1915 biographical account: “Much of his success in life he attributed to the aid and encouragement given him by his wife, who kept his books and displayed excellent business judgement in her advice and counsel.”<sup>33</sup> Laura was also active with the Presbyterian church, the Order of the Eastern Star, and the Rebekahs lodge.<sup>34</sup> Irving and Laura Smith initially had a house in town and then moved out to a farm just southeast of Madison.<sup>35</sup> In this period, they lost two young children, 7-year-old Rachel in 1893 and 5-day-old Ruth in 1903.<sup>36</sup> In 1903, state newspapers reported Irving as the second wealthiest man in South Dakota, claiming he was worth around \$1.5 million.<sup>37</sup> However, it had been an exaggeration, and his (still substantial) wealth was later accounted around \$600,000 to \$700,000.<sup>38</sup> By 1905, in his 70s and in declining health, Irving distributed the bulk of his property in Iowa and South Dakota to his wife, family, close friends, charities, and a few of his tenants.<sup>39</sup> That September, because of his diminishing capacity, his oldest surviving son Irving C. Smith, was awarded guardianship of his father and the remaining estate; Irving C. had come to Madison from New York in recent years at his father’s request.<sup>40</sup> Irving D. Smith lived his last months at the Madison Community Hospital and died in February 1906. After his remains were available for visitation at “the home of his wife in

<sup>28</sup> Patent Certificates No. 34845 and 35180, 9/15/1854, Accession # IL4860\_\_483 and IL4870\_\_158, General Land Office Records, <https://glorerecords.blm.gov/>, accessed online: October 10, 2025; *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), June 17, 1905.

<sup>29</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), January 2, 1907.

<sup>30</sup> Military Warrant No. 25781, 6/1/1855, # MW-0881-423, General Land Office Records, <https://glorerecords.blm.gov/details/patent/default.aspx?accession=0881-423&docClass=MW>, accessed online: October 10, 2025; *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), June 17, 1905.

<sup>31</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), June 17, 1905–February 15, 1906.

<sup>32</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), July 3, 1891–June 17, 1905.

<sup>33</sup> Kingsbury, *History of Dakota Territory*, 391.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>35</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), December 30, 1891–December 5, 1896; Kingsbury, *History of Dakota Territory*, 388.

<sup>36</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), October 11, 1893–August 29, 1899; “Rachel Bernice Smith,” [https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/50077887/rachel\\_bernice-smith](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/50077887/rachel_bernice-smith), accessed online: October 10, 2025; “Ruth I. Smith,” [https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/50079219/ruth\\_i-smith](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/50079219/ruth_i-smith), accessed online: October 10, 2025.

<sup>37</sup> Example: *The Pioneer Press* (Miller SD), April 23, 1903.

<sup>38</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), January 2–January 4, 1907.

<sup>39</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), June 17, 1905; Kingsbury, *History of Dakota Territory*, 388–389.

<sup>40</sup> *Aberdeen Democrat* (SD), September 8, 1905; *Mitchell Capital* (SD), September 15, 1905; *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), January 2, 1907.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

Tenth street,” he was taken by special train for burial at Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Sioux Falls.<sup>41</sup>

Before Laura Smith built the Tenth Street house that is the subject of this nomination, the lot had two residences that she had moved to another part of town in February 1905, so that excavation for the new house could begin in April.<sup>42</sup> Irving transferred his ownership interest for the lot to Laura before June 1905.<sup>43</sup> Laura employed two brothers to lead the construction of the home, Theophilus “Joe” and Daniel Habegger. Joe was the contractor, while Daniel served as the finishing carpenter.<sup>44</sup> The local newspaper reported that the estimated cost of the house was \$10,000.<sup>45</sup> It was occupied by February 1906.<sup>46</sup>

At the time the house was built, Laura had an older son Sherman who had his own household, two children away at school (Helen and Thomas), and two younger daughters who still lived with her (Esther and Courtney).<sup>47</sup> The younger daughters spent time attending a boarding school, the All Saints Episcopal school in Sioux Falls.<sup>48</sup> At least two family events were held at the house, a birthday party for Esther in August 1906, and, that November, a wedding reception for Laura Helen after she married Harry Coverdale of Elk Point.<sup>49</sup> To manage her properties, Laura regularly worked with attorney Hans Urdahl.<sup>50</sup> Laura often spent winters living in warmer locations such as Los Angeles, California, and Jacksonville, Florida.<sup>51</sup>

In November 1906, Laura sold the house to her daughter Helen Coverdale for \$17,500.<sup>52</sup> In May-June 1907, Helen’s husband Harry put notices in the newspaper offering the house “for sale or trade.”<sup>53</sup> However, Laura bought it back in September 1908 for \$14,000, and Helen and Harry’s marriage did not last. In 1916, Laura Smith married Fred A. Guerin of Sioux Falls, and they ultimately sold the house to Daniel McKinnon in 1917.<sup>54</sup> In 1919, they moved to Mission, Texas, where Esther and Courtney planned to attend university.<sup>55</sup> They also may have adopted their granddaughter Corene (or Corinne) Coverdale, as Corene was reported in the local paper with

<sup>41</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), February 9, 1906–February 15, 1906; *Union County Courier* (Elk Point SD), February 15, 1906; Kingsbury, *History of Dakota Territory*, 388.

