

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

RECEIVED 413 1376
OCT 19 1995
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *Form 10-900a* of the *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Deerwood Auditorium

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 27 East Forest Road not for publication N/A

city or town Deerwood vicinity N/A

state Minnesota code MN county Crow Wing code 035 zip code 56444

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
[Signature] 10/12/95
Signature of certifying official/Title Ian R. Stewart Date
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau Minnesota Historical Society

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
 entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain): _____
[Signature] 11.29.95
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Edson H. Beall Entered in the National Register

Deerwood Auditorium
Name of Property

Crow Wing, MN
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Federal Relief Construction in Minnesota,
1933-1941

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/city hall

RECREATION AND CULTURE/auditorium

RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility

EDUCATION/library

GOVERNMENT/fire station

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/city hall

RECREATION AND CULTURE/auditorium

RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility

GOVERNMENT/correctional facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

MODERNE

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls STONE

roof METAL

other OTHER/cast stone

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- ARCHITECTURE
- SOCIAL HISTORY
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

1935-1945

Significant Dates

1935
1937

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Buetow, Carl H. (architect)
State Emergency Relief Administration
Works Progress Administration

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Deerwood Auditorium
Name of Property

Crow Wing, MN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Crosby, Minn. 1973

1 | 1 | 5 | | 4 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 4 | 0 | | 5 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
Zone Easting Northing
2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Zone Easting Northing
4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rolf T. Anderson

organization _____ date April 30, 1995

street & number 212 West 36th Street telephone 612-824-7807

city or town Minneapolis state MN zip code 55408

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

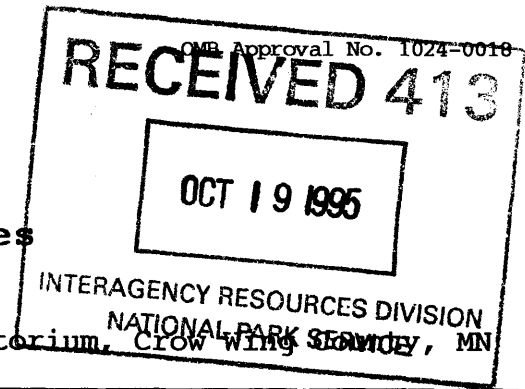
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN



Description

The Deerwood Auditorium is located in Crow Wing County in the town of Deerwood, a small central Minnesota community with a population of 524. The building is sited on a prominent corner at 27 East Forest Road.

The Deerwood Auditorium is a large rectangular two-story building with overall dimensions of 75 feet by 140 feet. The building features reinforced concrete walls faced with split field stone and Moderne Style cast stone trim. A medium pitch gable roof completes the building. The south facing principal facade features a one story projecting entrance with two pairs of entrance doors with small pane transoms separated by a cast stone pier. Stone faced walls flank the entry and are framed with stylized cast stone quoins. A large cast stone panel tops the entire entrance bay with the word "AUDITORIUM" in low relief centered within the panel's recess and with the year "1936" noted below. Symmetrically placed light fixtures and low stone piers, resembling benches, flank the entry.

The main facade raises two full stories and is defined by outer bays consisting of broad pylons, without window openings, which are capped with parapet walls. The central bay is flanked by wide pilaster columns trimmed with cast stone quoins that frame a triangular pediment reflecting the building's gable roof. Three eight-over-eight light double-hung sash are evenly spaced within the central bay on the second story. A cast stone band extends the length of the facade of the upper story and forms the lintel above the window openings. An arrow-shaped cast stone panel located in the peak of the pediment, and a cross-shaped panel located below, include the supports which anchor the building's flag pole. A stone coping completes the roof line.

The outer bays of the east facade consist of projecting two story pavilions with parapet walls which frame symmetrically arranged window openings placed with the central bay. The south end bay

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

features a single window opening on both the first and second stories but organized within a single recessed panel trimmed with cast stone quoins which extends to the top of the parapet. A diamond shaped cast stone ornament separates the windows. The north end bay is identical although an entrance door is positioned in place of a first floor window. A slightly off center entrance door is positioned on the first story of the central bay. The entry is framed by a cast stone surround with the word "LIBRARY" in low relief centered within a recessed panel above the doorway. Four eight-over-eight light double-hung sash are spaced evenly along the facade to the left of the entry and three are positioned to the right. Each window features a cast stone sill and broad cast stone lintels. Four window openings are spaced along the second story which are linked by a cast stone band that also forms the window sills. A one story extension to the north provides space for the fire station. The east facade consists of a large entrance door, located several feet below the floor line of the main building, with the words "FIRE STATION" in low relief centered within a recessed panel above the entrance.

