

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: Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House

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

Name of related multiple property listing: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**2. Location**Street & number: 604 N. Broadway St.City or town: Canton State: SD County: LincolnNot 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 X C \_\_\_\_ 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**

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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 ☐

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**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>	<b>Total</b>

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

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN / Queen Anne  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Principal exterior materials of the property:

WOOD / weatherboard  
ASPHALT  
STONE / Sioux quartzite  
CONCRETE

### 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 Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House at 604 N. Broadway St. is located on a corner lot of a residential block to the north of Canton's town center. The house is a two-and-a-half story wood frame residence with a front porch wrapped around its southwest corner and a 1990s garage addition extending north from the house's rear northeast corner. The house was built also with a vehicle entrance to the basement, the opening for which is still on the north wall of the Sioux quartzite stone foundation. A mid-20<sup>th</sup> century garage on the northeast corner of the lot has been removed except for a small portion of its concrete block rear wall. Distinctive features of the house include the open front porch, rear porch (now screened), a square bay window on the west façade, a two-story projecting bay on the south façade, corner brackets, sections of shingle and beadboard siding, and historic interior flooring, doors, staircase, and molded trim and surrounds.

The house retains high integrity to represent the Queen Anne architectural style in Canton. Restored elements include the porch columns and balustrade, completed after 1992, and a new basement vehicle door, replaced in 2024 following severe flood damage. The garage addition and associated extension of the kitchen in the later 1990s were done at the rear of the house and do not significantly impact the house's character-defining features. Intact interior historic

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features, particularly those of the entry, main staircase, front parlor, and dining room add to the architectural significance of the house.

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## Narrative Description

### SETTING

The Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House at 604 N. Broadway St. is located on the southeast corner of Block 7 of Cox's Addition to the city of Canton. The main exterior facades face west and south, and a garage addition extends north off the house's northeast corner. The house yard includes a driveway along the east side. At its north end are the remnants of the back wall and floor of a two-car concrete block garage that was built c.1960s and removed after 1992.<sup>1</sup> Around the house, one concrete path leads from the city's street sidewalks diagonally to the house's southwest corner and its main porch steps, and a second short path leads from the east drive to the side porch entrance. The yard is grass except for a few deciduous trees, one conifer tree, and naturalistic flower beds along the west and south sides of the house and porch, and also at points near the north and east edges of the yard. Between the city sidewalks and the street are also spaced deciduous trees.

The surrounding area is an older residential neighborhood with primarily single-family houses, and blocks in the vicinity do not have alleys. A block north of the house is a large parcel, at least two blocks wide, where Canton's middle and high school are located. The county courthouse, Canton's commercial downtown, and railroad line are located five to seven blocks south of the Wendt House. Agricultural fields start around three blocks west of the house, through which runs Beaver Creek. A bend of the Big Sioux River (also the state line with Iowa) cuts along the southeast corner of the city.

### EXTERIOR

The Wendt House is two and a half stories tall, and the main body of the house (not including porches or garage) is around forty feet on each side. There is an open, front porch wrapped around the southwest corner. On the east elevation, there is a smaller, rear, screened side porch with a hip roof located on the south half and a one-story kitchen extension at the center and continuous to the porch. There is a historic opening for a vehicle door that was built into the tall foundation on the north elevation. There is a slight slope to the yard in front of it still (although no longer in use), which is edged on the west side with a stone wall of local Sioux quartzite and paved with concrete. A one-story, two-bay garage addition with a gable roof extends north off the house's northeast corner. The kitchen extension and garage were built before 1992, and owners undertook restoration of the front porch columns, railings, and balustrade at some point after that.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Survey photograph from the S.D. SHPO office, September 1992, held at the S.D. State Archives, item IDs: 2016-09-22-340.

<sup>2</sup> Survey photographs from the S.D. SHPO office, September 1992, held at the S.D. State Archives, item IDs: 2012-05-07-345, 2016-09-01-309, and 2016-08-18-331.

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The house foundation overall is rough-faced coursed masonry of Sioux quartzite stone. The siding is primarily wood weatherboard with wood corner boards and simple wide wood base and frieze boards. Beadboard and shingle siding details will be described in the elevation descriptions below. Windows have wood board surrounds with a small sill ledge and molded cap trim unless otherwise stated. The roof shape is hipped with lower cross gables, and all current roofing is asphalt shingle. A brick chimney visible in a historical photograph on the east side of the roof was removed prior to 1992.

The front porch is an open, wrapped porch that has a cut angle at the front corner and angles back towards the house at the east end. It has square lattice at its base, Doric columns, spindle railing, dentil and reed molding above the plain frieze board, and a roof balustrade with spindle railing and square posts with urn-motif finials. The porch has tongue-in-groove flooring and a beadboard ceiling. The wide front steps at the corner have wood board steps, spindle railings, and square newel posts with urn finials. All materials are wood. As noted above, columns and railings date to a restoration project from the 1990s. They matched the features from a historic photograph of the house (below) except that the original columns had flared Ionic capitals.



Historical photo postcard, c.1907, from the current homeowner.

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“House, 604 North Broadway Street, Canton,” 6 September 1992, survey photograph, State Historic Preservation Office. ID: 2012-05-07-345, collection of the SD State Archives, Pierre.

The west façade of the house is two bays wide. The north bay on the first floor has a shallow square bay window, which has four scroll-cut brackets supporting it below, a picture window with etched glass transom and two-light storm window, a surround with molded edges, and a flared hip roof with dentil band, molded fascia, and fishscale wood shingles on the roof slope. The north bay on the second floor has a pair of one-over-one sash windows with modern storm windows. On the north two-thirds of the roof, there is a large gabled roof pediment featuring scallop shingle siding and a pair of short windows with decorative diamond muntins in the upper sash. The south bay under the porch has a short, high one-light window with etched glass and the corner curved window on the first floor. The corner window has a central curved picture window flanked by one-over-one windows, above and below the window surround is beadboard siding between board trim—the beadboard is angled horizontally in the lower side panels. The second floor has a pair of one-over-one windows.

The south façade has a west bay with the porch and a projecting canted east bay under a gabled pediment. The west end of the first floor has the curved window and the front entrance door, which is single leaf, with a storm door, and in a surround with details matching those of the windows. On the second floor over the porch is a single leaf door over which a storm window has been fixed. On the gabled half, the canted side bays have short, high one-light windows with etched glass on the first floor, one-over-one windows with modern storm windows on the second floor, and scroll-cut brackets at the eave. The center bay on the first floor has a picture window flanked by one-over-one sash windows. On the second are two single one-over-one windows

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with modern storm windows. In the gable pediment, there is scallop shingle siding and a pair of shorter one-over-one windows.

On the east elevation, the first floor includes the volume comprised of the screened porch and kitchen extension and a volume of the garage addition. On the second floor is a hip-roof projecting bay at the north end; there is no fenestration on the south half of the upper floor. The screen porch has square lattice at its base, Doric columns similar to the front porch, added thin wood framing with screens (installed exterior to the columns), a beadboard ceiling and a modern set of wood steps added to the porch's screen door. The kitchen extension has a concrete block foundation, a wide baseboard, weatherboard siding, a small pair of modern casement windows, and little detailing at the eave. The gable-roofed garage addition projects slightly beyond the kitchen volume. It sits at ground-level on a poured concrete slab, and it has weatherboard siding. There is a single-leaf door at the south end and two vehicle doors with modern four-part paneled overhead doors. There is no fenestration on any other sides of the garage. On the upper hip-gabled portion of the house, there is a single one-over-one window over the kitchen and another one-over-one window to the north that sits at the garage roofline. Both upper windows have modern storm windows.