<sup>42</sup> The house had the address of 911 Lee Ave. until the city renumbered house addresses in c.1921. Additionally, 5th St. was 10th St. before c.1916. *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), February 25, 1905–April 26, 1905, November 14, 1916; Sanborn Map Company, *Map of Madison* (1921), 3.

<sup>43</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), June 17, 1905.

<sup>44</sup> Alternative spelling: Habegger. *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), April 26, 1905; “The Muggly House” history notes by Richard Lee and Alta Ivy Lucas, April 1980, copy provided by the current property owner.

<sup>45</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), April 26, 1905.

<sup>46</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), February 9, 1906.

<sup>47</sup> *Union County Courier* (Elk Point SD), September 21, 1905.

<sup>48</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), April 1, 1918–September 12, 1918.

<sup>49</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), August 25, 1906–November 14, 1906.

<sup>50</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), January 4, 1907–October 31, 1917.

<sup>51</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), January 12, 1907 March 28, 1919.

<sup>52</sup> Lake County Register of Deeds, Book 59, page 197, Warranty Deed, November 5, 1906.

<sup>53</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), November 12, 1906–June 3, 1907.

<sup>54</sup> Harry and Helen had separated before 1915, when Harry remarried. *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), November 19, 1917; Lake County Register of Deeds, Book 61, page 62, Warranty Deed, September 2, 1908, and Book 80, page 572, Warranty Deed, October 9, 1917.

<sup>55</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), October 10, 1916–September 7, 1921.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

the name Smith and later Guerin; she also attended All Saints School in Sioux Falls for a time.<sup>56</sup> After this house was sold, the Guerins still continued their connection to Madison into the 1930s, with news reports indicating either a split residency or at least occasional long visits.<sup>57</sup> They lived in Brownsville, Texas, in the later 1920s and into the early 1930s.<sup>58</sup> Laura Guerin later passed away in Iowa in 1940—where daughter Courtney Mowery then lived—and was buried at Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Sioux Falls.<sup>59</sup>

Having acquired the house from the McKinnons in 1920, B.E. and Leola Ketcham lost the property in 1937 after a defaulted mortgage and it was sold by sheriff's deed at public auction.<sup>60</sup> Dr. Joseph A. and Lucille Kathryn Muggly purchased the house in 1943 and lived there seven years until selling to T.H. and Neva Knaack in August 1950.<sup>61</sup> Dr. Muggly was a noted physician who worked from a clinic in the Madison hospital, and Kathryn was a nurse, though she passed away of tuberculosis in 1947.<sup>62</sup> In 1962, Neva Knaack, then a widow, sold it to John Marshall Johnson who sold it in 1963 to Richard Lee and Alta Ivy Lucas who rented out apartments in the house.<sup>63</sup> In 1977, the Lucas' moved into the house themselves, using the first floor as their personal residence, while still renting out rooms on the second floor until Alta Ivy Lucas passed away in 1999. Melvin and Joanne Ustad next bought the house.<sup>64</sup> The Ustads removed the apartment divisions and returned the house to single-family use. In 2001, Catherine J. and Jon P. Lester bought the house.<sup>65</sup>

### ***The Architectural History of the Queen Anne Style***

Queen Anne style homes were popular across the United States from the 1880s to roughly 1910. Known for their emphasis on aesthetics, they featured forms and ornamentation characterized by immense diversity and eclecticism. This included elaborate windows of various types, multi-volume massing, irregular floor plans, and a multitude of materials. The aim of "picturesque" aesthetics was thought most suited to domestic settings, especially rural or pastoral ones. The style derived from European architectural traditions but merged and evolved with American technologies and tastes, including balloon frame structures, woodwork detailing, and full front

<sup>56</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), September 7, 1921.

<sup>57</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), August 27, 1918–September 28, 1921; *Brownsville Herald* (TX), October 3, 1930 – November 1, 1935.

<sup>58</sup> *Brownsville Herald* (TX), April 30, 1922–November 10, 1935.

<sup>59</sup> "Laura Amelia Guerin," Findagrave.com.

