

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received JUN 28 1984

date entered AUG 1 1984

1. Name

historic Vale School

and/or common Vale High School

2. Location

street & number N/A 176 S D 79 N/A not for publication

city, town Vale N/A vicinity of

state South Dakota code 46 county Butte code 019

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Newell School District 9-2

street & number 501 Dartmouth

city, town Newell N/A vicinity of state South Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Butte County Courthouse

city, town Belle Fourche state South Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveystitle N/A has this property been determined eligible? ☒ yes ☐ nodate N/A federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located on a country road in a small rural community, the Vale School is a square, two-story frame building with a hip roof, two brick chimneys and long rectangular windows with four over four sash.

Designed by Stephen Berry, the school was built in 1914 by Guy Kingsbury of Vale. Now that the building has been vacated, the upper level windows have been boarded up. A small vestibule with double doors (topped with transoms) is centrally located on the front (south) facade. Entrance into the cellar on the east facade is via ^{an} exterior bulkhead. The rear side is windowless and has only a wood staircase leading to the second floor. To the north of the building is a privy.

Another building, constructed around 1929 and used for both an auditorium and gymnasium, is adjacent to the main school (to the west). Topped with a clipped gable (or Jerkin Head) roof, this newer frame building is a long rectangular structure with rectangular windows and lean-tos extending on the east and west sides. A centrally located vestibule has a clipped gable roof which culminates in a return cornice. Four over four sash sidelights flank the double doors of the vestibule. The building has a brick chimney projecting from the roof.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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 1914, 1929 **Builder/Architect** Guy Kingsbury/Stephen Berry

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

As the first rural high school in western South Dakota, the Vale School is significant in the area of education and for its role in the community of Vale.

Vale, a pioneering community in the east end of Butte County, acquired a post office in 1883. After the coming of the railroad and an important irrigation project of 1909, Vale became a thriving agricultural town. Stephen Berry was hired to design a school for the growing community and it was built in 1914 by Guy Kingsbury of Vale. A two year curriculum was offered in the structure until 1927 when it became a four-year accredited high school. Shortly after this time, a gymnasium was constructed to the west of the older building. Hundreds of school and public events went on in the school during its heyday. It continued to serve the area as an operating high school until August 26, 1967.

Although now abandon, the school is one of the few older buildings still standing in Vale. The citizens of this community of 150 people believe that no where in the state of South Dakota has a high school been so important to the local surrounding area than the Vale School. (2) Its closing was an unhappy occurrence for many.

1

"Vale, Butte County, South Dakota," in Pioneer Footsteps. 3rd Edition, Aberdeen, SD; North Plains Press, 1973, p. 280-1.

2

Rozella Bracewell, Editor, The Valley Irrigator, Newell, South Dakota.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- See continuation sheet -

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____ SEE CONTINUATION SHEET
Quadrangle name _____ Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

S.E. quarter of the S.W. quarter part; T8, R6, E. Black Hills meridian.

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By


name/title Rozella Bracewell, Editor; with the assistance of Melanie Betz
organization The Valley Irrigator date March 30, 1984
street & number N/A telephone 605/456-2585 - work
605/456-2530 - home
city or town Newell state South Dakota

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 

title Director, Office of Cultural Preservation date 06/30/84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 8-1-84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

"Vale, Butte County, South Dakota," Pioneer Footsteps. 3rd Edition, Aberdeen,
SD: North Plains Press, 1973, p. 280-1.

Cowboys and Sodbusters, 1968.

Vale School Records.

The Valley Irrigator, Newell, SD.

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Continuation sheet Geographical Data Item number 10

Page 1

Vale School --- Butte County

Longitude: 103°23'53" (West Boundary)
 103°23'49" (East Boundary)

Latitude: 44°37'14" (North Boundary)
 44°37'10" (South Boundary)

Acreage of nominated property: About One Acre
Quadrangle name: Vale
Quadrangle scale: 1:24000