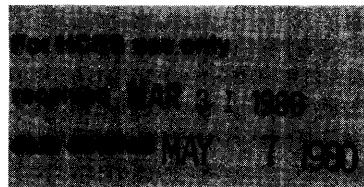


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

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



1. Name

historic The Wenona Hall and
The Wecota Hall

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 1000 Block, Medary Avenue _____ not for publication
city, town Brookings _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district first
state South Dakota code 046 county Brookings code 011

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name South Dakota State University
street & number Physical Plant/Administration Building
city, town Brookings _____ vicinity of _____ state South Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Brookings County Register of Deeds
street & number County Courthouse
city, town Brookings _____ state South Dakota 57006

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title South Dakota
Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date May, 1979 _____ federal state county local
depository for survey records Historical Preservation Center
city, town Vermillion _____ state South Dakota

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	Wenona	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
Wecota <input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins		
	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Wenona and Wecota Halls are fine examples of the employment of the Neo-Classical style on a local level. Both buildings are veneered with coursed brick laid on a stretcher bond pattern. The following architectural description will be applicable to both buildings with the differences included in the last paragraph.

Each is a three story building with a center gable intersecting the hip-roof over the main entrance. The roof is underscored by a decorated boxed cornice and a plain frieze. There are two interior chimneys. The windows are all rectangular with 12/2 lights on the first floor and 8/1 lights on the upper two stories. The windows are double-hung sash, with flat arches of vertical bricks. There are lugsills on the first two stories and a continuous course on the third story.

The front facade has a tall center pedimented Portico with four bays of columns, and pilaster all with Corinthian Capitals. There is a deck perched atop the entablature over these columns, surrounded by a stone and wood or iron balustrade. The Wenona Hall has an entrance with a single door flanked by two small doric columns and sidelights. Above this is a palladian window above a projecting curved iron balcony. Wecota Hall has a double door entrance with an elliptical fanlight and a single window in the bay above also with a projecting iron balcony. The classical portico here was constructed of concrete, while that on Wenona Hall is of wood.

All of these features combine to form two fine examples of the use of classical styles on the prairie of South Dakota. The pair of buildings constitutes a well-matched unit of collegiate design that contributes to the well-ordered and pleasant quality of the South Dakota State University campus.

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	1909 Wenona Hall 1915 Wecota Hall	Builder/Architect	John J. Schwartz
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Wenona and Wecota Halls are significant in the areas of architecture and education. Designed by John J. Schwartz, they are good examples of early 20th century academic architecture. The Neo-Classical style was employed for many large institutional buildings in the early decades of this century. Schwartz overcame the inherent difficulties of these large scale designs and their broad, minimally adorned planes and many necessary window openings. His skillful use of a few, strong details held the bulk and institutional character of the building in check. The large portico, horizontal belt course along the third floor and the ceramic tile roof add to the overall effect of balance and order despite the size.

Wenona Hall was built in 1909 as the first women's dormitory on the South Dakota Agricultural College campus. Prior to its erection, attendance by women was hampered due to the lack of housing facilities. During its first year, the building housed fifty students. In the mid-1960's, the dormitory was converted to office and storage space. Six years after the completion of Wenona, Wecota Hall was built as a second dormitory for women. Together these handsome structures are a significant contribution to the architectural character of the South Dakota State University campus.

9. Major Bibliographical References

South Dakota State University: Physical Facilities Inventory.
South Dakota State College: Jackrabbit (college annual), 1910 and 1917.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property less than one acre
Quadrangle name Brookings Quadrangle

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED 1:24,000

UMT References

A

14	676330	4909320
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

Zone	Easting	Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated buildings are located in Lots 2 and 3 in Block 13, facing Medary Avenue in Brookings (see attached map).

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

Technical Editing:

name/title John C. Awald, Director

Carolyn Torma
605/677/5314

organization Agricultural Heritage Museum

date 5 March 1979

street & number South Dakota State University

telephone 605/688/6226

city or town Brookings

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*

Center

title *John J. Little* Director, Historical Preservation

date 3/11/80

For HCERS use only

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

W. Ray Luce
Keeper of the National Register

date 5/7/80

Attest: *William H. Brathman*

date 5.6.80

Chief of Registration