<sup>60</sup> Lake County Register of Deeds, Book 96, page 273, Warranty Deed, July 30, 1920; Deed Record No. 133, page 432, Sheriff's Deed, February 14, 1938; and Deed Record No. 142, page 142, Warranty Deed, July 14, 1943.

<sup>61</sup> Lake County Register of Deeds, Book 156, page 461, Warranty Deed, August 30, 1950; *History of Lake County*, 249.

<sup>62</sup> *Argus-Leader* (Sioux Falls, SD), September 26, 1947.

<sup>63</sup> By 1963, the lot was just the northmost 111 ft. of the northeast quarter of Block 2, rather than the whole quarter that it was when Laura Smith first acquired the property. Lake County Register of Deeds, Book 173, page 104, Warranty Deed, May 8, 1962, and Book 178, page 128, Warranty Deed, October 21, 1963.

<sup>64</sup> *Argus-Leader* (Sioux Falls, SD), July 28, 1999; Lake County Register of Deeds, Book 340, page 528, Warranty Deed, October 14, 1999.

<sup>65</sup> Notes on the house's history written by the Lucas' in 1980 mentions that the house served as a residence for Dakota State University's president at some point between 1950 and 1963, but this could not be verified after looking at the yearbooks and other college history materials. Lake County Register of Deeds, Book 356, page 391, Warranty Deed, July 2, 2001.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

porches.<sup>66</sup> Additionally, the designs were regionally adapted based on available building materials and labor. This allowance and embrace of variance “meant that Queen Anne could become all things to all people.”<sup>67</sup>

A widely popular style of the time, both practicality and ideology affected the kinds of Queen Anne homes built throughout the central and western United States around the turn of the century. Many Americans who settled in the west had initially developed their ideas of affluent American culture and class while living in the eastern states, or consuming media from eastern magazines and newspapers. But rural western regions like Lake County, South Dakota, could lack comparable access and resources to some materials and to experienced craftsmen, so alternate design methods were used. A stark difference was the lack of professional architects. Instead, local builders—like the Habegers who worked on the Smith House—could find ideas through trade catalogs or architectural journals like the *American Architect and Building News*.<sup>68</sup> Such periodicals often included published house patterns and advice on how to adapt designs to real buildings, as well as making patterns and their blueprints available for sale.<sup>69</sup> Some of these building plans included customizable options like room modifications and auxiliary structures. Some architects also published compilations of their Queen Anne home patterns in books.

Limits to supply access and financial resources also influenced construction materials. American industries sought to distribute building materials through their supply chains. The railroad improved the transportation of raw construction materials such as stone from quarries and lumber from forests to factories, and then exported the processed materials where demanded. Advancements included wire cut nails produced by automated machines and dimensional lumber cut to standard sizes. Midwest Rust Belt cities including Chicago, Detroit, and Cleveland hosted manufacturers and distributors for factory-made construction materials. Smaller cities like Sioux Falls or Fargo sought to compete with their own transportation facilities, shipping warehouses, lumberyards, and even their own manufacturers as well. With the railroad, cities could more easily export these building materials to places like rural South Dakota.<sup>70</sup> Lumber often came from the Great Lakes, or eastern or southern forests in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, although eventually lumber companies also collected trees from the Black Hills forests in western South Dakota. Suppliers advertised pre-milled and assembled fancy woodwork pieces for sale in catalogs. Most Queen Anne style houses in South Dakota were constructed of wood with masonry foundations, though a few had some amount of stone walls.<sup>71</sup> In the eastern part of the state, companies quarried Sioux quartzite stone in Minnehaha, Hanson, McCook, and Turner counties, along with neighboring areas in Minnesota and Iowa.

In the new towns of South Dakota, relatively few people could afford to fund a building project like a custom-designed grand Queen Anne mansion. However, some were making large incomes

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<sup>66</sup> Mark Gelernter, *A History of American Architecture: Buildings and their Cultural and Technological Context* (Hanover NH: University Press of New England, 2001), 167.

<sup>67</sup> Ibid., 178

<sup>68</sup> Ibid.

<sup>69</sup> Karen Zukowski, *Creating the Artful Home: The Aesthetic Movement* (Salt Lake City: Gibbs Smith, 2006), 87.

<sup>70</sup> Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2000), 350.

<sup>71</sup> David Erpestad and David Wood, *Building South Dakota: A Historical Survey of the State's Architecture to 1945* (Pierre: South Dakota Historical Society Press, 1997), 49.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State

from land, transportation, or the settlement booms and expanding economy of South Dakota, and others that sought to convey an appearance of wealth through their homes in hopes of further economic successes. Those might invest more or find more affordable options to achieve similar aesthetics.