The west facade is nearly identical to the east elevation in terms of overall design and detailing although the north outer bay is incorporated into the overall facade and is not defined as a corner pavilion. The resulting elevation includes a south corner pavilion identical to its counterpart on the east, two entrance doors and seven window openings on the first story, and five window openings on the second story.

The north facade is characterized by broad stone surfaces capped by a parapet wall with a cast stone coping and a central pediment which reflects the building's gable roof. Three second story windows are placed within cast stone bands which run the length of the building and form the sills and lintels. A central tower projects from the wall surface and extends beyond the roof line and provides space for a chimney and hose storage. The upper portion of the tower includes louvered openings on three sides.

Changes to the exterior of the Deerwood Auditorium include the replacement of the main entrance doors, which were originally wood, with steel-framed glass doors, and the replacement of two vehicular entrances to the fire station with a single entry. By

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

the late 1940s, a hip roof had been added to the fire station to replace the original low pitch roof which had been hidden behind the parapet walls. In 1992-93 the windows were replaced with similar sash and the asphalt roof was replaced with a metal roof with standing seams.

The interior includes a main lobby with flanking stairways leading to the second story balconies. Entrances to the council room and library are also located to each side. Central doors lead to the 75' by 38' auditorium/gymnasium space, which could seat 410 people, with the stage positioned to the north. A kitchen with a serving counter is located along the west wall of the auditorium. Side entrances with stairways to the basement and second story flank the stage and also provide access to locker rooms and showers. The second story consists of balconies overlooking the auditorium and stage, which could seat 320, and located above the lobby, library, kitchen, and locker rooms. A projection room is also located in the south end. A full basement is located in the north end of the building for the furnace and mechanical space. Pipe tunnels are located along the side walls.

The police department is now located in the original council chambers, which were relocated to the space which originally housed the library. A new building for the fire department was built diagonally across the street to the northeast with the original space now used as a workshop. However, remarkably the building has not been expanded and retains excellent design integrity.

The Deerwood Auditorium was constructed between 1935-37 through the assistance of the State Emergency Relief Administration and the Works Progress Administration.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

Statement of Significance

The Deerwood Auditorium is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under the context of Federal Relief Construction in Minnesota and is historically significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of Politics and Government as an excellent example of the modern municipal facilities made possible through the federal relief programs of the New Deal. By providing an auditorium and gymnasium space, council chambers, a library, and fire hall, the building expanded the range of services available to the residents of Deerwood and enhanced the quality of life in the community. The Deerwood Auditorium is representative of the multi-functional municipal facilities of the Depression Era whose construction would have been unlikely without federal assistance. The building is also significant as one of the state's largest construction projects undertaken by the State Emergency Relief Administration, and it holds a unique distinction in that the structure was completed by a second relief program, the Works Progress Administration, which absorbed the work programs of the SERA. In addition, the Deerwood Auditorium is significant in the area of Social History as the focal point of the community's social, cultural, and recreational activities.

The Deerwood Auditorium is also architecturally significant under National Register Criterion C as an outstanding example of the unique architectural expressions resulting from the programmatic requirements of both the SERA and the WPA. By requiring the local sponsor to provide the building materials, while the federal funds furnished the labor, the use of local materials, such as the field stone used in the auditorium, reduced the sponsor's cost, thereby increasing the community's ability to undertake what was to become its most significant construction project. The resulting split-stone walls of the building are characterized by irreplaceable labor intensive construction methods and an architectural style closely associated with the New Deal. Finely crafted Moderne Style detailing completes the design.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

As early as June 5, 1933 the Minutes of the Village Council indicated an interest in utilizing the newly available federal assistance of the New Deal. The entry noted that representatives of the:

(Deerwood) Commercial Club were present and presented the new "public works" bill to be read. This bill permits loans for all types of construction projects, slum clearance and housing, municipal utilities up to 30% of labor and materials costs. The Deerwood Commercial Club is sponsoring building and road construction and it was moved, seconded and carried that the council sanction all efforts of the club to procure this loan for construction purposes.¹

At a subsequent council meeting on December 8, 1933 it was noted that:

The motion was made by Trustee Peterson, seconded by Trustee Brandt and unanimously carried, that the council sanction all efforts of the Chamber of Commerce committee to erect a community hall under the P.W.P.² including site, plans, etc.

