

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Meisch House (NeHBS #DK05-3)

and or common Garlock House

2. Location

street & number 213 17th Street NA not for publication

city, town South Sioux City NA vicinity of

state Nebraska code 031 county Dakota code 043

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Richard and Bonnie Lott

street & number 215 Wedgewood Drive

city, town South Sioux City NA vicinity of state Nebraska

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number 1601 Broadway Street

city, town Dakota City state Nebraska

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date On-going federal state county local

depository for survey records Nebraska State Historical Society

city, town Lincoln state Nebraska

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

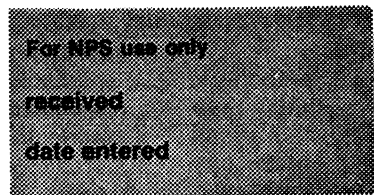
The Meisch house is located in South Sioux City (1985 population: 9,339) Dakota County, Nebraska, a county situated in the extreme northeast portion of the state bordering the South Dakota and Iowa state lines. The one story "square" brick house has a hipped roof penetrated by large dormer windows and displays decorative brick work throughout the exterior including corner and wall pilasters, corbelling and segmentally arched window hoods. The single-bay frontal porch, which was partially reconstructed, is of Eastlake design and shows a lattice balustrade. The house was built by Peter Meisch in 1888. A one-story kitchen wing, added in later years, is situated at the rear. Structural and historical integrity has been preserved.

The physical description for the Meisch house, South Sioux City, Dakota County, Nebraska is written according to the HABS formula and is as follows:

Brick, four deep with no void in walls, plaster and lath; bilaterally symmetrical with brick full basement, approximately 38 feet square; one story; truncated, hipped roof with large gabled dormers; horizontal and vertical brick corbelling divide the east, south and west elevations into two bays, each with a deepset, double hung window of two over two pane arrangement with segmentally arched brick window hoods, northern bay on east elevation modified by bay window; raised entry, one bay porch on south (main) elevation with Eastlake details and lattice balustrade, (to conform with c. 1920's photograph), brick wall pilasters frame entry with transom window; rear side porch on east facade of similar design to frontal porch; built 1888 by Peter Meisch, local brickmaker; addition on north elevation: one-story, flat-topped, hipped roof; approximately 32 feet wide and 15 feet long, frame construction, brick foundation; tin siding embossed as brick on east, north and west elevations; exterior staircase on west elevation installed over fifty years ago when second apartment created, wood replaced by metal in 1985; folklore maintains building's bricks were fired in kiln on slightly depressed area west of structure.

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Continuation sheet Significance Item number 8 Page 1

Although the Meisch house is common in its external form, that of a one story height, the dwelling incorporates dormer windows to provide useable attic space. In plan the house is composed of four rooms with a corner stair hall, representing the most modest of all the "square" house plans (Murphy, 1984, #8).

In design, the house becomes notably elaborated through the use of brick detailing. Raised brickwork found in the foundation, wall and corner pilasters and corbelled wall cornice, visually divide the house into "recessed" bays. The tall, narrow windows and segmentally arched window hoods are reminiscent of the Italianate style, as is the single-bay frontal Eastlake porch.

The Meisch house stands today as a notable and well-preserved product of Nebraska vernacular architecture. On a local level the dwelling remains as one of the few surviving examples of late 19th century residential architecture in South Sioux City dating from the early years of the town's establishment.

South Sioux City was incorporated in 1887 and the Meisch house was built in 1888. Of the hundreds of dwellings which sprang up in the first thirty years of South Sioux City's existence, only two were built of brick. The Meisch house, and the other, due to neglect, has deteriorated to an almost impossible state of rehabilitation. Even today, many years after it's platting, the town has fewer than a hundred brick homes. There is no other house in South Sioux City which better reflects the age and architectural style of the late 1800's than the Meisch house.

South Sioux City has always been thought of as a suburb of Sioux City, Iowa, with a majority of its residents being working people employed by businesses in Sioux City. Because of this economic background, South Sioux does not have any of the "grand residences" of the past; however, it is a proud and industrious city with marked improvement over the past decades and high expectations for future growth.

Very little is known of the life of Peter Meisch, builder of the house, except that he owned a brick yard in town (Warner, 1893, p. 96). Oral history holds that Meisch set up a kiln directly west of the house and fired the bricks to construct the house. In a mechanics lien dated January 1889 and filed against Meisch, the itemized account includes money owed for large amounts of lime and credit to Meisch for 6,924 brick. This would lend support to the local story, at least to the fact that Meisch produced his own bricks for the dwelling's construction.

Rev. C. W. Garlock, a missionary who worked in Illinois, Minnesota, Colorado, Kansas, South Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska, lived in the house from 1918 until his death in 1938. His wife remained until her death in 1948. Hard times fell on Mr. Garlock in the early 20's and he was forced to rent out the upstairs as an apartment. His first renter was Judge Joe Marsh and his bride. Judge Marsh was a Dakota County and District Judge for 34 years until his retirement in 1975. The present community refers to the dwelling as the "Old Garlock house".

