

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 6 1978

DATE ENTERED

DEC 8 1978

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Washington School

AND/OR COMMON

Public School District No. 12

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

541 Park Avenue

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Park City

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

--- VICINITY OF

STATE

Utah

CODE

COUNTY

Summit

CODE

45

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

--- DISTRICT

 BUILDING(S)

--- STRUCTURE

--- SITE

--- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

--- PUBLIC

 PRIVATE

--- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

--- IN PROCESS

--- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

--- OCCUPIED

 UNOCCUPIED

--- WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

--- YES: RESTRICTED

 YES: UNRESTRICTED

--- NO

PRESENT USE

--- AGRICULTURE

--- COMMERCIAL

--- EDUCATIONAL

--- ENTERTAINMENT

--- GOVERNMENT

--- INDUSTRIAL

--- MILITARY

--- MUSEUM

--- PARK

--- PRIVATE RESIDENCE

--- RELIGIOUS

--- SCIENTIFIC

--- TRANSPORTATION

 OTHER: Vacant**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

David S. Grow

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 202

CITY, TOWN

Provo

--- VICINITY OF

STATE

Utah

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Summit County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Coalville

STATE

Utah

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Utah State Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1973/1978

--- FEDERAL STATE --- COUNTY --- LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS

Utah State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Salt Lake City

STATE

Utah

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

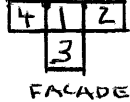
UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

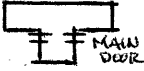
The basic plan of the George Washington Schoolhouse is a "T" plan built in stone. It is a split level structure rising to a height of two full storeys at the main elevation and one and one half at the rear. Three wings extend from the central block on both sides and the front. The central square and wings will be numbered as follows:



The plot is located on a slope which causes the split leveling. The basement, done in cut stone, is partial, only extending under section #3. The exterior wall material is also cut stone and is a combination of broken course and composition coursing. The texture of the stone is hammered or tooled. In the exterior wall of the main facade there is a date stone which reads "Public School District No. 12, 1889."

The total roof shape is a "T" gable covered with wood (probably cedar) shingles. There are three interior chimneys which are centrally located at the end of wings 2,3, and 4. These are single units made of brick. There are several dormer windows of pediment shape and having windows of the "four sash with mullions" type. The eaves are done in wood which projects and have no exposed rafters. The raking is a wood fascia and frieze with no special features.

The main windows on the first floor are flat two sash (double hung) with a plain lintel. There are no side elements, but the sill is of lugsill type. Both lintel and sill are done in smoothly cut stone. The second floor windows are two sash with one upper and one lower. There are two circular windows in the uppermost storey of section two.

There are two identical doors, one main and one secondary, located off-center on the main floor.  Their structural openings are flat with plan, cut stone surround heads and sides. The architrave type is plain with embrasure. The side panels are recessed on both sides and the transom panels are plain and recessed. The doors are double, four panel doors, and the panels are recessed with moulded railings. The glazing on the door was undeterminable.

The location of the main staircase is at the main door. They extend straight from the main door parallel to the exterior wall from a low porch supported by wooden blocks.

One of the more interesting features of the building is the centrally located bell tower which is square in shape, supported at four corners by wood columns having bracketed eaves and scroll worked corner brackets. Topping the steep cupola roof is a flag pole which could be original. The sides of the cupola below the roof are open at this time and the bell has been removed.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1889

BUILDER/ARCHITECT R. Hobbs, contractor

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Washington School, constructed in 1889 of limestone quarried at Peoa, Utah is the remaining structure of the three public schools constructed in Park City in the late nineteenth century that followed the "ward school" concept. In addition, the structure is one of the few remaining buildings which survived the Great Fire of June 19, 1898.

HISTORY

Park City, Utah, quickly became one of the leading and most profitable argentiferous lead mining areas in the world. The initial discover date is cited as 1868, but it was the Ontario Mine, sold to George Hearst in 1872, that initiated efforts to mine lode ores and acted as the catalyst for Park City's reputation as a bonanza camp. The district grew rapidly attracting a diverse population, with commercial and social activity centered in the town of Park City.

The increase in population and prosperity affected Park City's development from a settlement, to a camp, and finally to a town. Within such a framework of development the social environment underwent changes, with various aspects of that environment needing attention. Education, practically from the outset, became of particular importance.

The first educational efforts in Park City culminated in the establishment of the Ontario School, in 1875. Other reports indicate that earlier in the winter of 1875, John L. Street and George C. Snyder sponsored a school taught by Dominic Dignan;¹ followed by the Ontario School, which was supported by subscriptions from the Ontario miners, and also from donations. Following closely were other schools sponsored by the Catholic Church, Congregational Church and the Public Free School No. 12.

The 1870's and 1880's proved a difficult period for public schools in Park City. Tax measures to aid public education were voted down and in addition, the presence of other schools, Saint Mary's (Catholic) and the Park Academy (Congregational), created alternatives to public education. The Free School was originally run by the New West Education Commission, Congregational Church, but sponsorship was later dropped because of financial difficulties. The church shortly thereafter sponsored the Park Academy. In 1883 citizens voted down a school tax levy;² children were to be sent to either Saint Mary's (still remaining) or the Park Academy.

