1900

Harold Warp School - Dist. #13

Country School Legacy: Humanities on the Frontier

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G C O U N T R Y S C H O O L L E G A C Y:  
Humanities on the Frontier

Project Director—Andrew Gilliford
Media Director—Randall Teeuwen
Exhibits Director—Berkeley Lobanov

HISTORIC SITE FORM

State Nebraska County Kearney

Location (in miles & direction from nearest town) In Pioneer Village Museum, Minden, Nebr.

Is this the original location? No, was formerly dist. 13 near Minden, known as Harold Warp School, where owner of Pioneer Village attended.

Name of building & origin of name

Name & number of the district

Date built Years in use

Who built it? A contractor or the community?

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

Names of former teachers:

Names of former students (family names only):

This building is intact, just as it was when school was discontinued and the building later moved in. Has original records, equipment, desks, even textbook and library books.

Name & address of person in charge of building:
Pioneer Village

Who is the owner?
COUNTRY SCHOOL LEGACY HISTORIC SITE FORM

Architectural Features:

Size of building

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

Number of doors (entrances)

Number of classrooms

Bell tower or cupola

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

Type of roof

Outhouses

Playground Equipment

Color of building & trim

Coal shed or stable

Teacherage

Flagpole

Other architectural features:

Anything left inside?

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

Current condition & use:

District records available: yes no where stored

Black & white photo taken: yes no

Old photos available: yes no

Does the building have any state or national historic designation?

Name & address of surveyor: Ernest Grundy

Date
July 29, 1980

Ernest Grundy
Kearney State College
Kearney, NE 68847

Dear Mr. Grundy:

I am pleased to send you a photocopy of the National Register nomination for the District No. 10 School in rural Jefferson County.

Another registered rural one-room schoolhouse is the Camp Creek School in Otoe County; a copy of the nomination for that property is enclosed for your keeping also.

You may wish to contact the State Department of Education for a list of one-room schoolhouses in operation, if you have not done so already. I will, as mentioned, inquire among the Historical Society staff to learn of additional buildings that might interest you.

Thank you for your concern for Nebraska's Heritage. I look forward to meeting you sometime soon.

Sincerely,

Daniel Kidd
Architectural Historian
State Historic Preservation Office

DK:dbm

Enclosures
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory -- Nomination Form

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1. NAME

   Historic
   District No. 10 School (JF00-36)

   And/or common
   School on the Oregon Trail

2. LOCATION

   Street & Number

   City, Town
   Powell

   State Code
   Nebraska 031

3. CLASSIFICATION

   Category
   _District
   _Building(s)
   _Structure
   _Site
   _Object

   Ownership
   _Public
   _Private
   _Both

   Classification
   _Public Acquisition
   _In Process
   _Being Considered

   Status
   _Occupied
   _Unoccupied
   _Work in Progress

   Present Use
   _Agriculture
   _Commercial
   _Educational
   _Entertainment
   _Government
   _Industrial
   _Museum
   _Military
   _Museum
   _Private Residence
   _Religious
   _Scientific
   _Transportation
   _Other:

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

   Name
   School District No. 303

   Street & Number

   City, Town
   Daykin

   State
   Nebraska

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

   Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc.
   Register of Deeds, Jefferson County Courthouse

   Street & Number
   4th and D Streets

   City, Town
   Fairbury

   State
   Nebraska

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

   Title

   Date

   Depository for Survey Records

   City, Town

   State
The District No. 10 Schoolhouse, Jefferson County, is a rural school, as it has been since its construction, with fields surrounding it. The school is about ½ mile from both the Big Sandy Creek to the north and the Little Blue River to the south. It is located at the southwest corner of Section 17 with local roads on the south and west sides of the property. The Oregon Trail is located about 100 feet south of the school. In addition to the schoolhouse, a coal shed and two privies are part of the property.