On the north side of the house, the east two bays are projecting with a cut west corner and having a gabled pediment. The first floor has the garage addition attached at the east end but also a picture window at the west end. Below the picture window is the historic opening for a vehicle to enter and park in the basement. The door is two leaves of diagonal boards. Following flood damage, the vehicle door had to be replaced in 2024 and was recreated out of cedar, reusing or replacing in-kind the hardware. The upper floor has two one-over-one sash windows. The gable end has scallop shingle siding and a pair of shorter windows. The cut bay has one-over-one sash windows on each floor and scroll-cut brackets at the eave. The remaining west half of the elevation has only one-over-one sash windows, one on each floor.

## INTERIOR LAYOUT

The interior of the Wendt House is laid out on the first floor with the entry hall in the southwest corner. A column-supported framed opening leads east to the front parlor, and the screen porch lies east of the parlor. A door leads north from the entry hall to a sunroom (back parlor). North of the front parlor, a framed opening leads to the dining room, and the kitchen lies east of the dining room. The main staircase starts on the west end of the entry hall and turns at the room's northwest corner. A rear stairwell, with one set going up to the second floor and another down to the garage and basement, is located north of the kitchen.

On the second floor, the layout includes a central L-shaped hall and an open sitting area in the southwest corner near the top of the stairs. Then, there is a large bedroom in the northwest corner, a smaller bedroom centered on the north wall, a bathroom centered on the east wall, and the master bedroom centered on the south wall with a connecting nursery and/or office in the southeast corner.



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The northeast rear stairwell has a flight continuing to the attic, which is undivided and unfinished with wide board floors and open rafters. The basement is largely unfinished with a poured concrete floor, quartzite stone walls, square post supports, and open rafters.

## INTERIOR DETAILS

On the first floor, the front door has a large central pane of glass in a surround of fluted pilasters with simplified capitals and cap molding with Classical egg-and-dart bands. The front doorknob and plate has decorative work, as do many of the door hardware pieces throughout the house. The entry hall has narrow wood flooring, plaster walls, and tiled panels on the ceiling.<sup>3</sup> Trim through the entry hall includes a picture rail with egg-and-dart molding, tall baseboards with molded caps, and window and door surrounds with bead-and-reel molding bands at their caps. The walls at the side of and under the staircase, and on the integrated built-in bench seat to the side, all have set back panels framed with narrow egg-and-dart molding. A door under the stair to a storage space has a large mirror panel. The staircase has round newel posts with center fluted sections, turned spindle balusters, cut string capping, molded nosing, and a carpet laid up the center of the steps. The trim around the upper curved edge of the ceiling has small bullseye finials. Between the entry and front parlor is a wood colonnade that features two fluted round columns with Composite order capitals set on the floor and supporting a surround with egg-and-dart band and wreath-shaped applied ornament along the frieze. A smaller surround with similar detailing—although without the columns—forms the open doorway between the front parlor and the dining room.

The front parlor room shares similar details to the entry hall, including floor, ceiling, and wall materials, and historic picture rail and baseboard trim. On the east wall, the wood door that opens to the rear porch has an oval window over a large panel with egg-and-dart molding. On the south wall, in front of the picture window, there is still a low cast metal radiator.

The sunroom has a wood floor and plaster walls and ceiling. Baseboard trim matches other first floor rooms, but the picture rail was removed at an unknown point. The bay window has a narrow built-in seat with a three-paneled wood face, each panel featuring egg-and-dart molding. Alongside the window is a narrow cast radiator.

In the dining room, details are similar to the front parlor, except instead of a picture rail there is a lower plate rail with ledge. There is a cast radiator with ornamental detailing on the west wall. The open doorway surround leading to the kitchen has a bead-and-reel molding in its architrave.

The kitchen, as expanded in the 1990s, has a non-historic tile floor, plaster walls and ceilings with crown molding. Baseboard and door surrounds are simpler wood boards.

The short hall leading to the rear stairwell has similar non-historic tile floor but the historic baseboard and door surrounds are extant.

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<sup>3</sup> The current owner relayed that the current light fixture centered on the ceiling is of the period but not original to the house.

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The rear porch has historic tongue-and-groove flooring, beadboard ceiling, and round column and pilaster supports (though capitals were removed). The door from the kitchen is modern with a large window and there is a modern vinyl storm door with it. The door to the parlor has a wood paneled exterior storm door with single window below the top panel. The wood frame for screen walls was added exterior to the columns.

On the main staircase to the second floor, the railing along the curved edge of the second-floor landing has a balustrade matching the main stair railing as previously described. The second-floor landing and hallway has wood floors, plaster walls and ceiling, molded baseboard, a picture rail with egg-and-dart molding, and door and window surrounds with bead-and-reel molding. At points, there are wood corner guard trim pieces with turned detailing. The wood door leading from the landing onto the porch roof has an oval window above wood panel, similar to the one between the parlor and rear porch.

Most bedrooms on the second floor have historic wood floors, plaster walls and ceilings, baseboards, door and window surrounds, and five-paneled wood doors with historic hardware. Instead of a picture rail, they have a narrow crown molding with egg-and-dart band. The northwest bedroom has an ornamental plaster medallion around its centered ceiling light fixture.

The bathroom has historic trim but newer tile for the floor and lower part of the wall.

The rear stairwell flights between first and second floors, and between the second floor and the attic, have plaster walls and ceiling, wood steps, and molded wood baseboards. A paneled door is situated before the flight to the attic. The top steps have a wood railing with turned balusters and flat board handrail. Around the top of the stairwell, part of the balustrade has matching balusters and part used simple boards for a railing. The attic is open and unfinished with wood floor and open roof framing.

The staircase to the basement has carpeted wood steps and molded baseboard on the upper flight and simpler wood board steps on the lower. A modern flat door leads from the midpoint landing, part of the garage addition. Over the lower part of the steps, there is a two-light window, with brick wall infill around it, opening to the garage addition. The basement is largely open with concrete floor, exposed stone foundation walls, square post beams and supports, and open ceiling rafters. The Wendts built the house with a vehicle door on the north wall of the foundation. It had two wood doors with large metal hinges, locks, and strap bracing. In 2024, the current owners rebuilt the door in-kind after years of deterioration and flood events had deteriorated the wood doors. Historically, also, the Wendts had a turntable in the basement floor to rotate the automobile to be able to drive in and turn, ready to drive out. That was removed at an unknown date but marks in the concrete are still visible at its position. West of the vehicle door, there is still a concrete cistern (now covered with boards) along the north wall. There are a laundry room and utilities/storage room that have been built using sheets of modern wood particle board.