While the lead craftsmen are often remembered with their work, the other craftsmen needed to fulfil the scope of the work are forgotten. With South Dakota's population increases in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, a corresponding increase in construction was needed. Construction was an industry with less formality in rural areas since people built what they needed. Residential construction in towns could be more formalized, consisting of work crews comprised of general laborers, apprentices, and career craftsmen. Many working in the construction or in extracting lumber and stone for building were European immigrants, some of whom brought skills and expertise to use in shaping these industries in South Dakota.<sup>72</sup>

### Contextual Comparisons

The Smith House was included in the 1995 *History of Lake County* book by the Lake County Historical Society as a notable historic home in Madison. Although the Queen Anne architectural style was popular during a boom period of the town's growth, currently, only one other Queen Anne style house in Madison is individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Matthew W. Daly House, built earlier in 1883, has Eastlake detailing and was National Register listed in 1988. Another individually listed house in Madison is the 1893 Neoclassical style William A. Mackay House. Both the Daly and Mackay Houses were nominated for their local architectural significance as well.

Several of the historic districts in South Dakota are residential with houses that display an array of architectural styles. The Madison Historic District is located one block northwest of the Smith House, concentrated along Egan Ave and 6th Street. This district includes residential dwellings, Memorial Park (formerly C.B. Kennedy Park), and a few of the buildings on the Dakota State University campus. The district has a period of significance from 1879 to 1920, and it does have several houses in Colonial Revival and Queen Anne styles, the latter in Folk, Free Classic, Eastlake, and Stick variations.

Due to the inherent irregularity of Queen Anne architecture and varied interpretations of the style in the context of the rural west, Queen Anne houses in South Dakota are not often alike. One similar property is the J. W. Ulmer House in Menno, listed in the National Register of Historic Places for its local architectural significance in 1982 (NRHP #82004657). Menno is in Hutchinson County, around eighty miles south of Madison. Like the Smith House, the Ulmer House, built in 1914, was from a later era of the Queen Anne style, when it was starting to decline in popularity. The 1982 nomination notes the house's departure from some traditional Queen Anne designs and attributes the influence of the Colonial Revival movement. This transitional character has since been termed the Free Classic variation of Queen Anne

<sup>72</sup> Rex C. Myers, "An Immigrant Heritage: South Dakota's Foreign-Born in the Era of Assimilation," *South Dakota History* 19(2) (Summer 1989), 134-155; J. P. Johansen, *Immigrants and Their Children in South Dakota*, Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 302 (Brookings: South Dakota State University, 1936).

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State

architecture.<sup>73</sup> The Ulmer House also has a hipped roof with lower cross gables and hipped dormers, as well as a tower that faces the street intersection and has a bell-curved roof with triple windows. It has a covered wraparound porch, extruding bay windows, a corbeled brick chimney, and a historic carriage house. The Ulmer House also has horizontal clapboard and linear trim accent details. Some windows had already been replaced.



J. W. Ulmer House in Menno, SD

## Conclusion

The Laura A. Smith House is a significant example of later period Queen Anne Free Classic architecture in Madison. Built in 1905-1906, the Smith House and its architecture represents a period of economic and physical growth that the city experienced in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Having been constructed with the financial resources of a wealthy family, the house has grand porches, prominent corner tower, decorated roof gables, historic sash windows with some decorative diamond muntins, and fine woodwork in the interior trim and staircase. Used in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century for apartments, it has been restored to a single-family residence. The mid-century extension centered on the north elevation is a small size and used compatible detailing—including potentially reusing original windows—and does not greatly hamper the experience of the original house design. Deteriorated porch components have recently been replaced, largely in-kind for both material and design, except for a change in material for the round columns and that the porch roof balustrade has not been restored to-date. With high integrity for its location and surrounding residential setting, as well as most of the design, materials, and workmanship of the house itself, the house overall retains good historical integrity to convey its architectural significance for the town.

<sup>73</sup> McAlester, *A Field Guide*, 214.

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

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Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State

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Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

**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  
☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☐ Other  
Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** LK00000419

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage 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**

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 14	Easting: 651355	Northing: 4874739
2. Zone: 14	Easting: 651396	Northing: 4874739
3. Zone: 14	Easting: 651396	Northing: 4874706
4. Zone: 14	Easting: 651355	Northing: 4874706

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

The rectangular property is bounded to the north by 5th St. NE, to the east by Lee Ave. N., to the south by the adjacent residential property, and to the west by the alleyway. This comprises the legal property boundary of county parcel #212000200000020, which is the north 111 feet of the northeast quarter of Block 2, of Kennedy's Extension, in the city of Madison, Lake County, South Dakota. The boundary excludes the city alleyway and sidewalks.