Messrs. Smith, Schwanke, Brandt and Hilyar were appointed on committee to consult with Mr. Pearl of the Federal relief office in Crosby regarding work for Deerwood citizens under the Civic Works program.³

Formal action was taken by the Village Council on July 2, 1934 when it was noted that:

¹This citation is referring to the Public Works Administration (PWA), the most significant construction program of the New Deal which was established in March 1933. A grant could be received for up to 30% of a project's cost (although this amount was later increased to 45%) with a loan available for the balance.

²This is apparently a reference to the PWA.

³This is apparently a reference to the Civil Works Administration, another early program of the New Deal.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

Mr. Magoffin was present and most generously asked the village to accept the lot or lots where the Hilyar Service Station now stands, but which is soon to be vacated, this site to be used for a community house and fire and town hall. Mr. Magoffin's gift was unanimously accepted with thanks.

Construction of the Deerwood Auditorium was announced in The Deerwood Enterprise in an article dated August 17, 1934 which noted that a local citizen, Mr. Beriah Magoffin Jr., had secured an option on a parcel of land occupied by the Hilyar Oil Station which he intended to donate to the village for the Auditorium. The article mentioned that he had also purchased a building from the Evergreen Mining Company, located at the Meacham Mine, which could be dismantled and the materials used in the new building. By late December 1934 the mine building had been dismantled and the materials were being transported to the building site. The cost of dismantling the building and transferring the materials had been paid by the State Emergency Relief Administration, although actual construction of the Auditorium had not yet been approved by the SERA.

In a special session on October 9, 1934, the Village Council met with Fred Pfeifer, the Supervising Architect of the SERA, to discuss the construction of the building. Apparently, by mid-January 1935, tentative approval had been received from the SERA and plans for the construction of the building continued. The Improvement Bulletin, a regional construction periodical, announced the construction of the building on December 19, 1934. On February 22, 1935 The Deerwood Enterprise reported that according to an estimate by the architect, 800 tons of stone would be required to face the exterior of the building. Work would begin shortly to gather the stone and transport it to the building site where it would be split and shaped to the appropriate size. It was noted that most of the rock would be gathered from the Cuyuna Country Club golf grounds.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

The project received extensive front page coverage in an article dated March 1, 1935 which included a headline that announced, "\$43,000 Community Hall Project Now Under Way, Final Approval From SERA Received This Week by County Relief Administration." The article noted that,

Deerwood's community hall project, to be built by local funds and relief labor at a cost of \$43,000, was approved this week by the State Emergency Relief Administration, according to Holman I. Pearl, the County ERA engineer. Work on this project will begin at once by hauling field stone to the building site.....

When Carl H. Buetow, St. Paul architect, was commissioned to draw the plans for Deerwood's community hall, he sought the motif in the work of the master builders of the past and brought forth a design in stone that in dignity, charm and beauty is unsurpassed.....

The proposed building is 75 feet wide and 140 feet long. The main section, 38 x 75 ft., provides a hall for the dual purpose of auditorium and basket ball floor, and will be of brick wall construction with steel columns and roof supports. Flanking the auditorium are overhead balconies designed to seat 500 spectators. On the main floor below the balconies provisions are included for council rooms, library, kitchen and locker rooms and showers. (The) Library will be 12 x 40 ft. and other rooms in proportion. An addition at the north or back end of the lot will accommodate the village fire apparatus and will be modernly equipped. Dimensions of the fire hall are 24 x 42 ft. The building is to be heated by a warm air fan system. The exterior walls are to be constructed of split field stone set in cement backing.

A detailed rendering of the building by F. R. Meisch was also included in the article. It was noted that Beriah Magoffin Jr., who had donated the building site, had been asked to serve as superintendent of construction with Ernest Enlund acting as foreman of the masonry and carpentry work. Of the estimated

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

\$43,000 cost, it was expected that the SERA would provide \$29,000 for labor.

In early March a crew of 25 men began hauling the building stone to the site and by mid-month about one-third of the rock had been transported. In early April excavation for the basement and trenches for the foundation footings had begun. On July 5, 1935 the Improvement Bulletin reported a call for bids for plumbing supplies and the heating system by the SERA, which served as the procurement agent for the project.