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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

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**Period of Significance**

1907

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**Significant Dates**

1907

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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**

John Millie (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 Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places at a local level of significance under Criterion C for its architectural significance as a late Free Classic variation of the Queen Anne style with a high level of integrity. Constructed by local builder John Millie for the Wendts, the house features a complex roof form with lower gables featuring shingle siding, canted two-story bay on the south façade, square bay window on the west façade, a wrap-around porch on the southwest corner with Classical column supports and turned balusters, an interior colonnade with Composite style columns leading from the front entry to the front parlor, and notable interior trim with Classical egg-and-dart and bead-and-reel molding. The period of significance for the house is 1907, corresponding with its original construction.

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

### **The Wendt House**

The property on which Cyrus and Edna Wendt built this house in 1907 had been through a few various property owners (including another Wendt) before they purchased it.<sup>4</sup> In 1894, sixteen blocks of Thomas J. Cox's platted addition were purchased from Cox by the Wendt and Rudolph families.<sup>5</sup> In 1895, Ernest and Fredericka Wendt sold these lots (7 and 10) to brothers M.H. and O.H. Lybarger.<sup>6</sup> M.H. Lybarger sold them in 1901 to John T. and Eudora Appleby.<sup>7</sup> In 1905, Cyrus and Edna J. Wendt paid the Applebys \$550 for lots 7 and 10 together, though Edna's was the only name on the deed.<sup>8</sup>

According to the local newspaper, contractor John Millie completed the construction of the Wendts' house in the autumn of 1907.<sup>9</sup> That summer, Dr. Wendt had been abroad in Christiania (now Oslo), Norway, to take a post-graduate course at a hospital there, so it may be that Edna coordinated much of the construction with their builders.<sup>10</sup> The house was built with an interesting feature in its basement. A vehicle door set in the foundation allowed Dr. Wendt to drive into the basement, where a turntable rotated the automobile so he could quickly drive straight out when next summoned to make a house call.

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<sup>4</sup> There is no indication in the deeds or newspaper article that there were any previous structures on the lot.

<sup>5</sup> Deed book 2, p.483, Lincoln County Register of Deeds.

<sup>6</sup> The Lybarger Bros. had a shoe business together in downtown Canton. Deed book 3, p.6; Deed book 3, p.27, Lincoln County Register of Deeds; *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), December 30, 1898.

<sup>7</sup> Deed book 9, p.614, Lincoln County Register of Deeds.

<sup>8</sup> Deed book 13, p.547, Lincoln County Register of Deeds.

<sup>9</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), May 17, 1907–October 4, 1907.

<sup>10</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), March 29, 1907–August 9, 1907.

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In 1954, after Edna Wendt's passing, the house (along with other properties in Lincoln and Spink Counties) went to their son-in-law and daughter, M.J. and Lucile W. Travis, who were then living in Wayzata, Minnesota.<sup>11</sup> It is believed that Lucile rented out the house. In 1962, the house sold to David and Mary Jane Suter. Their son John sold it to the present owners, James G. and Johanna Sadkovich in 2021.<sup>12</sup>

### Queen Anne Architecture in South Dakota

The Wendt House is a Queen Anne style house of the Free Classic subtype. It has a complex roof form with lower gables and dormers, bay windows, sections of wood shingle or beadboard siding, and wrapped porches. It features Classical style columns and interior trim with both egg-and-dart and bead-and-reel molding. Queen Anne houses were characterized by variety—using complex roof forms and massing, as well as diverse window types and wall cladding. Architectural historians have classified Queen Anne houses into several identifiable subtypes based on trends in choice of building materials and ornamental features. The Free Classic subtype used Classical orders in its columns or pilasters, cameo or Palladian windows, pediment gables, and swag and garland ornamentation. This subtype was most popular late in the Queen Anne era, and transitioned to the trend for ornate Colonial Revival style houses in the 1905 to 1910s period that shared similar trim and window detailing but were on more regular and symmetrical base forms.

In the United States, starting in the 1850s, architectural fashion for domestic residences favored “picturesque” Victorian period architectural designs. Plan books by Andrew Jackson Downing and others made such designs available to homeowners who could not access the services of an architect, while at the same time they promoted theories connecting architectural design to etiquette, social acceptability, morality, and national virtue.<sup>13</sup> Other commentaries in newspapers and farm journals supported the idea that domestic design of homes, farms, and their surroundings was tied to an ideal civilized life.<sup>14</sup> To fit this domestic ideal, picturesque styles arranged buildings into smaller visual pieces by using a variety of materials, bays, porches, dormers, gables, and more. To accomplish this, architects and builders of the era used new technologies like balloon frame construction and tools like scroll saws to create asymmetrical

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<sup>11</sup> Deed book 61, p.591, Lincoln County Register of Deeds.

<sup>12</sup> Deed book 69, p.33; Deed book 127, p.2157, Lincoln County Register of Deeds.

<sup>13</sup> Linda E. Smeins, *Building an American Identity: Pattern Book Homes and Communities, 1870-1900* (Walnut Creek, CA: AltaMira Press, 1999), 245; Jessica H. Foy and Thomas J Schlereth, *American Home Life, 1880-1930: A Social History of Spaces and Services* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1994 [1997]), 165; Clifford E. Clark, Jr., “Domestic Architecture as an Index to Social History: The Romantic Revival and the Cult of Domesticity in America, 1840-1870,” *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 7(1) (Summer 1976), 35, 51; Fred W. Peterson, “Vernacular Building and Victorian Architecture: Midwestern American Farm Homes,” 435-437, in Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach, eds., *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1986).

<sup>14</sup> Peterson “Vernacular Building,” 437; Cheryl Lyon-Jenness, “Planting a Seed: The Nineteenth-Century Horticultural Boom in America,” *The Business History Review* 78(3) (Autumn 2004), 381-421.

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forms and ornate detail. Porches and towers particularly were thought to benefit residents who could “take advantage of uplifting views and healthful fresh air.”<sup>15</sup>

Victorian picturesque styles were intended to be an alternative to “old money” classical architecture, instead valuing progress and aspiration. The incorporation of expensive materials, ornate craftsmanship, large edifices, or complex designs was used to display wealth and status. Although, in time, manufacturers began selling mass-produced woodwork that made the eclectic aesthetic more affordable.<sup>16</sup>

The 1873 financial panic caused a pause in construction activity, and when it resumed, the most popular variations of picturesque architectural styles were collectively termed “Queen Anne.”<sup>17</sup> Queen Anne architecture and design embraced ornate adornment and pulled from old English traditions. The combination of elements was popular because it was easily tailored to personal taste and local trends—the “ambiguity of the name and the multiplicity of sources meant that Queen Anne could become all things to all people.”<sup>18</sup>

In southern Dakota Territory (that became South Dakota in 1889), Euro-American settlement and city construction had its first burst of activity in the 1880s, just at the time when Victorian picturesque styles—particularly Queen Anne—were most popular. Although many settlers built vernacular houses, the more affluent residents of growing cities invested in houses that would represent their personal, family, or city’s (real or aspired) status. The expanding railroad network supported these construction trends by transporting architectural plans, lumber, milled wood, brick, and other construction materials. Cities built around the southeastern edge of the territory like Canton, as well as Sioux Falls, Elk Point, Yankton, and Vermillion, ended up with good collections of Queen Anne style homes from the 1880s and the 1900s (following a national recession in 1893).