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

The National Register boundary is the current property boundary and includes the house as well as its associated yard and outbuilding.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Elizabeth Edwards, Historic Preservation Intern; Liz Almlie  
organization: South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office  
street & number: 900 Governors Drive  
city or town: Pierre state: SD zip code: 57501  
e-mail: shpo@state.sd.us  
telephone: 605-773-3458  
date: 17 November 2025




Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State

### Additional Documentation



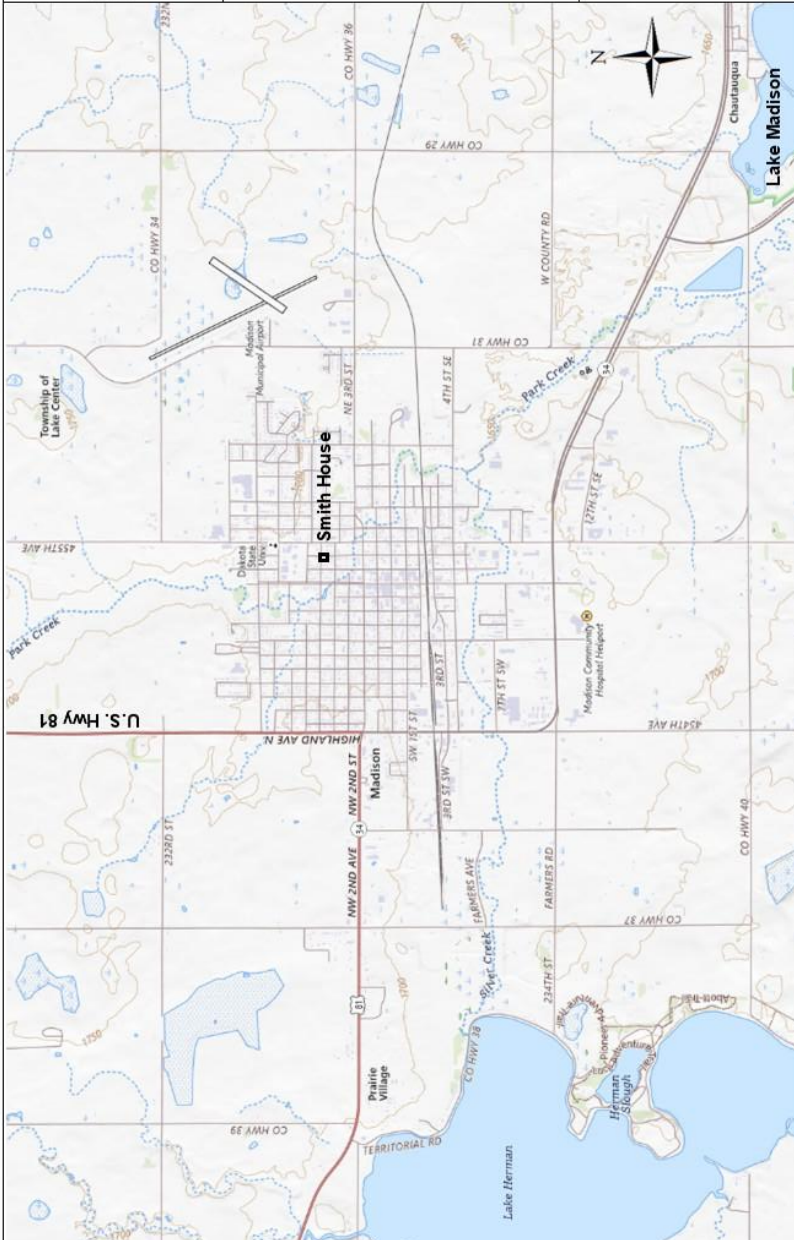
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

National Register of Historic Places Nomination Review Map	 <input type="checkbox"/> National Register Boundary	<p><b>NOMINATION FOR:</b>  <b>Laura A. Smith House</b>  519 N. Lee Ave., Madison,  Lake County, SD</p> <p>UTM Coordinates  Zone 14, NAD 1983  1. E: 651355; N: 4874739  2. E: 651396; N: 4874739  3. E: 651396; N: 4874706  4. E: 651355; N: 4874706</p>	<p>SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTIES</p> 
			