On August 2, 1935 construction was interrupted with only a portion of the walls completed. This occurred because the work programs of the State Emergency Relief Administration were terminated and transferred to the newly created Works Progress Administration. However, all current SERA projects had to be resubmitted to the WPA for approval before work could resume. In late August, Victor Christgau, the state WPA administrator, announced that the project had been approved, which allowed work to continue. By late fall the village council was considering discontinuing building construction until the following spring to avoid higher winter construction costs. But the WPA recommended that construction continue, possibly under the supervision of a WPA engineer. By early December it was decided that the casting of the artificial stone trim should continue but completion of the walls would be discussed at a later date.

In March 1936 it was announced that the project had received an additional allotment of \$4,107 from the Works Progress Administration in order for work to continue until at least June 30. At this time the stonework was being completed on the east facade and the steel trusses for the roof were being set in place. The furnace and forced air heating system were installed in April.

However, in August it was announced that work on the auditorium would cease because funds had been depleted and it would be necessary to wait for a new appropriation. The workers were assigned to other WPA projects but five remained working on the auditorium in order to complete the roof. By early September the walls were complete and it was hoped that interior work would be finished by November for the town's annual lutefisk dinner.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

Additional funds for the building were approved by the WPA in early October and work on the building resumed with a full crew.⁴ When the dinner was held in late October, attendance was estimated at 1,000 and The Deerwood Enterprise noted that, "The new municipal auditorium thus received its initiation as a community center for Deerwood activities." By February 1, 1937 the Village council was meeting in the new building.

In June 1937 the public library moved to the new facility from its previous quarters in the local grade school. It was noted that the new auditorium had been completed with the exception of some minor details. The funds allotted by the WPA for the completion of the building had been expended and the workmen had spent their last day on the site.

This dramatic improvement in the quality of Deerwood's municipal facilities was clearly demonstrated in November 1937 when a WPA project was undertaken to construct a skating rink at the school playground with the old village hall to be used as the warming house. The public library also began to regularly advertise its hours in The Deerwood Enterprise as well as its new acquisitions. The Annual Report of the Deerwood Public Library from June 1936-1937 noted that 250 books had been circulated while the subsequent report, after relocating to the new building, noted that 1,319 books had been loaned.

The auditorium and gymnasium, along with the adjacent kitchen space, were also in constant use for a variety of purposes. Between 1936 and 1939 these activities included the annual lutefisk dinner, a lecture on the "Consumers' Cooperative Movement," the annual meeting of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, the annual grade school graduation, an "Electric Exposition" and a demonstration of electric appliances sponsored by local merchants along with Minnesota Power and Light Co., the 37th annual convention of the Rebekahs from the local district, a Boy Scout recognition and award program, village elections, a meeting of the Deerwood Rifle Club, the school Christmas program, a large number of basketball games, meetings of the Deerwood PTA,

⁴The Deerwood Enterprise. 20 March 1936, 17 April 1936, 7 August 1936, 14 August 1936, 11 September 1936, 9 October 1936.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

a meeting for all women interested in archery or basketball, a play by the Deerwood Amateur Players, a performance by the Brainerd Swedish Glee Club, the annual banquet of the Deerwood-Irondale Farm Bureau, a benefit for the library, and a benefit program with proceeds donated for the prevention of infantile paralysis.

On May 12, 1939, The Deerwood Enterprise reported that the Auditorium had been cited as an outstanding project by the WPA. The article noted that the building was considered a "fine example of the construction done by the WPA in Minnesota, according to state Administrator Linus C. Glotzbach, who has sent a pictorial record of this building.....to Col. F.C. Harrington, Federal Works Progress Administrator." This apparently occurred in conjunction with the publication of a book entitled, Works Progress Administration Accomplishments, Minnesota 1935-1939, a pictorial account of the state's WPA projects in which the Deerwood Auditorium was featured.

Carl H. Buetow, the architect of the Deerwood Auditorium, was born December 28, 1893 in St. Paul, Minnesota. He worked in the offices of Reed and Stem and later for state architect Clarence H. Johnston. While employed by Johnston, Buetow studied architecture for a brief period of time at the University of Minnesota. He later worked for the St. Paul city architect. Buetow was subsequently in charge of the architecture department at the Louis F. Dow Stationers and Bank Designers before starting his own practice in the 1920s. When speaking of the architectural profession during the Depression Era Buetow noted:

For months after the crash, everything was dormant until the President started the ERA Program (Emergency Relief Administration)....Not long afterwards, a new program was set up called W.P.A., or Works Progress Administration. This program took in building construction such as picking up field rock and boulders and laying them in Portland cement.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

The equivalent amount paid to labor for hauling rock and laying it at the job was used as a basis for buying lumber and cement. Naturally, the field rock didn't cost anything but the cost of finding it, loading and transporting it to the building site ran to considerable money and the government did pay for that.⁵

Buetow designed a number of buildings which were constructed by the federal relief programs of the New Deal, including hospitals in Glencoe and Windom, a Moderne Style airplane hangar at Marshall, the Onamia Municipal Hall (NRHP 1985), the Silver Lake Auditorium, and a number of school additions.

