

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

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

For NCRS use only
received JUN 25 1980
date entered AUG 11 1980

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

1. Name

historic Hibbing High School

and/or common Hibbing High School

2. Location

street & number 7th and 21st Streets _____ not for publication

city, town Hibbing _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 8th District

state Minnesota code 22 county St. Louis code 137

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Independent School District #701

street & number _____

city, town Hibbing _____ vicinity of _____ state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Louis County Court House

street & number _____

city, town Duluth _____ state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title _____ 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

Hibbing High School is an elaborate, expansive structure situated on the northern half of a four-square block site. Two other structures are also located on the site; both are related to the high school facilities. A narrow grandstand of bleachers forms the gateway to the southern section of the site and a two story building is located on the eastern portion. All other area is devoted to the athletic open area.

The High School building is constructed of red brick and concrete with gray stone trim. It is representative of the Jacobethan mode of the Medieval Revival style in architecture a style which reached extreme popularity for educational and public buildings during the first three decades of the twentieth century. The building is three to four stories in height with a five story towered entrance pavilion. The ground (or basement) level comprises a full story and is approximately 2/3 above grade. It is articulated with alternating bands of red brick and gray stone, a feature often referred to as strapwork in describing this polychromatic treatment.

The upper two stories are devoid of strapwork, however, stone is used for surrounds for window groupings. The windows are double-hung, multi-paned, and arranged in groupings of three. A stone band separates the third story from the parapet area; in the central portion of the building, the fourth story is incorporated into the parapet area.

Primary emphasis upon architectural design is concentrated on the central pavilion. This pavilion serves as the front entry to the building. It is approached via a wide concrete walkway and a short flight of stairs. The entry is tripartite and enframed with four Roman Doric columns. The columns are two stories in height and terminate in an entablature with the words HIBBING HIGH SCHOOL carved into the frieze. The fourth story of the pavillion has a band of six multipaned windows with stone surrounds. A secondary entablature separates the fourth and fifth stories. Centrally positioned in the parapet above the fifth story is a small date plaque. The crenelated caps of the two flanking towers have been removed.

The high degree of architectural articulation has been carried through the design of the interior of the building. Finest available materials have been utilized in the construction, moldings, and ornamentations. Most expressive of this is the design of the auditorium in the form of a theatre. The building continues to serve its original function as an educational facility and is excellently maintained and well preserved.

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/
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1919 to 1924 **Builder/Architect** W.T. Bray

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hibbing High School is significant because of its architecture, which is unusual for several reasons including its sheer sumptuousness, but it is also significant for Hibbing and Minnesota Iron Range history because of its role in public education, in serving the needs of the iron mining industry for a better educated and skilled labor force, and as a symbol of the struggles between corporations and local municipalities for revenues in the period before 1933. The predominantly foreign-born population sought the establishment of a good educational system as a means of insuring their successful adaptation to the American environment as well as their offspring. In more complex reasoning, workers and their families sought to postpone the entry of their young male children into the workforce, especially after 1914, because of the declining number of jobs in iron mining after 1910. More education for their children would mean a better chance of finding work for them when they reached maturity and if employment was unavailable on the Iron Range, more education would better enable them to migrate and successfully find employment elsewhere. The construction of an ample facility like Hibbing High School met these desires. The mining companies, as a result of the introduction of nonselective mining methods after 1900, began to use more machinery and more expensive machinery in mining. To protect their capital investment in this equipment and to get the highest yield from it, the mining companies sought to employ a better educated and higher skilled workforce than had been sought in the period of foreign immigration. Because it was easier to hire workers locally, and less expensive, the construction of Hibbing High School helped meet their ends. The financing of an expensive structure like the Hibbing High School was made possible by the ability of the local municipalities to tax the local mining operations. The lavishness of this building and the apparent needless ornamentation and exterior designs which contributed nothing to the educational mission of the structure, however, proved to be a telling argument against the wisdom of allowing local authorities unlimited authority for the taxation of mining operations by local government.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Joseph Stipanovich, Report of the Iron Range Historical-Cultural Survey (1979).

10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property 2.5 acres

Quadrangle name Hibbing, Minn.-St. Louis Co.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A	1 5	5 0 5 1 0 0	5 2 5 2 2 0 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
---	--	--	--

D			
---	--	--	--

E			
---	--	--	--

F			
---	--	--	--

G			
---	--	--	--

H			
---	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Hibbing High School is located on Eastern Addition Out Lots A and B, Hibbing, Minnesota.

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

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles Skrief, Director, State Historic Preservation Office

organization Minnesota Historical Society date September 10, 1979

street & number 240 Summit Avenue telephone 612-296-9070

city or town St. Paul 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 6/9/80

For HCERS use only

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

D. Ray date 8/9/80
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Justin O'Connell date 7/23/80