

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	South Dakota
COUNTY:	Beadle
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
The Pyle Home

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
376 Idaho, S.E.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Huron

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
No. 2

STATE: South Dakota      CODE: 046      COUNTY: Beadle      CODE: 005

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Gladys Pyle

STREET AND NUMBER:  
376 Idaho, S.E.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Huron

STATE: South Dakota      CODE: 046

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Beadle County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Third Street, S.W.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Huron

STATE: South Dakota      CODE: 046

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
South Dakota Historic Sites Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: December, 1973       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Historical Preservation Center

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Alumni House--University of South Dakota

CITY OR TOWN:  
Vermillion

STATE: South Dakota      CODE: 046

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pyle home is a one and one-half story, Late Queen Anne house built in 1894. The siding consists of horizontal boards and shingles while the building rests on a cut stone foundation. The house is located on a corner lot surrounded by a wrought iron fence which was added around 1900. The appearance of the house has hardly changed since it was constructed, and nearly every alteration was made with protection of the building's character in mind. Other than modern bathroom and kitchen facilities, the interior including the furniture also retains its original integrity. Because the Pyle home was built on the edge of town, there were few neighboring houses. The original street was dirt, later became cobblestone, and finally was paved for modern usage. The earliest sidewalks surrounding the home were wooden but are now modern pavement. The paved sidewalk leading to the front of the building is original, however, and constituted the first of its type in Huron.

The west facade or front of the house features an elaborate open porch with eight turned columns that extend from floor to roof. The principle decoration is a bead design on the spindle board arranged in sunburst and starburst patterns. Dentils exist along the cornice. The pedimental porch entry is offset to the right. A wooden boot or shoe box about four feet long sits next to the front door. Children kept their muddy or snowy footwear in it in earlier times. The oak door has five panels and a rectangular window in its top third.

There are five windows on the front of the house--two on the first floor, two on the second, and one near the top of the gable. The most outstanding is a three sash window lighting the living room or parlor at the north end of the building. The other opening is a medium sized, rectangular, art glass window located to the south of the door. The second floor windows are both two sashed and rectangular. Each has a transom and awning. A small half round window is located just under the barge board. Stick work segments the glass. The front door has a rectangular flush light which employs a leaded glass design.

The roof line of the structure is irregular with a combination of hip and medium pitched gable designs. The hip portion forms the center part of the roof while a gable extends from the north, south, and west ends. The east or rear roof line is completely gabled although lower than the other three. There are two single stack type chimneys protruding from the roof. The first is located at the center of the house while the second is to the rear (east) and north of the building. Semi-circular cresting with spherical finials adorn the roof. The three major gables possess barge boards with sunburst ornamentation.

The south facade of the house features a small triangular dormer and a single story bay window. The bay passes two doubled sashed windows and a single, three sashed window, the top portions of which are leaded. The windows in the rest of the house are rectangular in shape and consist of varying sizes. A single story vestibule on the rear of the house was original with the building.

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Oak trim and parquet floor in the living room are outstanding features. An oak fireplace and stairway, however, are the main aesthetic elements of the interior, although gingerbread bead design and carved wooden china closets make a major contribution. The interior of the building is as well preserved as the exterior.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PYLE HOME

Lots 8 and 9 Block 24, 3rd Railway

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1894

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John L. Pyle home in Huron, South Dakota, is one of the best preserved nineteenth century dwellings in the state. It has been the continuous home of members of the Pyle family since its construction in 1894. Located at 307 Idaho, S.E., the Pyle house remains one of the finest residential structures in Huron. Cleata B. Thorpe, chronicler of the Pyle family, notes:

This new home was one of the finest in Huron, and it stands at the time of this writing (1973) with practically no structural changes or changes in furnishings. It is a nine room, story-and-a-half house, with ornate golden oak woodwork, a parquet floor in the front hall, a beautiful staircase and decorative fireplace, and several lovely art glass windows. Sliding double-doors connect the "sitting" room with the dining room and the "parlor."