His architectural drawings for the Deerwood Auditorium are dated February 1935 and identify the building as an "Auditorium and Fire Hall." The names of Walter F. MacGregor, the State Engineer for the SERA, and F. Boes Pfeifer, the Supervising Architect for the SERA, also appear on the drawings. At least eleven sheets of drawings were completed and include the following:

- Sheet #1 - North and south elevations
- Sheet #2 - East elevation as well as door and lintel schedules, and a materials key
- Sheet #3 - West elevation and a cross section
- Sheet #4 - Two cross sections
- Sheet #5 - Basement and foundation plans
- Sheet #6 - Main floor plan
- Sheet #7 - Balcony plan
- Sheet #8 - Roof plan
- Sheet #9 - Details for interior trim, stair rails, outside door frames, and transom bars
- Sheet #10 - Basement heating and ventilation plan
- Sheet #11 - Main floor heating and ventilation plan⁶

⁵Buetow, Carl H. An unpublished memoir located at the Northwest Architectural Archives, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

⁶A set of original drawings is located at the Northwest Architectural Archives, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

Buetow signed a contract with the Village of Deerwood dated June 24, 1935. In exchange for the preparation of the plans and specifications, as well as a monthly trip to Deerwood to assist in the supervision of construction, he was paid a total of \$1,320.00. The plans identify the salvaged materials from a building at the Meachum Mine which included old steel trusses and columns and old purlins.

The State Emergency Relief Administration, a nearly forgotten program of the New Deal and the initial federal sponsor of the Deerwood Auditorium, was the state counterpart of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration which was established on May 12, 1933. The purpose of the FERA was to provide direct grants to the states for unemployment relief, since few states were able to provide significant aid to local relief efforts. Each state established a State Emergency Relief Administration in order to distribute the federal funds and county relief administrations were created as the local unit of administration. While much of the early emphasis was placed on direct relief, in time a Work Division was established which financed and supervised a variety of construction projects. These included remodeling and repairing schools and public buildings, highway work, conservation projects, installing public utilities, as well as new construction. A number of large scale projects were undertaken such as the construction of the Grey Eagle town hall, the Willmar Auditorium (NRHP 1991), a school in Rockville, the conservation building at the state fairgrounds, as well as the Deerwood Auditorium. However, the number of projects was rather small in comparison to the extensive construction projects of the Public Works Administration and the Works Progress Administration, which assumed responsibility for the work program of the SERA after it was established on May 6, 1935.

Municipal buildings became a common building type under the WPA and ranged from small, sometimes frame, buildings in towns like Bigfork and Perley, to larger sized buildings in Proctor, Baudette, and Mahnomen. Since both the SERA and WPA generally required the local sponsor to provide the building materials, the use of local stone was sometimes used to reduce the local

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

sponsor's cost and to extend the time the relief labor was employed. Construction would have been unlikely without federal assistance and the resulting facilities provided dramatic improvements in municipal services. Prior to the construction of the new Bovey Village Hall, a PWA project, for example, the town's municipal facilities were located in a garage.⁷ When compared to these projects, the Deerwood Auditorium represents a well-developed example of the modern, multi-functional municipal facilities made possible by the federal assistance of the New Deal.

The Deerwood Auditorium meets the registration requirements for Government Buildings as established in the Multiple Property Documentation Form entitled, "Federal Relief Construction in Minnesota, 1933-1941." The building was completed in 1937 with assistance from both the State Emergency Relief Administration and the Works Progress Administration. It resulted in a significant increase in the quality of municipal services provided to the community and became the focal point of the town's civic, social, cultural, and recreational activities. Stylistically, the building represents an outstanding example of the unique architectural expressions associated with New Deal construction. To this day the Deerwood Auditorium retains its original function and remains the town's most prominent building.