¹William McPhee, The Trail of the Leprechaun: Early History of a Utah Mining Camp (Hicksville, N.Y., 1977), p. 69; J. Weston Woodbury, "A History of the Park City School District," (M.S. Thesis, University of Utah, 1960).

²Ibid., pp. 69-78: Woodbury, Park City School District, p. 57

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- McPhee, William M. The Trail of the Leprechaun: Early History of a Utah Mining Camp Hicksville, N.Y. 1977
- Woodbury, J. Weston, "A History of the Park City School District." M.S. thesis, University of Utah, 1960
- Park City School District No. 12, Treasurer Ledger, August 1880, to June 1897. Park City Board of Education Office

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Park City East, Utah

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

458-020 A

1	2	4	5	7	9	9	0	4	4	9	9	2	1	0
ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

C

E

G

B

D

F

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Philip F. Notarianni, Historian

ORGANIZATION Utah State Historical Society DATE March 31, 1978

STREET & NUMBER 307 West 2nd South, Suite 1000 TELEPHONE 533-6017

CITY OR TOWN Salt Lake City, STATE Utah

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 *William H. Britton*

TITLE SHPO DATE May 24, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

John Charles Winters DATE 12-8-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *William H. Britton* DATE 12-8-78

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

Population growth, apparently increased a demand, as reports indicated an enrollment of one hundred during the 1885-1886 school year. At that time the Public Free School, District No. 12³ had John F. Bledsoe as principal, later replaced by Miss Lizzie Holding, assisted by Miss Mary Kelly. During the 1886-1887 year, C.A. Short was hired as principal, with assistants Mrs. F. V. Davis and Miss E. L. Stalker. Enrollment increased to 162. In 1888, Professor M. G. Hoover replaced Short, with rolls climbing to 194 students.

During 1888, the Trustees of School District No. 12 debated the issue of building new schools. Opposition formed against the idea of a large central school because of a lack of a sufficient population and a lack of property valuation to provide for construction. This followed from an earlier meeting, in July 1888, in which interest was generated in the building of two ward school houses (political "wards")-upper and lower Park Avenue. This system was favored, and as a result studies were made, and plans obtained, of two existing schools -- one a ward school in Grand Haven, Michigan, and the other the school at Lynn, near Ogden, Utah.

The June 15, 1889 issue of The Park Record related that the old public school house on Park Avenue was to be demolished to make way for a new structure. In July the Trustees of District No. 12 decided that the school should be constructed of rock, not lumber, and would contain three rooms, each 30 by 30 feet in size, with 16 foot ceilings. A contract was let to R. Hobbs, and grading commenced, but the excessive amount of grading necessary to prepare the lot caused a delay in the structure's completion.⁵

The rock building, in contrast to the red brick used in later structures, was completed in the late fall of 1889, at a cost of about \$13,000.⁶ Classes for the elementary grades commenced on November 18, 1889, and The Park Record quickly labeled the building as ". . . one of the finest in the state." The school, known originally as the Central School, or Building No. 1, was the first of three schools built in the 1880s and 1890s to accommodate Park City's growing population. School Buildings No. 2 and No. 3 were erected in 1891 and 1895 respectively. On July 12, 1897, F. R. Davis, Clerk of District No. 12, suggested that due to confusion, the Central School, and Buildings No. 2 and 3 be named the Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln Schools. Davis' motion carried.⁸

³The first record of this district is a Treasurer's Ledger, dated August 10, 1880.

⁴The Park Record, July 14, 1888; December 1, 1888. In the July, 1888 meeting, Frank E. James stated that by law the trustees were not allowed to bond the school district or involve it in heavy debt; therefore, the board decided to postpone a decision until 1889, in time to have increased the building fund.

⁵The Park Record, June 15, 1889; July 27, 1889; September 14, 1889; Park City School District No. 12, Treasurer Ledger, August, 1880 to June 1897, p. 49, Hobbs was paid \$348.55.

⁶Sources vary from \$10,5550.00 to \$13,807.71.

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ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

⁷The Park Record, November 9, 1889.

⁸Record of District School No. 12, July 8, 1895- July 6, 1906, pp. 38,39.

The Washington School continued to function as an important part of Park City's educational program until 1931. At that time the school and lot were listed for sale, the Trustees having decided to close the school in the term, apparently due to declining enrollments. It was sold in 1936 to the Veterans of Foreign Wars for \$200.00. A new central school, the Marsac Elementary School, was constructed in 1936 when the Trustees voted to build a⁹ new central elementary school rather than remodeling the Jefferson or Lincoln schools.

Thus, the Washington School remains and is most significant because of its architectural detailing (see Item 7) and its role in documenting the history of public education in Park City, Utah. The present owner has granted the Utah State Historical Society a preservation easement on the facade to insure the building's preservation.

⁹Woodbury, Park City School District, p. 61; Hazel T. Taylor, Clerk, to Kent Powell, Historian, Utah State Historical Society, October 22, 1971.

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ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

The Park Record, July 14, 1888; December 1, 1888; June 15, 1889; July 27, 1889;
September 14, 1889; November 9, 1889.

Record of District School No. 12, July 8, 1895 - July 6, 1906. Park City Board of
Education Offices.