Mt. Pleasant - Dist. # 17

Country School Legacy: Humanities on the Frontier

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HISTORIC SITE FORM

State Nebraska County Sheridan

Location (in miles & direction from nearest town) 3 miles north and 1½ miles west of Gordon, Nebraska

Is this the original location? No. A sod schoolhouse sat across the road and was the first schoolhouse.

Name of building & origin of name Mt. Pleasant (Origin unknown, however both the school and the community have used the name since the late 1800's.

Name & number of the district Mt. Pleasant. District 17

Date built 1917 Years in use 62

Who built it? A contractor or the community? Local carpenters

Does it look like it came from a plan book or was it designed by the community? Designed by John Oldenburg and two other board members


Names of former students (family names only): Robertson, Reid, Murphy, Cave, Barron, Oldenburg, Hooker, Huff, Davis, Heck, Graves, Kreizenbeck, Gealy, McCanley, Beckwith, Ranck, Quentin, Boils, Jones, Woodhouse, Leach, Manning, Denny, Malson, Ischen, Clark, Stretcher, Von Bergen, Coon, Bashor, Haller, Petshaw, Wilber

Name & address of person in charge of building: District 83 Board--Joyce Smith, Batesland Route, Box 75, Gordon, NE

Who is the owner? District 83, Sheridan County, NE
Architectural Features:

Size of building: 24 x 36

Number of Windows (four pane, six pane, etc.): Eight two pane

Number of doors (entrances): Four

Number of classrooms: one

Bell tower or cupola: no

Materials used (wood, brick, stone, etc.): wood, brick, cement

Type of roof: asbestos shingles

Outhouses: had one, now gone

Playground Equipment: swings, merry-go-round

Color of building & trim: white

Coal shed or stable: stable

Teacherage: no. One teacher did live in the basement for some time.

Flagpole: yes.

Other architectural features:
A basement and indoor plumbing were added in 1953. School was damaged by fire in 1973 and the roofline was changed slightly when rebuilt.

Anything left inside? piano, desks and chairs, tables, some books.

Narrative Information: Did any special events happen at the school? What stories do people remember?

The fire in 1973 was set by a student who believed he would be sent to school in nearby Gordon if he burned the school down.

Current condition & use: Good condition. Presently vacant although the district is holding the building in case of need in the future.

District records available: yes x no where stored: Sheridan Co. Supt. and Mrs. Robert Gealy

Black & white photo taken: yes x no

Old photos available: yes x no

Does the building have any state or national historic designation? no

Name & address of surveyor: Carol Oldenburg date: 11/5/89