⁷Refer to the Multiple Property Documentation Form entitled, "Federal Relief Construction in Minnesota, 1933-1941."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 14 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 1 and 2, Block 9 Original Town of Deerwood

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Deerwood Auditorium.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 15 Deerwood Auditorium, Crow Wing County, MN

Bibliography

Primary Sources

Architectural Drawings for the Deerwood Auditorium. Northwest Architectural Archives. University of Minnesota. Minneapolis, Minnesota.

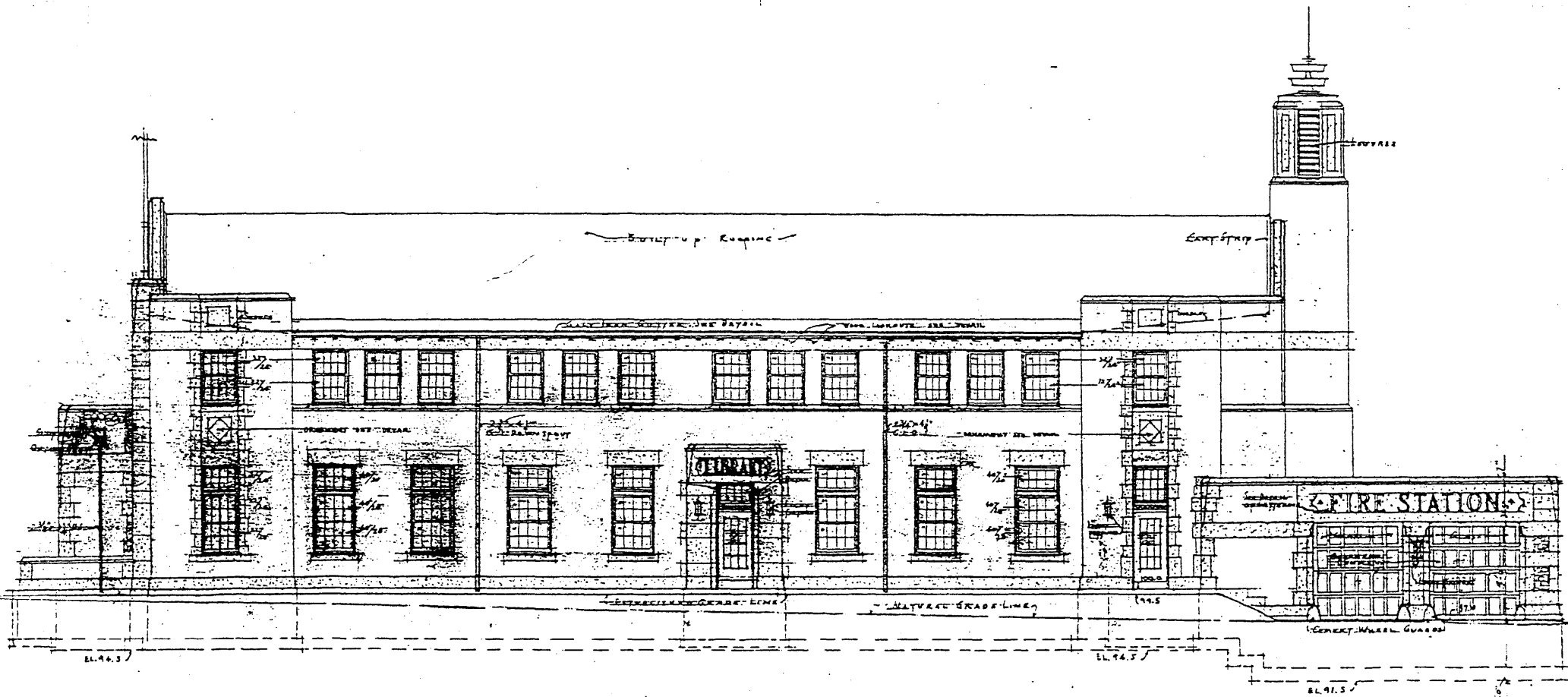
Village of Deerwood. Village Council Minutes. 5 June 1933, 8 December 1933, 2 July 1934, 4 September 1934, 9 October 1934, 4 February 1935, 3 June 1935, 11 September 1935, 1 February 1937.

Secondary Sources

Anderson, Rolf T. "Federal Relief Construction in Minnesota, 1933-1941." National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, 1991.

_____. "Minnesota State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style Historic Resources." National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, 1988.

