1929

Carr School - Dist. #52

Country School Legacy: Humanities on the Frontier

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GOUNTRYSCHOOL LEGACy:
Humanities on the Frontier

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HISTORIC SITE FORM

State Nebraska
County Buffalo

Location (in miles & direction from nearest town)
12 mi. n. of Shelton, ½ mi. west. (Shelton approx. 20 mi. e. of Kearney)

Is this the original location? No

Name of building & origin of name
Carr, from Carr family.

Name & number of the district Carr School. dist. 32 52

Date built 1929
Years in use 1929-1980

Who built it? A contractor or the community? contractor

Does it look like it came from a plan book or was it designed by the community? Plan book

Names of former teachers:
Sherry Purvis, present teacher

Names of former students (family names only):
1880: Speecht, Southman, Schlund, Carr, Song, Butler, Streeter
1980: Urwiller, Quaring, Pope, Hongsermeier, Dethlefs.

Name & address of person in charge of building:
LeRoy/ treasurer of school board
Hongsermeier

Who is the owner? dist. 32

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COUNTRY SCHOOL LEGACY HISTORIC SITE FORM

Architectural Features:

Size of building approx. 30 x 50 ft.

Number of Windows (four pane, six pane, etc.)

4 4-pane on east.

Number of doors (entrances) 1 and 1 exit

Number of classrooms 1

Bell tower or cupola no

Materials used (wood, brick, stone, etc.) brick veneer

Type of roof inverted v-shape

Outhouses no--indoor plumbing

Playground Equipment merry-go-round, swings

Color of building & trim red brick, white

Coal shed or stable 1 unused outdoor toilet

Teacherage no

Flagpole yes

Other architectural features:

entry-vestibule

Anything left inside?

still in operation, quite modern, has old drop stage curtain with names of merchants.

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


Current condition & use:

Good, used for school.

District records available: yes [x] no where stored Joyce Honsermeler

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 Ernest Grundy date 10-19-80
Birthday Party Planned For District 32 School

By Diane Feldman
Hub Staff Writer

The 11 students at Shelton's District 52 School are planning a birthday party — a party for their school which is 100 years old this year.

The children have been practicing hit songs from each decade, 1880 to 1980, to perform at an open house Sunday from 2-5 p.m. Besides the musical presentation at 3 p.m., various awards and a history of the school will be featured. The school was moved to the present site and that summer construction was started on the present building, which was completed the following spring. The land was donated by the Vlach family.

The 50-year-old building is of brick veneer and cost $5,648.95. Sometime in the 1930s a telephone was purchased from Sodtown Telephone Company. Also in the 1930s, the school ordered the trees which now surround the building and Ravan. All are in their 80s or 90s. Present school board members are Mr. Hongsermeier, treasurer; Wayne Meyer, president; and Darrell Quaring, secretary.

The school today consists of 11 students from five different families. Although District 52 is a kindergarten through eighth grade school, the highest grade this year is seventh. There are three kindergarteners and two second graders, and one student...
school will be presented and a luncheon will be served.

The school started on April 6, 1880, at the George Carr residence. The next year a school building was erected on land owned by Jacob Song, a mile north of the present school. Some of the early students had last names of Speecht, Southman, Schlund, Tawny, Carr, Song, Butler and Streeter. During the first three years of the school there were no textbooks.

In 1885, a new school was built on a site located northeast of the present location. The decision to build on the new site caused quite a controversy, according to Joyce Hongsermeier, whose husband, LeRoy, is treasurer of the school board. "There was hot debate about where it should be located," she said. "It took 10 meetings that year to decide." The decision was made in August of that year and the school was completed in October.

In 1929 the school building sides. A total price of $28 was paid for the trees.

The year 1949 marked the time the school got rid of the windmill because electricity came to the area. The school was wired and a water system was put in.

During the 1950s and '60s a number of meetings were held to discuss redistricting. In 1961, District 48 dissolved and the children who had attended that school started going to District 52.

Fire codes caused problems in 1972 and an extra exit was added on the east side of the building. In 1977 a vote was taken to install an indoor bathroom.

Many children who have attended the school represent three generations of students. The school has had about 70 teachers, 40 people on the school board and 750 students. Among the oldest living students are Ernest Gosda of Gibbon and William Bachkora and Eddie Seery, both of

When Sherry Purvis began teaching at the school five years ago, she had five students. A Kearney State College graduate originally from Hayes Center, Mrs. Purvis said she enjoys her job.

"I was nervous at first," she said. "But I like being my own boss. The school board gives me full reign, within reason. I'm close to all the kids and sometimes I feel more like their mother."

Students at the school include Tony Urwiller, Janna Quaring and Jeff Pope, kindergarten; Christy Urwiller, first grade; Jenny Hongsermeier and Doug Quaring, second; Jason Urwiller, third; Rod Dethlefs, fourth; Stacey Hongsermeier, fifth; Karen Dethlefs, sixth; and Kim Hongsermeier, seventh.

Mrs. Hongsermeier said the public is invited to the open house.