The schoolhouse, built ca. 1900, is representative of the one-room rural school. It has one room and a small vestibule, which is the gabled extension to the south. The small screened porch was added after 1930. The detailing is more elaborate than usual. The gables are decorated with round and angle cut shingles. There are corner pilasters with simplified capitals and pilasters flanking the original door and transom. The school is now open as a museum, furnished as it was when closed in 1960.

The other buildings which served the school are a coal shed and boys and girls privies. All three structures are wood-frame with gabled roofs and doors in the center of the south sides. The coal shed is placed almost directly north of the schoolhouse and one privy is on each side of the shed (see photo #3). All the buildings are painted white.

There are three historic markers and one sign on the property south of the schoolhouse; however, they do not interfere with views of the site. A stone marker commemorating the Oregon Trail was placed on the site in 1914 by School District No. 10 and the State of Nebraska. Two stone and bronze markers commemorating the Pony Express and the Mormon trek, respectively, were erected in the 1960's and '70's. A wooden sign describes the school as being under restoration by the Alexandria Community Club and the Jefferson County Historical Society.
The District No. 10 School is historically and architecturally representative of the one-room rural schoolhouses which were the most common type school in the state until very recent times.

A system of public schools was established by the first Territorial Legislature in March, 1855. The legislation provided for a school superintendent to be elected in each county who was empowered to established school districts after petitioning by the voters and to levy a 3-5 mill tax for support of the schools. Each district was managed by an elected three-member board. As Nebraska was settled and grew, new school districts were created well into the 20th century. At the time District No. 10 was organized in 1869, there were 797 school districts in the state and 17 in Jefferson County. By 1900 the number of school districts had increased to 6708 in the state and 99 in the county. The majority of the districts were rural and had one-room schoolhouses. In 1919, 91 of the 178 Jefferson County teachers were in one or two teacher rural schools. Consolidation of school districts began in the second and third decades of this century in the belief that larger districts would have more funds for quality education. The number of school districts in the state have declined from 7264 in 1919 to 1266 in 1972-73, thereby making a great many rural schoolhouses redundant.

District No. 10 was organized March 20, 1869 and the School Board purchased two lots in the Meridian townsite. A school building was erected and classes began in May, 1870. The town of Meridian was the first platted in the county and is now extinct. The old schoolhouse was moved to the present location in 1890 because it was more centrally located for the pupils. The current building was erected about 1900. It is representative of rural schoolhouses because it is one-room, of frame construction and has the usual outbuildings. The detailing in gable shingles and pilasters is more elaborate than usual. Attendance at the school varied from a high of nineteen in the 1901-02 school year to one student in 1903-04 and 1904-05.

After failing to find a qualified teacher for the previous term, the School Board voted in 1961 to contract with the adjacent Alexandria School District for the teaching of the five enrolled students. The last term taught in the school was the fall quarter, 1960. The School Board continued to contract with Alexandria until 1965 when District No. 10 was dissolved. The following year the Jefferson County Historical Society and the Alexandria Community Club jointly leased the property for 99 years to preserve the buildings as a schoolhouse museum.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY  approx. 4 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME  Gladstone Quadrangle

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

A  1140  41410  41453  21810

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

S.W. corner of SW¼ of SW¼, Section 17, Township 3 North, Range 1 East

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Penelope Chatfield, Preservation Historian

ORGANIZATION

Nebraska State Historical Society

DATE

October, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

1500 R Street

TELEPHONE

402-432-2793

CITY OR TOWN

Lincoln

STATE

Nebraska

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL X

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

DIRECTOR, NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DATE

10/23/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION
Annual Report of the State Board of Education to the Governor of the State of Nebraska 1972-73.


Hurlburt, Ella Mae, School by the Trail: History of District 10 Alexandria Community Club and Jefferson County Historical Society, Inc., 1967

Olson, James C., History of Nebraska, (Lincoln, NE.: University of Nebraska Press, 1966)

Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to the Governor of the State of Nebraska, 1869-70, 1899-1900, 1919-25.
DISTRICT NO. 10, SCHOOL
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA
ZONE 14
E 640440
N 4453280