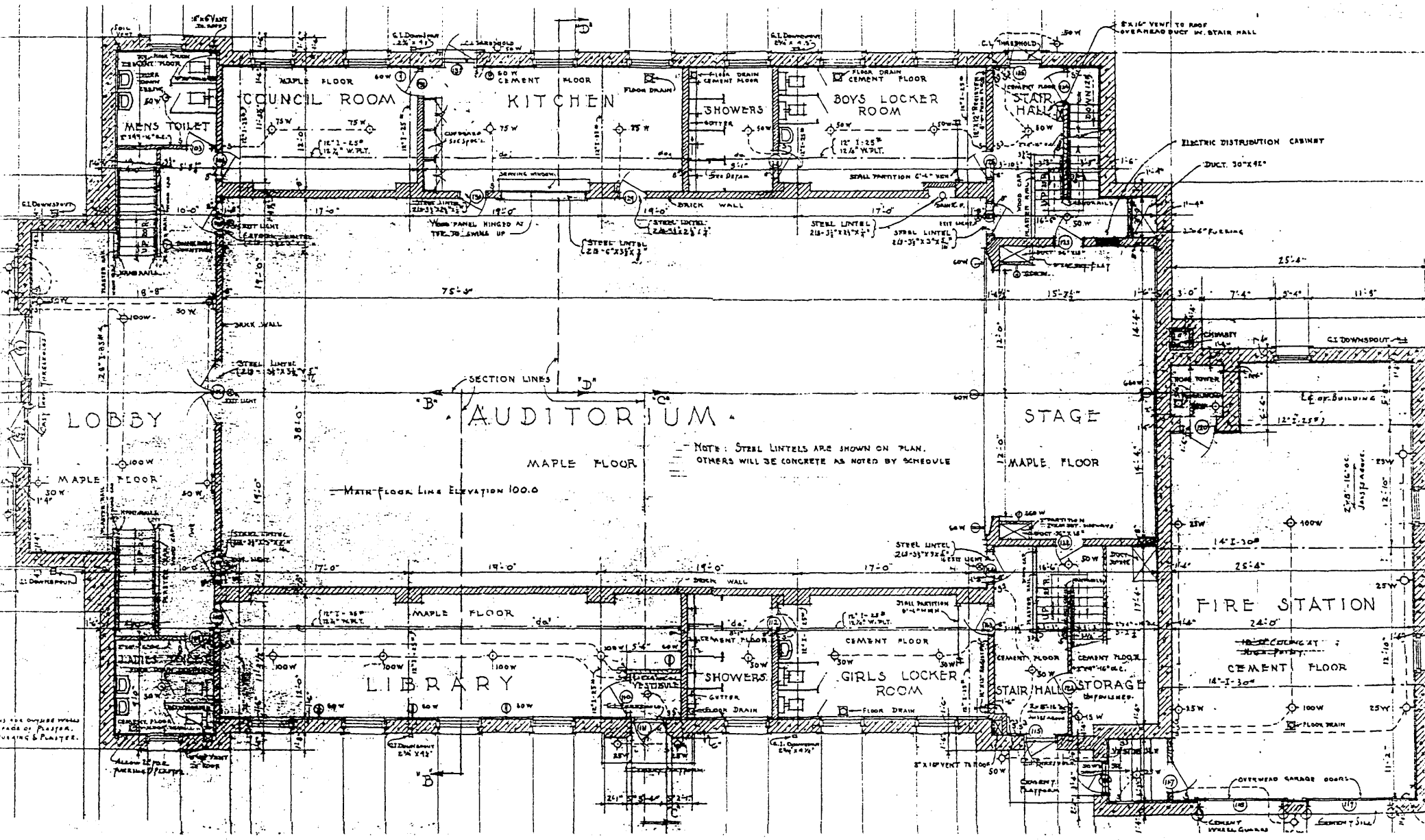
Deerwood Enterprise. 26 October 1934-24 November 1939.

