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INVESTORS REAL ESTATE TRUST Form 15-12B December 29, 2016

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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FORM 15

CERTIFICATION AND NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION UNDER SECTION 12(g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 OR SUSPENSION OF DUTY TO FILE REPORTS UNDER SECTIONS 13 AND 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934.

Commission File Number 001-35624

INVESTORS REAL ESTATE TRUST

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

1400 31st Avenue SW, Suite 60

Post Office Box 1988

Minot, ND 58702-1988

(701) 837-4738

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant s principal executive offices)

8.25% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares of Beneficial Interest, no par value per share

(Title of each class of securities covered by this Form)

Common Shares of Beneficial Interest, no par value per share and

7.95% Series B Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Shares of Beneficial Interest, no par value per share

(Titles of all other classes of securities for which a duty to file reports under section 13(a) or 15(d) remains)

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Please place an X in the box(es) to designate the appropriate rule provision(s) relied upon to terminate or suspend the duty to file reports:

 $\begin{array}{lll} \text{Rule } 12\text{g-}4(\text{a})(1) & x \\ \text{Rule } 12\text{g-}4(\text{a})(2) & \text{o} \\ \text{Rule } 12\text{h-}3(\text{b})(1)(\text{i}) & x \\ \text{Rule } 12\text{h-}3(\text{b})(1)(\text{ii}) & \text{o} \\ \text{Rule } 15\text{d-}6 & \text{o} \\ \text{Rule } 15\text{d-}22(\text{b}) & \text{o} \\ \end{array}$

Approximate number of holders of record as of the certification or notice date: None

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Investors Real Estate Trust has caused this certification/notice to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned duly authorized person.

INVESTORS REAL ESTATE TRUST

Date: December 29, 2016 By: /s/ Timothy P. Mihalick
Timothy P. Mihalick
Chief Executive Officer

Instruction: This form is required by Rules 12g-4, 12h-3 and 15d-6 and 15d-22 of the General Rules and Regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The registrant shall file with the Commission three copies of Form 15, one of which shall be manually signed. It may be signed by an officer of the registrant, by counsel or by any other duly authorized person. The name and title of the person signing the form shall be typed or printed under the signature.

SEC 2069 (08-11) Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.