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

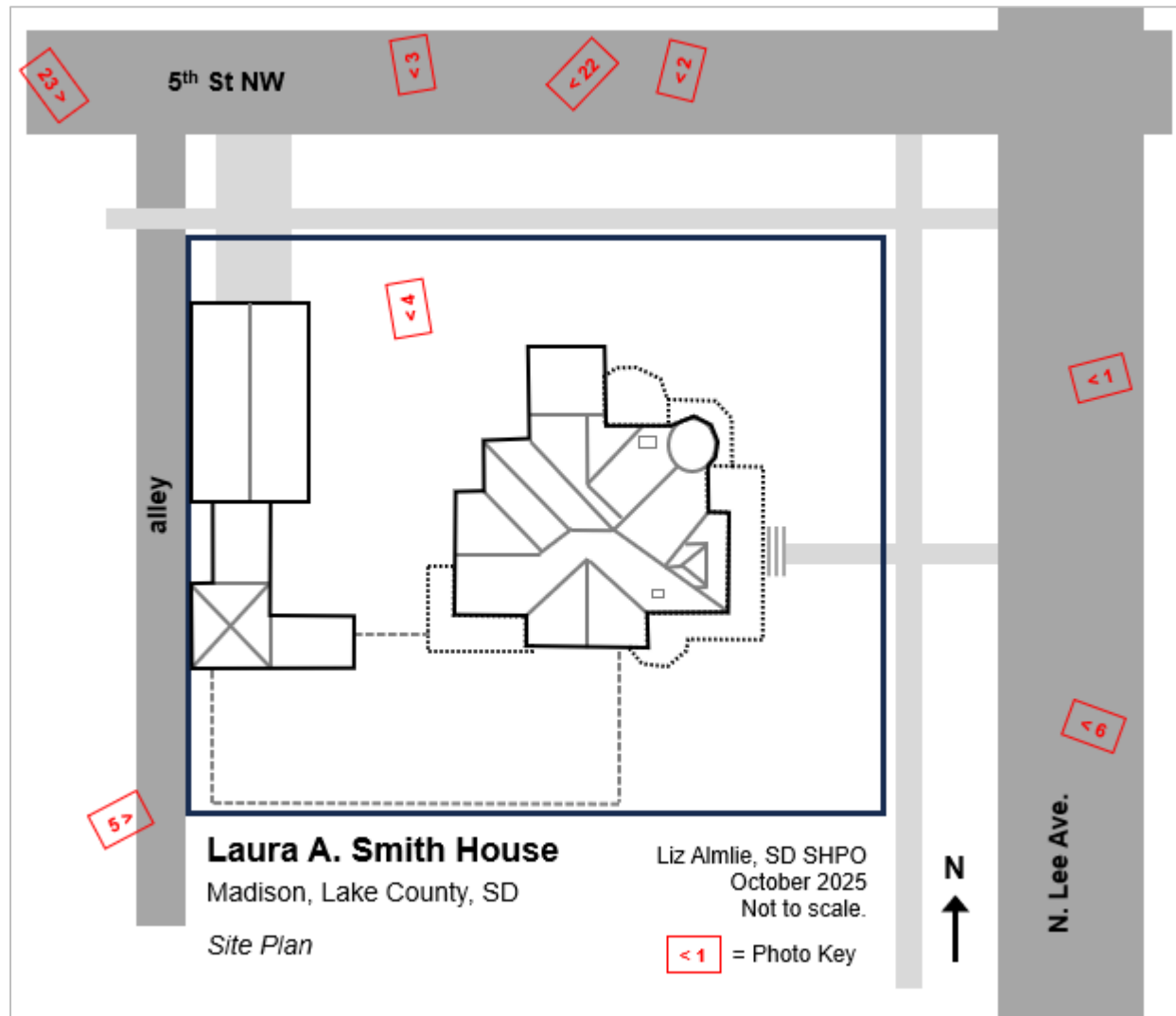
Lake County, SD  
County and State

National Register of Historic Places Nomination Review Map	 <p><b>south dakota</b> STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> National Register Boundary</p>	<p><b>NOMINATION FOR:</b> Laura A. Smith House 519 N Lee Ave, Madison, Lake County, SD</p> <p><b>UTM Coordinates</b> Zone 14, NAD 1983 1. E: 651355; N: 4874739 2. E: 651396; N: 4874739 3. E: 651396; N: 4874706 4. E: 651355; N: 4874706</p>	<p><b>SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTIES</b></p> 
			