In Canton, nine houses have previously been individually listed in the National Register. In this set are a range of eras (from 1882 to 1917) and architectural styles. The Byrnes (1895), Rudolph-Parke (1902), and Isakson (1905) Houses are also Queen Anne styles and share a similarly high level of architectural style and integrity to the Wendt House.<sup>19</sup> Other architectural styles represented so far include Folk Victorian, Italianate, Craftsman, and Colonial Revival style houses.

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<sup>15</sup> Vincent J. Scully, Jr. “Romantic Rationalism and the Expression of Structure in Wood: Downing, Wheeler, Gardner, and the ‘Stick Style,’ 1840-1876,” *The Art Bulletin* 35(2) (June 1953), 127; Rachel Carley, *The Visual Dictionary of American Domestic Architecture* (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1994), 134.

<sup>16</sup> Clark, “Domestic Architecture,” 46-54.

<sup>17</sup> Virginia McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Knopf, 1984), 214.

<sup>18</sup> Smeins, *Building an American Identity*, 226; Mark Gelernter, *A History of American Architecture: Buildings in Their Cultural and Technological Context* (Hanover NH: University Press of New England, 2001), 178.

<sup>19</sup> Byrnes is NRIS #09000946, Rudolph-Parke is NRIS #01001000, and Isakson is NRIS #84003342.

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### John Millie (builder)

John L. Millie worked as a carpenter and contractor in Canton and the surrounding rural area. Millie had immigrated to the United States from Norway, and in one of the first mentions of him in the Canton newspaper was in 1896 when he worked on a house in Highland Township.<sup>20</sup> In 1897, he married Louisa Helvig, and they moved to Canton.<sup>21</sup> By 1902, he was in the newspaper notices as having contracts to build residences in town, and that work continued until his passing in 1948.<sup>22</sup> Although possibly promotional pieces, multiple items in the local newspaper praised his skill—one saying “Mr. Millie is one of the most successful contractors in this part of the state and a workman of the highest ability and his work stands the test of time.”<sup>23</sup> He employed teams of men who worked on the construction projects.<sup>24</sup> By 1914, house-building work was seemingly being done in quantity—the local paper recording that Millie oversaw construction of twelve houses in the summer of 1914 and nine in the summer of 1915.<sup>25</sup>

In Canton, his projects included numerous houses, commercial building remodeling projects, and the Masonic lodge building (extant). News items indicate he also erected residences and barns on area farms occasionally as well. His town residences for Dr. Andrew Anderson and John Isakson, as well as the Canton Lutheran Church, have previously been listed in the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>26</sup>

### The Wendt Family

Cyrus L. Wendt grew up in Canton with parents Ernest and Fredericka (Meinzer) Wendt and two siblings. His parents were both German immigrants, and Ernest worked as a merchant. Cyrus attended the agricultural college in Brookings (now South Dakota State University) and normal school in Valparaiso, Indiana, before graduating from Rush Medical College in Chicago in 1895. After some short postgraduate courses in New York and Berlin, he started his medical practice in Canton in January 1896.<sup>27</sup> In December 1896, he married Edna Dean at her parent’s home, and, in 1898, she gave birth to their only child, Fredrika Lucile (who went by Lucile primarily).<sup>28</sup> The

<sup>20</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), May 1, 1896.

<sup>21</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), June 18, 1897.

<sup>22</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), April 11, 1902-January 16, 1914; “John L. Millie,” Findagrave.com, accessed online: March 17, 2025, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/55587531/john-l-millie>.

<sup>23</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), December 16, 1904–December 1, 1911.

<sup>24</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), December 1, 1911.

<sup>25</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), November 13, 1914, July 9, 1915.

<sup>26</sup> The Anderson House is NRIS #02001765; Isakson is NRIS #84003342, and the church is NRIS #02000582. *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), May 1, 1896–January 16, 1914; SD SHPO survey and National Register files.

<sup>27</sup> *Brookings Register* (SD), September 11, 1891; *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), September 30, 1892–June 16, 1905; *Memorial and Biographical Record of Turner, Lincoln, Union and Clay Counties, South Dakota* (Chicago: Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1897), 336-339.

<sup>28</sup> Edna’s parents were Edgar Dean and Lovina Parker Dean, who had come as homesteaders in 1876 from Iowa. Edgar Dean was a Civil War veteran and was in politics, including the state senate, before taking an interest in the Farmers Lumber Company in Canton. *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD),



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three were not always the only residents. Others included, at least: a German student named Herman Nagle who stayed with them in 1906-1907, Edna employed a young woman Ruth Renli to do housework in 1916, and Edna's sister Ella Baker lived with them in 1950.<sup>29</sup>

Early in his career, Cyrus Wendt spent time as superintendent of the county board of health and as county coroner.<sup>30</sup> He periodically traveled to Chicago and elsewhere for continuing education courses, including a trip to Berlin in 1902 to study "diseases of ear, nose, throat and eye, and surgery" and a 1907 trip to visit hospitals in both Christiania (Oslo) and Berlin (at the time the house was being built, as mentioned previously).<sup>31</sup> He had his practice in upper floors of various downtown buildings until, in the summer of 1903, he moved to "permanent quarters" in the Wendt block across from the county courthouse.<sup>32</sup> In February 1903, he had also been made a physician-surgeon for the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad company. Through at least 1912, he served in that role and gave papers on surgical procedures for at least two of their annual meetings in Chicago, which he considered important educational opportunities.<sup>33</sup> In September 1903, Wendt was one of the twenty-one men who reorganized the region's professional medical society into the Sioux Falls Medical District.<sup>34</sup> In 1913, Wendt served again with the county board of health, assisting the superintendent. In 1914, he and his new associate, Roy L. Parke, became the county physicians, and Wendt was made superintendent. In this public health role, Wendt and his office monitored smallpox vaccinations, dead animals left on roads, cleanliness of streets from trash and manure, bovine anthrax and milk, and cases of infantile paralysis (polio).<sup>35</sup>

Related to their incorporation of the basement vehicle door and turntable in their house's design, Dr. Wendt was an early owner of an automobile and advocate for "good roads." In October 1906, Dr. Wendt bought a Ford automobile in Sioux City—the news item recounting: "The Doctor's practice requires some rapid driving and he is convinced that an auto is just the thing

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December 25, 1896–September 2, 1898; George W. Kingsbury, *History of Dakota Territory*, vol. 4 (Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1915), 818-821; Information for Mrs. Sarah Dean, by Edna Dean Wendt, October 30, 1949, 2022-03-02-0033 to -0038, General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) Records, Box 6831, Folder 108, H97-56, SD State Archives, Pierre.

<sup>29</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), January 19, 1906–December 27, 1907, June 30, 1916; U.S. Census Bureau, *Seventeenth Census of the United States*, E.D. 42-4, Canton, Lincoln County, South Dakota (April 6, 1950), sheet 8.

<sup>30</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), February 14, 1896–March 1, 1901; *Memorial and Biographical*, 339.

<sup>31</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), May 7, 1897–September 25, 1914.

<sup>32</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), January 3, 1896–July 31, 1903.

<sup>33</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), February 27, 1903–December 23, 1910; *Mitchell Capital* (SD), May 23, 1912–May 30, 1912; C.L. Wendt, "Fractures into and near the Elbow Joint," *Railway Surgical Journal* 11(12) (August 1905), 422-424.

