

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only
received JUL 10 1979
date entered AUG 30 1979

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Lonsdale Public School (Rice County District 76)

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 3rd Avenue Southwest ___ not for publication

city, town Lonsdale ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Minnesota code 22 county Rice code 131

3. Classification

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

name City of Lonsdale

street & number

city, town Lonsdale ___ vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Rice County Court House

street & number

city, town Faribault state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title NOT REPRESENTED has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ___ no

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

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

The Lonsdale Public School sits on the crest of one of the highest of Lonsdale's gently rolling hills. The two story frame building, which rests on a cut limestone foundation, is 26 feet wide and 40 feet deep. From foundation to eave line the building is 24 feet high. An octagonal cupola, which still supports the original bell, is centered on the tin hipped roof. The three bay front facade has a projecting pavilion with broken pediment and oculus. Each of the two sides of the building has three bays. A metal fire chute runs diagonally across the rear of the building. The windows, which are noticeably narrow and tall, give a vertical emphasis to the building, particularly to its front facade. The building is sheathed in narrow clapboard. The eaves are decorated with dentils and modillions.

The interior, although in a state of disrepair, is in its original configuration. Some of the original furnishings remain. The building, which is structurally sound, is in fair condition.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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 1908 **Builder/Architect** Patrick Sullivan

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Lonsdale Public School, constructed in 1908 by Patrick Sullivan, a local carpenter, is significant both for its architecture and for its association with education in Lonsdale. The school is believed to have been designed by Patrick Sullivan. In its rectangular shape and vertical emphasis, it has antecedents in many of the plan book schools of the late nineteenth century. In its decoration, particularly its cupola, it is reminiscent of early American public buildings such as Sir Christopher Wren's William and Mary College. The amalgamation of these elements is unusual in Minnesota.

Although currently vacant, the building was for many years the only school in Lonsdale and consequently played a singular role in the educational life of the town. Local tradition says that the formal character of the buildings' architecture is a reflection of the respect which the community's predominantly Czech citizens had for education. Vigorous efforts to preserve and restore the building by the descendants of these citizens are interpreted as a reflection of a pride in the community's history and in the building itself.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Files of Mrs. Rose Smisek, Lonsdale, MN.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Lonsdale, Minn.

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>2</u> <u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lonsdale, Plat #1 of the Southeast quarter of Lot 82, Sec. 26, R112, W22.

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title City Council of Lonsdale (architect William Brodersen, Advisor)

organization _____ date _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town Lonsdale state Minnesota

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Russell W. Fridley

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 7/3/79

For HCRS use only

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

Carol Hull date 8-30-79
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: W. Ray Luce date 6/29/79
Chief of Registration