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

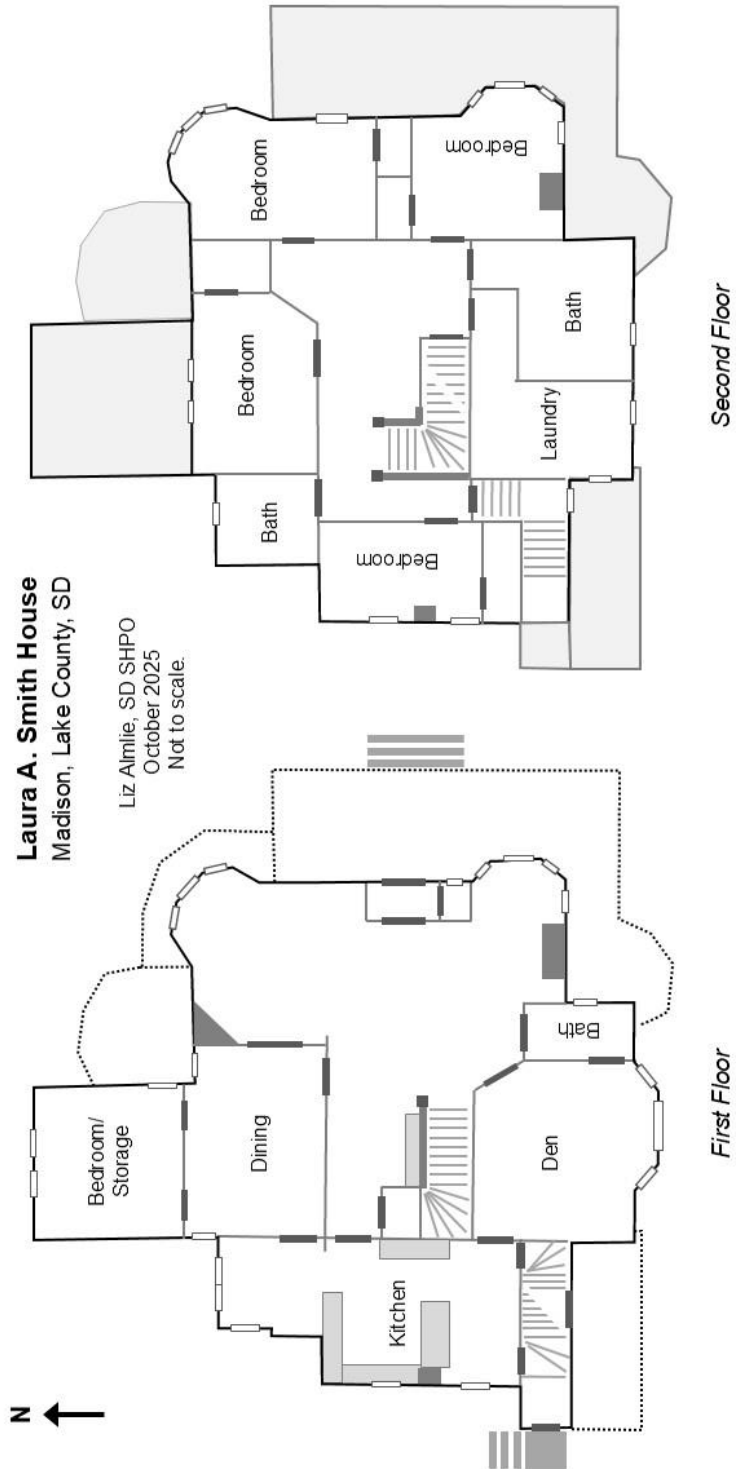
Lake County, SD  
County and State

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.



Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



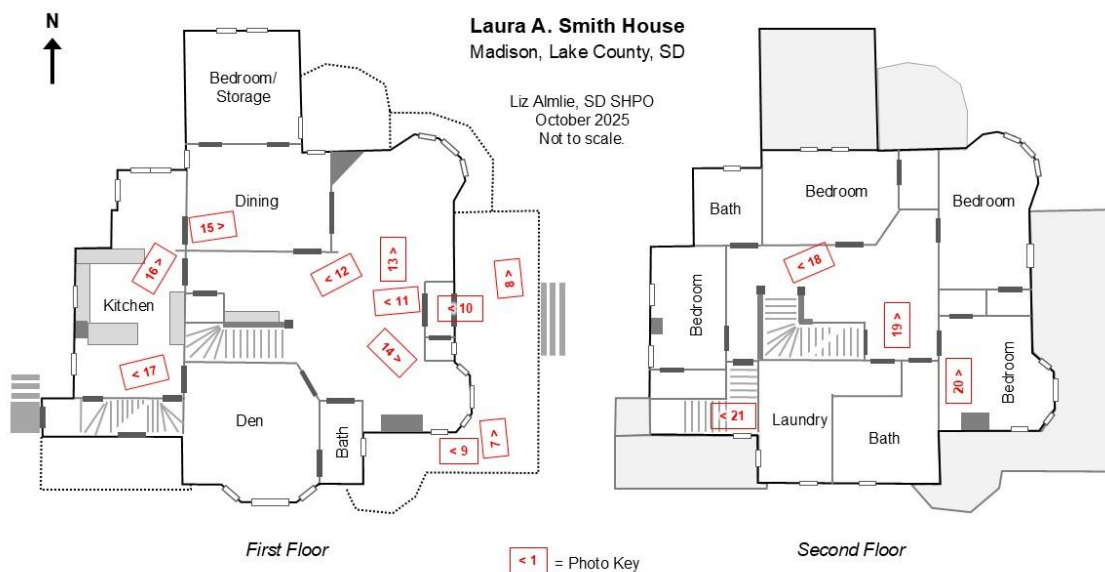


Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State



- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### 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: Laura A. Smith House

City or Vicinity: Madison

County: Lake

State: SD

Photographer: Liz Almlie and Maddie Ferrell, SD SHPO

Date Photographed: 16 October 2025

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

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0001  
East façade, camera facing west.