<sup>34</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), October 23, 1903; Charles A. Smith, *A Comprehensive History of Minnehaha County, South Dakota* (Mitchell, SD: Educator Supply Co., 1949), 295.

<sup>35</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), May 6, 1898–December 8, 1899, and August 1, 1913–May 14, 1915.

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that he needs.”<sup>36</sup> Over the years, he also bought a new Reo in c.1909 and went to Detroit to buy an automobile in 1916.<sup>37</sup> Between 1909 and 1912, he was active in the local “good roads” movement, which promoted improvements to public roads. He chaired a local committee that coordinated work with the county to gravel some rural roads.<sup>38</sup>

In addition to his medical practice, C.L. Wendt was involved with the local co-operative Farmers Lumber Company, becoming a director in 1904 and elected its president in 1913.<sup>39</sup> He also owned a hog farm in Dayton Township (managed by tenant Frank Painter) and two sections of farmland in Spink County.<sup>40</sup> In 1919, he became president of the Lincoln County Farm Bureau, and, for a few years, he promoted his ideas on the benefit of landlord-tenant partnership arrangements through public speaking and press material. In this “50-50” plan—which he said was how he and Painter had successfully operated their hog farm—the landlord should contribute land and buildings in good condition, a tenant should contribute labor and implements, and both should own and profit equally from diversified crop and livestock products in an ongoing agreement rather than short lease periods. He spoke on it in several South Dakota cities, had the plan printed for distribution by the Canton Chamber of Commerce in 1926, and had ideas published in periodicals including the *Michigan Business Farmer* and *Successful Farming*.<sup>41</sup>

Both Cyrus and Edna Wendt were active in community social circles. Dr. Wendt was an active and founding member of the local Athenian Debating Society, an influential social club having a maximum of sixteen men, which regularly held public debate events and engaged in civic affairs.<sup>42</sup> According to a 1910 news item, in Canton locally, it had even “become the custom to pick men for high office from the membership of this society.”<sup>43</sup> In 1913, he chaired a committee for the Civic Improvement League on improving sanitation in the city.<sup>44</sup> The Wendts were active in the local Methodist Episcopal church, being at various points involved with the congregational leadership, choir, Ladies Aid, Sunday school, and the Epworth Assembly.<sup>45</sup> In concert with her more active church and social circles, Edna Wendt contributed to the Women’s Christian

<sup>36</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), October 12, 1906.

<sup>37</sup> SD Motor Vehicle Registrations, 1905-1911 (index), SD State Archives, Pierre; *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), April 2, 1909, June 30, 1916.

<sup>38</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), March 19, 1909–March 29, 1912.

<sup>39</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), January 22, 1904–January 24, 1913.

<sup>40</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), August 14, 1903–November 12, 1915.

<sup>41</sup> Available research materials do not indicate whether his 50-50 plan was implemented widely by other farmers or landlords. *Forest City Press* (SD), January 30, 1919; *Brookings Register* (SD), January 30, 1919–August 5, 1920; H.A. Bereman, “The Fifty-Fifty Farming Agreement,” *Michigan Business Farmer* (October 14, 1922), 4; *Successful Farming* 21(10) (October 1924), 24; “Pledged to Make Business Better,” *American Lumberman* (February 14, 1931), 51.

<sup>42</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), March 16, 1900–February 25, 1916; *Clinical Medicine and Surgery* 47(3) (March 1940), 92.

<sup>43</sup> *Mitchell Capital* (SD), March 3, 1910.

<sup>44</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), April 18, 1913.

<sup>45</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), May 16, 1902–April 18, 1913; James E. Bell, “Barnabas 1947,” *The Christian Herald* 70 (April 1947), 31.

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Temperance Union (W.C.T.U.) by hosting at least a few local meetings and attending a district convention in 1904.<sup>46</sup> Dr. Wendt also, at least once, gave a public speech at a temperance rally at the county courthouse in Canton, speaking on factors of alcohol consumption and health concerns.<sup>47</sup>

The whole Wendt family had long interest and talent in music. C.L. Wendt spent at least twenty-five years playing in and leading orchestras in Canton as well. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, he had the Wendt Orchestra, but he also later worked with the high school and a 45-piece community orchestra.<sup>48</sup> The Wendt Orchestra had its start in April 1903, playing for the concert of the local Grieg Singing Society (Grieg *Sangforening* in Norwegian).



Wendt Orchestra, c.1903. According to caption on the reverse side, Edna and Cyrus Wendt (with violins) are seated just left of the center drum, and Prof. Indseth (with baton) is just to the right of the drum.

Prof. Andrew K. Indseth (1858-1912)—a leading local music leader, teacher, and composer—was the Wendt Orchestra’s director. Several members of the Indseth and extended Wendt family participated as musicians. Local accounts suggest Wendt hosted musical practices in his house’s large attic. The orchestra’s size varied from twenty-one to thirty players and included both men and women. Until 1908 at least, they gave concerts—often with the Grieg society—in Canton and other towns in southeastern South Dakota, and they played for local events like high school commencements, Methodist church events, temperance rallies, holiday celebrations like Syttende Mai and Decoration Day, and the Epworth Assembly. During this period, it was Canton’s primary “home orchestra.”<sup>49</sup> Edna Wendt sang at a variety of W.C.T.U. and church functions,

<sup>46</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), January 15, 1904–October 7, 1904.

<sup>47</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), March 27, 1908–April 3, 1908.

<sup>48</sup> *The Bandmaster* 4(4) (January 1929), 19; Bell, “Barnabas 1947,” 31.

<sup>49</sup> Syttende Mai (May 17<sup>th</sup>) is a Norwegian national holiday commemorating independence and the signing of its constitution in 1814. A 1911 news item indicates that Wendt and Indseth had recently tried assembling a new orchestra, but little was publicized about its activities after that announcement. *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), April 10, 1903–June 5, 1908, December 1, 1911.

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and directed music for the Sunday school.<sup>50</sup> Daughter Lucile was in the high school orchestra in Canton, studied piano, voice, and violin at Augustana College in Canton in 1915-1916, and continued the study of piano at Northwestern University in Chicago.<sup>51</sup> In her career, she taught music from her parents' home in Canton, for periods at Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, and at the University of Minnesota later in the 1930s.<sup>52</sup>

Cyrus passed away on September 12, 1950, and Edna in 1954.<sup>53</sup> Lucile married Mynwood J. Travis in 1937, and she eventually passed away in Minneapolis in 1985.<sup>54</sup>

### Canton and Lincoln County

The land that was designated as Lincoln County in 1862 had long been the home of indigenous peoples. After long (and by some accounts coercive) negotiations, the 1858 treaty that was signed in Washington D.C. between the U.S. government and leaders of the Ihanktonwan (Yankton) Dakota people resulted in the creation of a small reservation for the Ihanktonwan along the Missouri River in what became Charles Mix County and the opening of most of the rest of eastern Dakota Territory to the United States for settlement.<sup>55</sup> When Euro-Americans first arrived to settle in the Canton area, the place was already known as Trapper Shanty. That name came from the log-front dugout shelter built there by fur trappers in about 1861 and used as a stopping place on a military road that had stretched from Sioux City, Iowa, to Fort Dakota at Sioux Falls in 1865. In 1867, the first permanent settlers arrived and built sod homes. The town of Canton was established in 1868, in order to establish a county seat for the newly designated Lincoln County. In June 1868, a group of twenty-three Norwegian families came to Canton; they doubled the population and initiated a long association between Canton and Norwegian heritage institutions and traditions. In 1871, the town had several stores, two hotels, a school, a lumberman, grist mill, merchants, real estate dealer, blacksmith, and physician.<sup>56</sup>

<sup>50</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), January 15, 1904–November 8, 1912.