Pyle, a prominent lawyer, built the home for his family residence. Although lacking formal legal training, he passed the territorial bar examination in 1886, and shortly afterward became state's attorney for Hand County. He moved to Huron in 1889, and quickly became successful in his law practice by representing corporations and other businesses. In 1898 and 1900 Pyle was elected as South Dakota's Attorney General. He also held several other important positions including Major and Judge Advocate of the National Guard, president of the Board of Trustees of Huron College, president of the State Anti-Saloon League, attorney and counselor for the state supreme court, United States District Court, Circuit Court, and United States Supreme Court. Pyle's career was cut short in 1902 when he died of typhoid at the age of forty-two.

Mainie I. Pyle, John's wife, not only raised her four children alone, but also became active in local and state affairs. She assumed her husband's chair on the Huron College Board of Trustees. Interest in the Women's rights movement took her to National Suffrage conventions as a delegate in 1915, 1917, and 1919. As president of State Equal Suffrage Movement, she was instrumental in getting South Dakota's 1920 state suffrage law passed. Mrs. Pyle also became president of the League of Women Voters. Her achievements both as mother and active citizen were recognized in 1947 when she was named Mother of the Year in South Dakota.

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The Pyles had four children all of whom established successful careers. John S. Pyle, the only son, obtained a law degree from the University of Michigan. He became States Attorney for Butte County in 1920 and 1922. He also served as Special Deputy United States Attorney for the Western states and later became an agent of the prohibition service. May Pyle, John's sister, married Reverend Dr. Harold E. Andrews and later became an honored English professor at Ashland College in Ohio. Andrews Hall was named for the two scholars in 1970. Nellie Pyle, another sister, became Mrs. Wilson L. Aisu. Like May, she achieved her own academic career as a mathematics professor at Ward Belmont College in Nashville, Tennessee. She worked for desegregation and ran unsuccessfully for the legislature. The most successful of the Pyle children, however, was Gladys, the youngest daughter, who led a remarkable career in South Dakota.

Like her brother and sisters, Gladys attended Huron College, and except for brief periods made her home at the family residence. She became very active in South Dakota politics with special concern for the role of women in government. In 1922 and 1924 she was elected as an independent Republican to the state legislature--the first woman to do so. At this time, she was also appointed assistant Secretary of State. In 1926 she was elected Secretary of State, the first woman elected to such a high office. She held that position for five years. In 1930 Gladys Pyle decided to run for governor as a Republican and won the primary with thirty-three percent of the vote. Thirty-five percent was needed to secure the nomination, however, so at a state convention another candidate was picked. From 1931 to 1937, she served as Secretary of the Security Commission of South Dakota. Gladys set another precedent in 1938 when she was elected to fill the short term vacancy of the United States Senator Peter Norbeck who died in office. This made her the first woman elected to the United States Senate to fill a vacancy. Gladys returned to South Dakota after fulfilling her two month term. She continued to serve the state by being appointed to the Board of Charities and Corrections from 1947 to 1955.

The Significance of the Pyle family in Huron and South Dakota is undeniable. Theirs is a dynamic family which made significant contributions to human rights, civic activities, government, and learning. The home in which their ideals and values were learned remains nearly intact from the time of their childhood. It serves as a visible reminder of an earlier time in South Dakota's past--and a legacy to the state from one of its most interesting families.

Cleata B. Thorpe, The John L. Pyle Family: Dakotans Extraordinary, 1882-1973. Creative Printing Company, Huron, South Dakota, 1973. p.10.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Thorpe, Cleata B. The John L. Pyle Family: Dakotans Extraordinary, 1883-1973. Creative Printing Company, Huron, South Dakota. 1973.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		44° 0' 21"	98° 12' 31"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/2

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Scott Gerloff, Consultant**

ORGANIZATION: **Historical Preservation Center** DATE: **May, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Alumni House--University of South Dakota**

CITY OR TOWN: **Vermillion** STATE: **South Dakota** CODE: **STATE**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: James E. Griffith  
 Title: State Historic Preservation Officer  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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