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1888 **Builder/Architect** Peter Meisch

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Meisch house is architecturally significant, on a local level, as a well preserved and notably elaborated example of one of Nebraska's most common house types; the one-story "square" or "cubic" type house. The house was constructed in 1888 only a year after the town of South Sioux City was incorporated, and remains today as the best example of an early brick dwelling house in town. Peter Meisch, a local brickmaker, constructed the house incorporating an abundance of brick decorative work and detailing to give it its unique and significant character.

The architectural evaluation of the Peter Meisch house was made on a local level. The house was identified and entered into the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey as a result of a National Register listing request made by the present owners. Used as rental property, the dwelling was neglected for years and finally tagged by the city in 1984. With the cooperation of the city housing authority and the building inspector, the present owners acquired the property in 1985 and performed extensive restoration and rehabilitation work. Through research by the owner and a University student, the house was observed as one of the most architecturally notable houses in the town of South Sioux City. In a larger context, the vernacular dwelling exhibits the typical characteristics of many dwellings throughout various parts of the state--that being the one, one-and-one-half and two-story "square" house type, a type which has been identified as the single most common house type in Nebraska during the period c. 1885 to circa 1920 (Murphy, 1984, #8).

In the "Jasper Newton Bell House" National Register nomination, D. Murphy discusses the "square" type house in Nebraska:

"Culturally the type, during its history in Nebraska, must be considered a truly American house type. While it has been identified with significant ethnic associations, such as with the Volga-Germans for example, it was in its latter years built by all ethnic-European groups as well as Anglo-Americans. Very generally, by the turn-of-the-century the type's cultural associations are so heterogeneous and wide-spread as to require consideration as a truly American type. By the time of the Period Revivals in the teens and twenties, the type had become fully Americanized and was built in virtually any of the popular Period Revival styles (most of the houses in the Mount Emerald...Historic District, Lincoln, are of the type but executed in a wide variety of styles).

Historically the type in Nebraska first appears in the late 1860's and early '70's in the Italianate style. This particular "square" or "cubic" form of the Italianate has rarely if ever been acknowledged by writers concerned with Italianate architecture, a fact perhaps indicative of the folk or vernacular character of the style's execution in the state. Among the earliest recorded examples in Nebraska are several in Brownville, most of which are essentially Georgian houses in plan-form, to which Italianate details have been applied (cf. the Muir and Atkinson houses for example). The type remained popular even in more academic circles (less-so, perhaps during the Queen Anne movement) through the end of the century, being preferred after 1900 when the classical styles replaced the Victorian."

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Sioux City South, Iowa-Nebr.-S. Dakota

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	4
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7	1	2	5	1	0
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4	7	0	5	4	1	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

B

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is described as the west 12 feet of lot 14, all of lots 15 and 16, Block 18, Original Town of South Sioux City, Dakota County, Nebraska, including all historically associated real estate.

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

state	NA	code	county	code
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state	NA	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

Bonnie Lott, Owner

name/title J. Rock Johnson, University Student, volunteer/Joni Gilkerson, Architectural Historian
 n/a

organization Nebraska State Historical Society date October 1985, January, 1986
215 Wedgewood Drive (402) 494-3882

street & number 1500 R Street, P.O. Box 82554 telephone (402) 471-4767
South Sioux City

city or town Lincoln state Nebraska

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature James A. Hanson

title Director, Nebraska State Historical Society date February 4, 1986

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation sheet

Bibliography

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"Death Claims Rev. Garlock," The Sioux City Journal, February 4, 1938, p. 1, c. 2, South Sioux City, Nebraska.

Lott, Mrs. Richard, "Old Garlock House," Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey Form, January, 1985, on file at the Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Murphy, D. "Jasper Newton Bell House," National Register Nomination Form, January, 1984, Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, Nebraska.

"South Sioux City, the Miracle Young Metropolis of Nebraska," The Sioux City Journal, January 1, 1888, p. 10, c. 1, South Sioux City, Nebraska.

Warner, M.M., Warner's History of Dakota County, Nebraska, Lyons Mirror Job Office, Publisher, 1893.



View looking NW showing S (front) & E facades
Photo by Troy Lewison, Jan 1986, Star Publishing Company, South
Sioux City, NE
(NSHS H673.5-4612)



View looking NNE showing S (front) & W facades
Photo by Troy Lewison, Jan 1986, Star Publishing Company, South
Sioux City, NE
(NSHS H673.5-4610)



View looking SE showing N & W facades
Photo by Troy Lewison, Jan 1986, Star Publishing Company, South
Sioux City, NE
(NSHS H673.5-4611)