<sup>51</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), February 7, 1913–February 5, 1915; *Bulletin of Augustana College, Canton, South Dakota, for the year 1914-1915*, vol. 6, no. 4 (April-June 1915), 41, and ...for the year 1915-1916, vol. 7, no. 4 (April-June 1916), 52-53, 54; *Northwestern University Evanston-Chicago, The School of Music Annual Announcement 1919-1920* (July 1919), 93-94.

<sup>52</sup> *Madison Daily Leader* (SD), September 9, 1922; *Musical America* 37(1) (October 28, 1922), 29; *The Morningsider* 27(4) (September 1971), 7; Ralph E. Miller, *The History of the School of Agriculture, 1851-1960* (St. Paul: University of Minnesota, 1979), 74, 133; *Star Tribune* (Minneapolis MN), July 21, 1985; U.S. Census Bureau, *Fourteenth Census of the United States*, E.D. 131, Canton, Lincoln County, South Dakota (January 13, 1920), sheet 1A; U.S. Census Bureau, *Fifteenth Census of the United States*, E.D. 42-3, Canton, Lincoln County, South Dakota (April 11, 1930), sheet 9B.

<sup>53</sup> *South Dakota Journal of Medicine and Pharmacy* 3(10) (October 1950), 316; "Edna Dean Wendt," Findagrave.com, accessed online: March 17, 2025, [https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/60272949/edna\\_dean-wendt](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/60272949/edna_dean-wendt).

<sup>54</sup> *Star Tribune* (Minneapolis MN), July 21, 1985; SD Marriage Index, card 193885, Ancestry.com.

<sup>55</sup> Patrick Coleman, "A Rare Find: The Treaty of Washington 1858," *Minnesota History* 59(5) (Spring 2005), 197-199.

<sup>56</sup> "Lincoln County: The Beginning," *Wi-Iyohi* 24(4) (October 1, 1970), 1-2; Lincoln County History Committee (LCHC), *The History of Lincoln County, South Dakota* (Freeman, SD: Pine Hill Press, 1985),

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Until 1879, when the railroad arrived, there was no central business district; instead, owners had placed clusters of unpainted wood frame store buildings wherever they had land and inclination—"the nearest railheads were located in Sioux City, Iowa, seventy miles away, or in Le Mars, Iowa, fifty-five miles from town."<sup>57</sup> To make the town more stable, businessmen in Canton banded together to fund the construction of a courthouse in 1875 and to lobby the Chicago, Milwaukee, & St. Paul Railroad in 1878 to get a station on their line connecting Chicago to western Dakota Territory. Despite a recession after the wheat crop failed in 1879, this effort to get a railroad connection was successful and growth happened quickly. The territorial legislature chartered Canton as a city in 1881. It had seventy-one buildings in 1879 but had 236 by 1882. It had a population of less than one hundred in 1870 but had 1,943 by 1900.<sup>58</sup>

Canton's continued growth in the 1880s and 1890s was commensurate with the boom going on throughout South Dakota. There were nonetheless several significant events and institutions that were unique to Canton's history. In June 1882, politicians, businessmen, and other leaders held a constitutional convention in Bedford Hall at Canton to initiate a movement for statehood.<sup>59</sup> In 1884, Augustana College, a higher education institute supported by the Norwegian Lutheran church, relocated from Beloit, Iowa to Canton.<sup>60</sup> It was relocated again to Sioux Falls in 1918 and the remaining buildings were used as a parochial school called Augustana Academy until 1971.<sup>61</sup> In 1898, the U.S. Congress established a national asylum for American Indians and built it at Canton. Increasingly controversial as the years progressed, the asylum operated east of town until, in 1933, Commissioner on Indian Affairs John Collier ordered it to be closed.<sup>62</sup>

The early twentieth century continued to see growth in the construction of buildings and houses in Canton. In 1911, a news article noted that twenty-two modern beautiful houses had been built, some costing over \$6,000 and some built using concrete block masonry.<sup>63</sup> The city also had the asylum, college, courthouse, factories, as well as a flouring mill, five grain elevators, seven churches, three hotels, and two railroad lines.<sup>64</sup> Canton had had several physicians since the 1870s, both from homeopathic and osteopathic training traditions. Though most were men, there were also a few women like osteopath Lena Enebo who opened her office in 1898. Canton's first hospital was opened in 1895 by Swedish immigrant Hjalmer Holmgren who converted a

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17-18; Kingsbury, *History of Dakota Territory*, vol. 1, 487; Harry F., Thompson, ed. *A New South Dakota History*, 2nd ed. (Sioux Falls, SD: Center for Western Studies, 2009), 166.

<sup>57</sup> LCHC, *The History of Lincoln County*, 20-24; Paula M. Nelson, "'In the Midst of Life We Are in Death': Medical Care and Mortality in Early Canton," *South Dakota History* 33(3) (Fall 2003), 208.

<sup>58</sup> *Canton Advocate* (SD), August 7, 1879, February 21, 1884; LCHC, *The History of Lincoln County*, 21-25; Nelson, "In the Midst of Life," 208.

<sup>59</sup> LCHC, *The History of Lincoln County*, 24.

<sup>60</sup> *Ibid.*, 25.

<sup>61</sup> *Canton Advocate* (SD), April 3, 1884; LCHC, *The History of Lincoln County*, 30-31.

<sup>62</sup> LCHC, *The History of Lincoln County*, 36-37; Diane T. Putney, "The Canton Asylum for Insane Indians, 1902-1934," *South Dakota History* 14(1) (Spring 1984), 21-30.

<sup>63</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), November 3, 1911.

<sup>64</sup> M. Huebinger, "Huebinger's map and guide for North Iowa Pike: Sioux Falls, S.D. to McGregor, Iowa, 1912," Iowa Counties Historic Atlases. Accessed online: March 20, 2025, <https://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/node/655>.