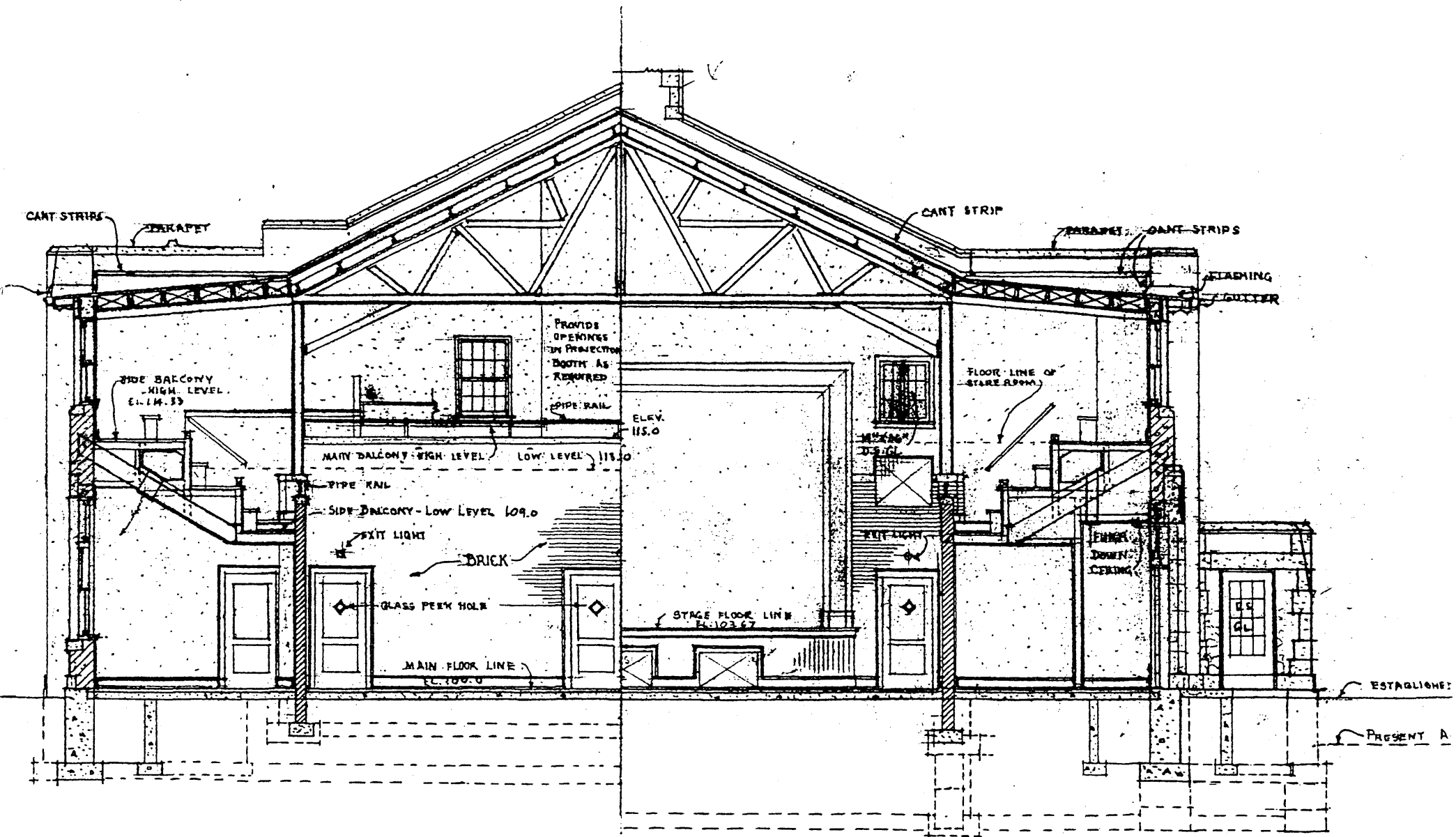


• SIDE ELEVATION - EAST •
 SCALE = $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

GREGOR
 ARCHITECT S.E.R.A.

• AUDITORIUM & FIRE STATION
 • DEERWOOD, MINNESOTA
 • CARL H. BUSTOW - REGISTERED ARCHITECT
 • 624 UNIVERSITY AVE. - ST. PAUL, MINN.





• 1/2 CROSS SECTION ON LINE B-B • 1/2 CROSS SECTION ON LINE C-C •

SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

1"x2" FURRING

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Deerwood Auditorium

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MINNESOTA, Crow Wing

DATE RECEIVED: 12/09/08 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/22/09
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 95001376

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

TELEPHONE

DISCIPLINE

DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

Accept

Edson Ball

History

1.22.09

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Deerwood Auditorium

Name of property

Crow Wing County, MN

County and State

Section number 2 Page 1

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

National Register Number: 95001376

Location, Street & Number: 23770 Forest Rd.

Britta L. Bloomberg
Britta L. Bloomberg, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Minnesota Historical Society

12/2/08
Date