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0002  
North elevation, camera facing southwest.



Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0003  
North elevation, camera facing south.



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0004  
West elevation, camera facing southeast.

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0005  
West and south elevations, camera facing northeast.



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0006  
South elevation, camera facing northwest.



Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0007  
East façade bay window under the front porch, camera facing northwest.



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0008  
East façade, front porch looking towards the corner tower, camera facing north.

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0009  
South end of the front porch, camera facing west.



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0010  
Entrance vestibule, camera facing west.

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0011  
First floor main hall, camera facing west.



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0012  
Main staircase, camera facing southwest.



Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0013  
Front rooms, camera facing north.



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0014  
Front rooms, camera facing southeast.



Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0015  
Dining room, camera facing northeast.



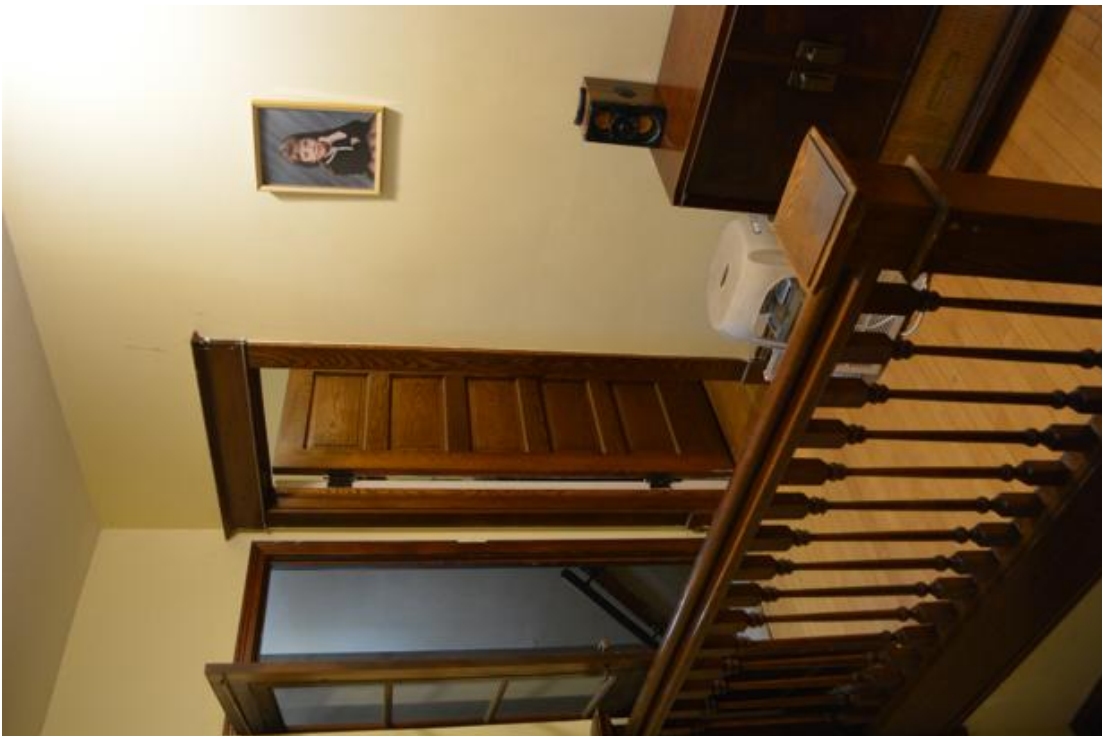
SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0016  
Kitchen alcove, camera facing northeast.

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0017  
Kitchen to the rear entrance, camera facing southwest.



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0018  
Southwest end of second floor hall, top of main and rear staircases, camera facing southwest.

Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0019  
Northeast end of second floor hall, camera facing north.



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0020  
Sample bedroom and closet doors, camera facing north.



Laura A. Smith House  
Name of Property

Lake County, SD  
County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0021  
Rear staircase, camera facing west.



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0022  
Secondary building (garage/apartment/storage), camera facing southwest.

Laura A. Smith House

Name of Property

Lake County, SD

County and State



SD\_LakeCounty\_SmithLauraAHouse\_0023  
Secondary building, camera facing southeast.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations 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.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.