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residential home for the purpose.<sup>65</sup> City and county boards of health (to which Cyrus Wendt contributed, as above) worked on issues of public hygiene and contagious disease, starting with the formation of the county's board in 1888.<sup>66</sup>

As the population grew, social and cultural institutions became increasingly important to Canton residents. There were several fraternal organizations, including the Masons, Odd Fellows, and Grand Army of the Republic, each with their respective auxiliaries. By 1913, Canton also had three women's clubs: the Woman's (or Priscilla) Study Club, Reading Club, and the Canton Reading Club.<sup>67</sup> The Athenian Debating Club, a group for business and professional men, was organized in 1899 under the leadership of Cyrus L. Wendt (as above) and held weekly meetings to debate public issues and improve skills in public speaking, held an annual banquet event, and hosted a lyceum series.<sup>68</sup> In 1901, the Methodist church organized the Epworth Assembly, a lecture series that became the Chautauqua.<sup>69</sup> Musical "home talent" in Canton was channeled through orchestras led by Indseth and Wendt, the Grieg Sangforening mentioned previously, as well as a city band, the Moore Family Orchestra, the Hotchkiss Harp orchestra (brief, played dances and parties), the Carnation Orchestra (or Young Peoples' Orchestra) of children ages twelve to sixteen that was connected to the Sunday school and led by Indseth, a high school orchestra, choirs from Augustana College and local churches, various quartets, and numerous individual performers.<sup>70</sup>

Canton still has a historic commercial core along the north-south Main and Broadway Streets as well as a later-20<sup>th</sup> century run of commercial development along the east-west 5<sup>th</sup> Street/State Highway 18. Additional commercial development has expanded along Highway 18. The Lincoln County Courthouse (1899, with 2008 addition) sits north of E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street between Main and Broadway Streets. North of E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street around the commercial center are historic residential neighborhoods with interspersed churches. The railroad ran at a diagonal a few blocks south of E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street and so agricultural and manufacturing businesses developed along that line, southeast of the central commercial district. A bend of the Big Sioux River (also the state border with Iowa) cuts southwest of the town.

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<sup>65</sup> Nelson, "In the Midst of Life," 208-209.

<sup>66</sup> Ibid., 222.

<sup>67</sup> Helen M. Winslow, *Official Register and Directory of Women's Clubs in America*, vol. 15 (Shirley MA: Self-published, 1913), 226.

<sup>68</sup> *The Lyceumite and Talent* 6(12) (May 1913), 22; *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), March 2, 1900–February 25, 1916.

<sup>69</sup> The last Chautauqua was held in 1926 and the auditorium later demolished in 1940. LCHC, *The History of Lincoln County*, 40-41.

<sup>70</sup> *Dakota Farmers' Leader* (Canton SD), April 8, 1898–October 29, 1915.

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Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House  
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**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):** LN00000245

**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: |

Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House  
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**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ AD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 14	Easting: 695351	Northing: 4797580
2. Zone: 14	Easting: 695390	Northing: 4797580
3. Zone: 14	Easting: 695390	Northing: 4797553
4. Zone: 14	Easting: 695351	Northing: 4797553

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

The nominated property includes Lots 7 and 10 of Block 7 of Cox's Addition to the city of Canton.

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

The National Register boundary includes the lots on which the Wendt House is and has historically been located.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Liz Almlie  
organization: South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office  
street & number: 900 Governors Dr.  
city or town: Pierre state: SD zip code: 57501  
e-mail: shpo@state.sd.us  
telephone: 605-773-3458  
date: June 16, 2025

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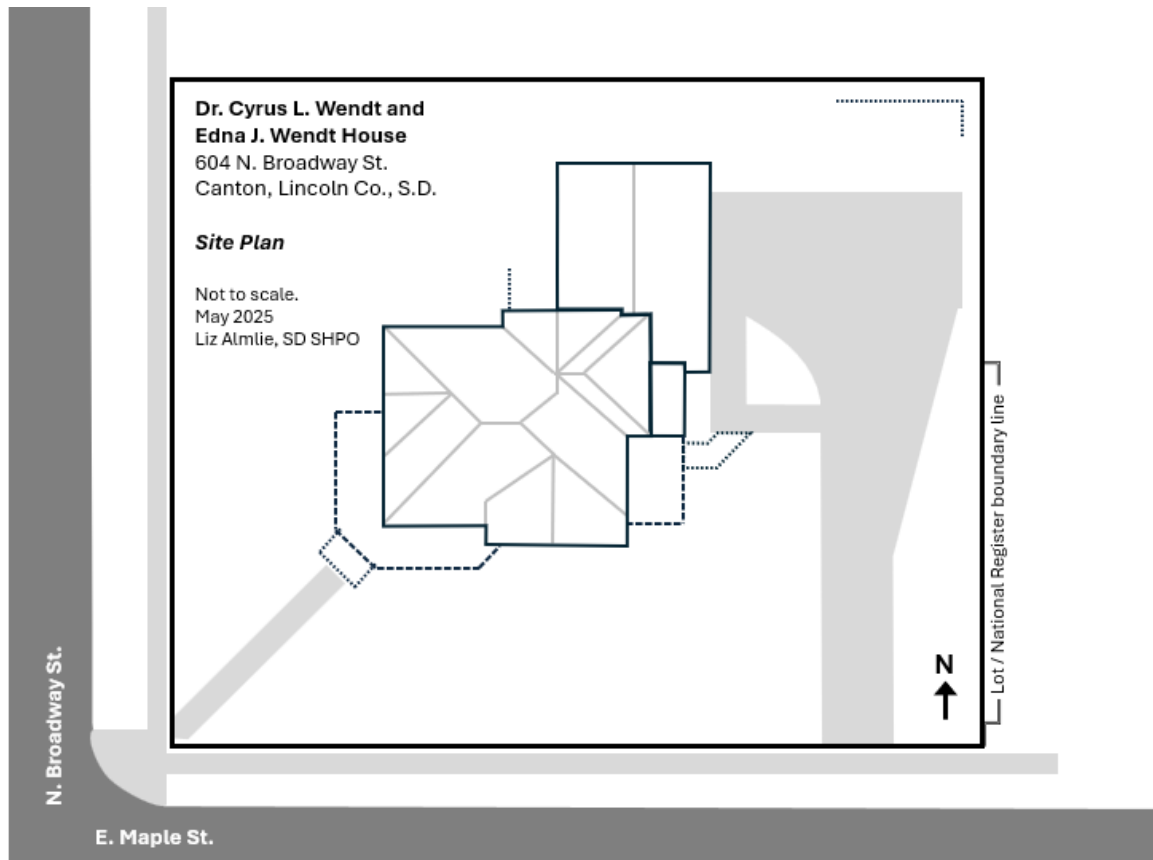
Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House  
Name of Property

Lincoln 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.
- **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.)



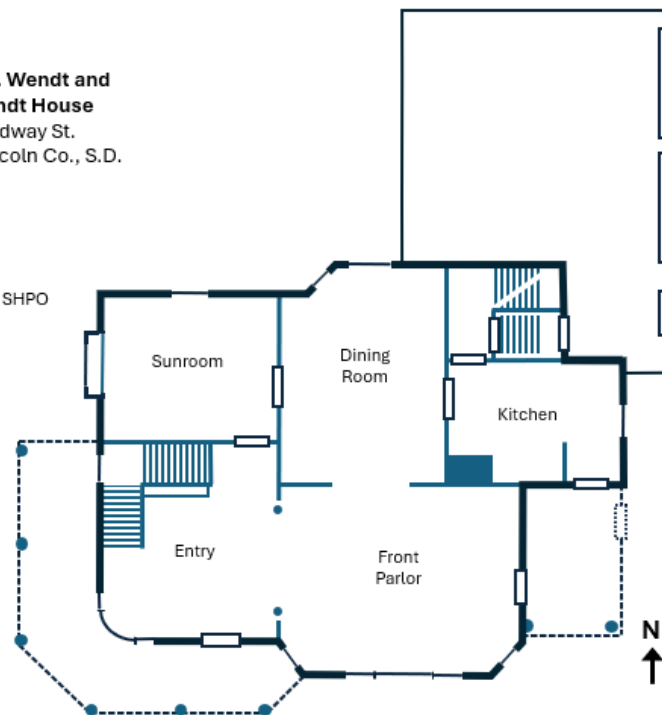
Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House  
Name of Property

