

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

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

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

For HCRS use only

received MAR 31 1980

date entered MAY 7 1980

1. Name

historic Spotted Tail Gravesite

and/or common

2. Location

street & number _____ not for publication

city, town Rosebud vicinity of _____ congressional district Second

state South Dakota code 046 county Todd code 121

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" 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: gravesite

4. Owner of Property

name of landowner: Rosebud Sioux Tribe Lease: Chapter of the Calvary

street & number _____ Cathedral, Episcopal Church

_____ Box 517

city, town Rosebud _____ vicinity of _____ Sioux Falls, SD 57101

state South Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Tripp County Courthouse

street & number _____

city, town Winner _____ state South Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title South Dakota
Historical Site Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Historical Preservation Center

city, town Vermillion _____ state South Dakota

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 Spotted Tail gravesite is marked by a large, stone obelisk monument. The front of the monument faces east and reads, "Spotted Tail, Chief of the Sioux. Born 1823, Died Aug. 5, 1881."

Because the Sioux leader was never baptized, the monument stands outside an Episcopal cemetery on a hill overlooking Rosebud from the north. Spotted Tail's Monument is the largest marker and is surrounded by a Black Iron Rod fence with Twisted Metal filigree. There are no graves directly in front of Spotted Tail's.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Lakota Indian
<input type="checkbox"/> invention				
Specific dates	1881	Builder/Architect		Culture

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Sinte Gleska's gravesite is significant in the areas of Lakota Indian culture and politics/government. Spotted Tail or Sinte Gleska's importance as a Sioux leader lies with his understanding of the need to compromise with the federal government in order to insure the survival of his tribe. A skillful negotiator, Sinte Gleska obtained concessions for the Sioux by assuring the federal government a policy on non-violence.

Although Sinte Gleska is often remembered as a compromiser, he held to many of the traditions of his culture. He opposed boarding schools on the grounds that the separation of the child from its parents promoted a breakdown of the culture, and he never occupied the house erected for him by the federal government. He also refused to give up his plural marriages and embrace Christianity, despite the fact he granted permission to the Catholic Church to send missionaries to reservations.

In 1876 General Cook selected Sinte Gleska as the principal chief of the Sioux and to thereby act as a mediator. His policies, however, proved unpopular with his own band, and he failed to prevent members from joining the Sioux uprising at Little Big Horn in 1876. After the battle, he was instrumental in bringing his nephew, Crazy Horse and other hostiles, or fighters, back to Rosebud reservation.

The hostility between different members of the Sioux nation, broke out in violence on August 5, 1881, when Crow Dog murdered Sinte Gleska. Found guilty of murder in federal court in Deadwood, Crow Dog was sentenced to hang. However, the Supreme Court in "Ex Parte: Crow Dog," overturned the decision. In a landmark decision, it was reasoned that a "crime committed by one Indian against another Indian within defined boundaries of Indian Territory did not fall under the jurisdiction of any United States Statutes." This decision had a major impact on law enforcement with the reservation.

Sinte Gleska's grave not only acts as a symbolic reminder of his accomplishments, but of the historic events which led to his death. This is the only remaining structure associated with Sinte Gleska.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Schell, Herbert S., History of the South Dakota, Lincoln: University of Nebraska, 1968, pp. 91, 131, 138, 139, 324, 331.
 Spotted Tail Hassrick, Royal B., The Sioux: Life and Customs of a Warrior Society, Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1972, p. 351

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property less than one acre

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Rosebud

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	4	3	4	9	5	6	0	4	7	8	9	0	8	0
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

The nominated site is at a point 1800 feet west of Rosebud Creek and 60 feet north of state highway 63, and is bounded by an iron fence.

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 Suzanna K. Prophet/LeEllen Coacher

organization Historical Preservation Center date August 29, 1979

street & number U.S.D. Alumni House telephone 605/677/5314

city or town Vermillion 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *John J. Little*

title Director, Historical Preservation Center date 17 March 80

For HCRS use only

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

for W. Ray Luce date 5/7/80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *William H. Bradman* date 5.6.80

Chief of Registration