

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

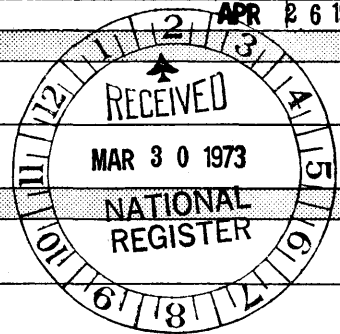
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
South Dakota

COUNTY:
Gregory

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 26 1973



1. NAME

COMMON:
Pocahontas Schoolhouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Dixon Schoolhouse

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Rural 5.25 miles NE of Dixon

CITY OR TOWN:
1 mile east, 4 1/4 miles north of Dixon, SD

STATE: **South Dakota** CODE: **46** COUNTY: **Gregory** CODE: **053**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>not in use</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Dixon Area Chapter, Gregory County Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
c/o Mrs. Harold Robertsen, 1110 Logan Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Gregory** STATE: **South Dakota** CODE: **46**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Gregory County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Burke** STATE: **South Dakota** CODE: **46**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
South Dakota Historic Sites Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1972** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
South Dakota Historic Preservation, W. H. Over Dakota Museum

STREET AND NUMBER:
University of South Dakota

CITY OR TOWN: **Vermillion** STATE: **South Dakota** CODE: **46**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

APR 26 1973

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The schoolhouse was built in 1905, and the structure remains much the same except for a bell tower and bell which were removed some years ago because rain leaked down through the tower. These features will be replaced when the structure is returned to Dixon.

School was held in this building until 1970; since that time it has stood unused. The walls and floors are in good condition, the windows are intact, the roof is shingled and in good repair, and the blackboards are in good condition.

The dimensions of the building are 24' 4" in length by 18' 4" in width. There are 4 windows on the south side and 2 on the east side. (The building faces west.) Each window measures 30" x 64." An entry, extending out from the west end, measures 8' 2" x 5' 2" and contains one window (30" x 56") and one outside door (2' 8" x 6' 8"). There is one door of the same size opening into the main room from this entry.

All the desks, the teacher's desk, books and other articles were removed from the schoolhouse by the Gregory School District, which became the owners of the building when this rural district joined theirs. Some of the desks, books and other items have been returned to the Historical Society. Desks, books and other paraphernalia from similar abandoned schools have been donated also, to aid in the restoration of Pocahontas.

The school building and its old bell will be moved from its present location (SW 1/4 of Sec 26, T 100, R 73) back to the town of Dixon, where it was built originally, and placed on the grounds of the Dixon Area Chapter of the Gregory County Historical Society, which are Lots 4, 5, and 6 in Block 1 of Dixon Town. The Chapter has been given a 99 year lease on these lots by the owners, the Gregory Independent School District of Gregory, SD.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

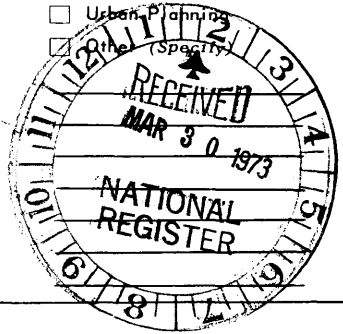
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1905**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This school house was built in the little town of Dixon, Gregory County, in 1905, when the town was just being established. Only one old settler remembers a log building which served temporarily as the first schoolhouse until this frame building could be erected. Thus, this new structure became the first permanent schoolhouse built in the town.

The homesteaders were vitally interested in developing the Rosebud Country, of which Dixon was a part. They knew an essential factor in this development was the establishment of thriving businesses and farms. To accomplish this, they needed good solid citizens who were willing to settle in this territory, and with an eye to the future, put down roots for their families, which would endure for generations. Part of the permanence they were seeking was the availability of an adequate and uninterrupted education for their children.

In a few years, the Dixon School became too small for their needs, and a larger building was erected in Dixon. The old schoolhouse was moved to a location 4 1/4 miles north and 1 east of the town, where it was used for the next three generations. In 1970, the Pocahontas district joined the Gregory Independent School District in Gregory, South Dakota, and the old schoolhouse was closed, seemingly for good. When rural schools close, the buildings are usually sold and moved away, or torn down to become parts of homes, farm workshops, or cattle sheds; part of the homesteader's precious heritage disappears.

Determined that the Pocahontas Schoolhouse should not be destroyed, but moved back to Dixon and restored, community organizations and individuals joined in an effort to preserve the Pocahontas School. A Gregory bank purchased the schoolhouse and presented it to the Historical Society and plans were made to move it from its present location back to the town where it was built. When this project is completed, it will be situated on lots leased for 99 years from the Gregory Independent School District. It will be furnished again with desks, books and other equipment that were typical of the old pioneer schoolhouses. After 68 years, in spite of being abandoned, the Pocahontas Schoolhouse is still playing an important role in the cultural growth of the Gregory County area. It is a fitting symbol of the American people's determination to build for the future from the firm foundations of their past.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

GREGORY TIMES ADVOCATE, June 23, 1905.

Township Records, Dixon Township, Gregory, South Dakota.

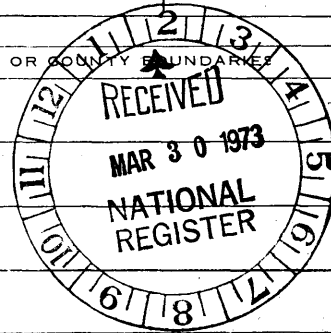
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		43	26	54
SE	° ' "	° ' "		99	27	17
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than 1**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



NO 471 SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
J. Michael Peterson

ORGANIZATION: **South Dakota Historic Preservation** DATE: **3-20-73**

STREET AND NUMBER:
W. H. Over Dakota Museum, University of South Dakota

CITY OR TOWN: **Vermillion** STATE: **South Dakota** CODE: **46**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Dr. James E. Gillihan

Title State Liaison Officer

Date March 23, 1973

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

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/26/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date 4 20 73