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County and State

**Dr. Cyrus L. Wendt and  
Edna J. Wendt House**  
604 N. Broadway St.  
Canton, Lincoln Co., S.D.

***First Floor***

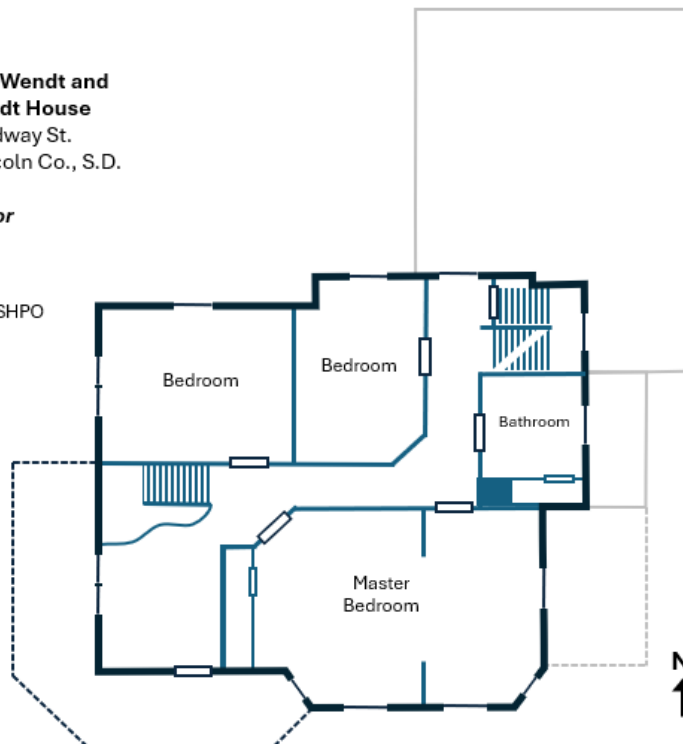
Not to scale.  
May 2025  
Liz Almlie, SD SHPO



**Dr. Cyrus L. Wendt and  
Edna J. Wendt House**  
604 N. Broadway St.  
Canton, Lincoln Co., S.D.


***Second Floor***

Not to scale.  
May 2025  
Liz Almlie, SD SHPO



Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House  
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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>                      Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House                      604 N. Broadway, Canton, Minnehaha County, SD</p> <p><b>UTM Coordinates</b>                      Zone 14, NAD 1983                      1. E: 695350; N: 4797581                      2. E: 695390; N: 4797583                      3. E: 695391; N: 4797553                      4. E: 695351; N: 4797553</p> <p><b>SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTIES</b></p> 
	



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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>National Register of Historic Places Nomination Review Map</b></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">south dakota STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> National Register Boundary</p> <p><b>NOMINATION FOR:</b>                  Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House                  604 N. Broadway, Canton,                  Minnehaha County, SD</p> <p><b>UTM Coordinates</b>                  Zone 14, NAD 1983                  1. E: 695350; N: 4797581                  2. E: 695390; N: 4797583                  3. E: 695391; N: 4797553                  4. E: 695351; N: 4797553</p>	<p>SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTIES</p> 
			

Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House  
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### 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: Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House

City or Vicinity: Canton

County: Lincoln

State: South Dakota

Photographer: Liz Almlie

Date Photographed: July 31, 2024

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



SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0001

West and south facades, camera facing northeast.



Dr. Cyrus L. and Edna J. Wendt House  
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SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0002  
West façade, camera facing east.



SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0003  
South facade, camera facing north.

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SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0004

North elevation of house and east side of garage addition, camera facing southeast.



SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0005

East elevation of house and garage addition, camera facing west.

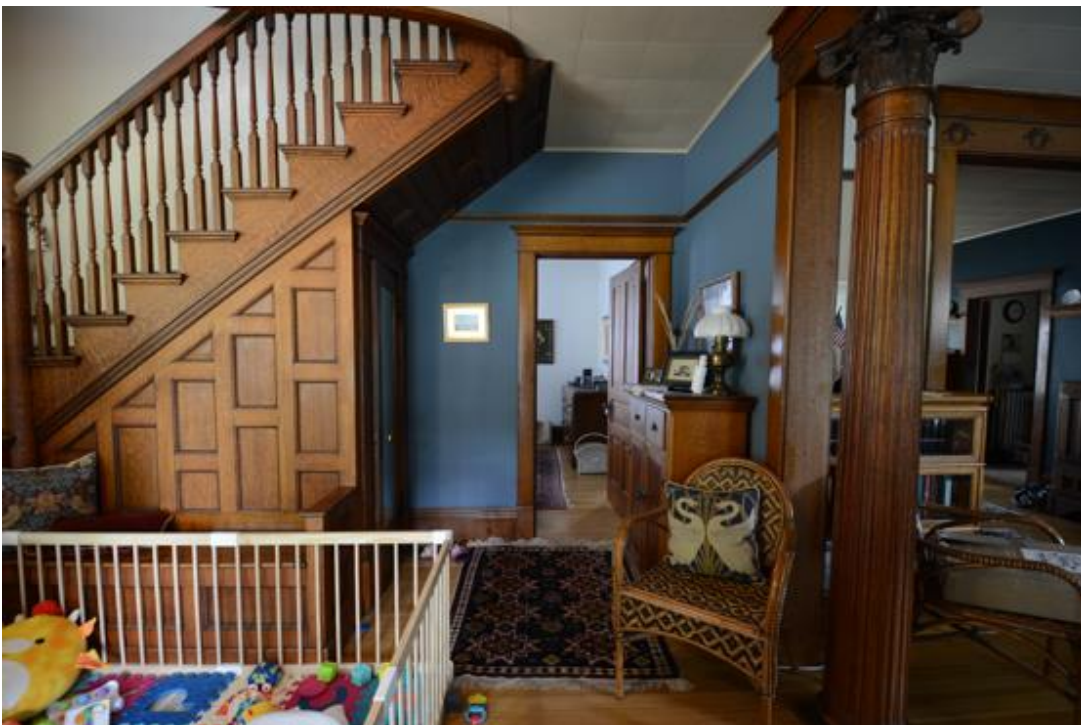


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SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0006  
Entry and Front Parlor from staircase, camera facing southeast.



SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0007  
Entry hall, camera facing north.

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SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0008  
Front parlor into entry hall, camera facing west.



SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0009  
Front parlor, camera facing east.



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SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0010  
Sunroom, camera facing west.



SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0011  
Dining room into Front Parlor, camera facing south.

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SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0012  
Dining room, camera facing north.



SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0013  
Kitchen into dining room, camera facing west.

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SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0014  
Rear porch, camera facing northeast.



SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0015  
Rear porch, camera facing southwest.



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SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0016  
Main staircase and second floor landing, camera facing west.



SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0017  
Second floor hallway, camera facing north.



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SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0018  
Rear stairwell to attic, camera facing northeast.



SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0019  
Attic with staircase, camera facing southwest.

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SD\_LincolnCounty\_WendtHouse\_0020

Basement vehicle door and staircase, camera facing north.

**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.