

PH0690996

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED SEP 7 1976
DATE ENTERED DEC 22 1976

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 Dakota Wesleyan University ~~Historic District~~

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

bounded by E. & W. University Sts. + Lincoln St

CITY, TOWN Mitchell

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
2

STATE South Dakota

VICINITY OF
CODE
046

COUNTY
Davison

CODE
035

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Dakota Wesleyan University

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Mitchell

VICINITY OF

STATE
South Dakota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Davison County Assessor

STREET & NUMBER
County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN Mitchell

STATE
South Dakota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE South Dakota Historic Sites Survey

DATE March 1974

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Dakota Wesleyan University rests upon a U-shaped green in the southwest corner of Mitchell, South Dakota. The mainstream of college life centers around eight buildings; three in the northern section of the campus are historic structures. Those buildings are the School of Music, Science Hall, College Hall, and Graham Hall.

Century Memorial Hall, completed in 1903, was first used as a women's dormitory and dining hall, but the name of the building was changed to Graham Hall in 1910 in honor of former DWU President William I. Graham. Later, it was used as a men's dormitory. The Italian Renaissance influence is evident in the four story dormitory, built in the Eclectic Revival tradition. Cut granite was the material used in construction. Terneplate covers the roof, and modillions adorn the cornice. Cut stone labels cap some of the double sash windows; others have arches of radiating voussoirs. Cast iron columns support the front (north) two story central arcade. Small red brick entrances were added on the west and south walls and detract slightly from the building's appearance.

Straight west of Graham Hall on the west boundary of the campus is Science Hall, erected in 1912 at a cost of \$90,000. Like Graham Hall, Science Hall is a cut stone building in the Eclectic Revival tradition. However, its design was influenced by the Neo-Classic Revival style of architecture. The three story building is covered with a red tile roof. Modillions decorate the cornice. Double sash windows have cut stone lugsills. Radiating voussoirs and cut stone keystones comprise some window arches. The rear (south) second story has enlarged, roundheaded windows with greenish glazed glass. The building houses laboratories and classrooms.

The Music Hall is located due north of Science Hall. It acquired the soubriquet of Prexy Lodge in 1906 when it was built for DWU President Nicholson and his family. Remodeled in 1937, the building now houses practice rooms and recital areas for music students. A two story conical turret and varied window shapes indicate a Queen Anne influence. A two story porch encircles the north and east walls. Balustrades appear between the Roman Ionic columns, which support the wood shingled roof. Cut stone and horizontal wood siding are the primary building materials seen on this house. Cut stone lugsills and plain lintels surround the windows.

Matt D. and Loretta Smith Hall, College Hall, was built in 1956 on the site of the original college building which burned in 1888. The administration and library are housed in this modernistic style building.

A large open green, unencumbered with sidewalks, welcomes students and visitors to this prairie university.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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

1885-present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

W.L. Dow

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The influence of the Eclectic Revival tradition is seen in the cut stone buildings of Dakota Wesleyan University. The native stone used in construction was Sioux Falls granite, which was also used to build important houses, public buildings, and churches throughout the city and state.

Dakota Wesleyan University was founded by Methodists interested in the Christian education of their children and the propagation of their faith. In Dakota Territory ". . . in the educational field the prime effort of the Methodist Church was the founding of Dakota Wesleyan University at Mitchell. . . ." ¹ In 1882, at the third session of the mission conference in Parker, the founding of an institution was discussed. At the fourth session in Huron the next year, Mitchell, Ordway, and Huron bid for the location of the university. Mitchell finally received approval from the conference and construction began. School opened in the fall with the Rev. William Brush, D.D., presiding. The fledgling school received a setback on March 9, 1888, when fire completely destroyed the only edifice. Because the campus was outside of the city limits, the local fire department was unable to give aid. However, the townspeople of Mitchell rallied to reconstruct the college and provide temporary quarters for students and faculty. Mitchell fostered its college in many ways. In 1880, a group of college educated men were transferred into town with the U.S. Land Office. These men, together with their families, lent their support to the university by creating a cultural atmosphere seldom seen in infant Dakota towns.

Dakota University, renamed Dakota Wesleyan University in late 1904, educated the late Senator Francis Case, poet laureate of South Dakota, Badger Clark, and Senator and Mrs. George McGovern. This small, church-supported college represents the efforts made by pioneer Methodists to establish an institution of higher education to meet the needs of its church and state.

¹J. Leonard Jennewein and Jane Boorman, editors, Dakota Panorama (Sioux Falls: Midwest-Beach Printing Co., 1961), p. 172.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Jennewein, J. Leonard and Boorman, Jane. Editors. Dakota Panorama. Sioux Falls: Midwest-Beach Printing Co., 1961.
- Kingsbury, George W. History of Dakota Territory. Chicago: The S.J. Clark Publishing Company, 1915.
- Robinson, Doane. History of South Dakota. Chicago: B.F. Bowen & Co. 1904.
- Schell, Herbert.S. History of South Dakota. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1968.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 40

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,4	5,7,8	2,2,0	4,8	3,8	7,7,0	B	1,4	5,7,8	2,2,0	4,8	3,8	5,3,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING
C	1,4	5,7,7	5,2,0	4,8	3,8	7,6,0	D	1,4	5,7,7	9,6,0	4,8	3,8	7,6,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Dakota Wesleyan University Historic District occupies the northern half of the forty acre campus, which is U-shaped. The district cuts the campus in half directly south of Science, College, and Graham Halls. West University Avenue is the western boundary, McCabe Street, the northern and East University Avenue the eastern.

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

Edith M. French, Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Historical Preservation Center

DATE

March, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

USD 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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Allen J. Little

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

30 Aug 76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

AGENT

Clayton R. Kopp
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

12/22/76

ATTEST:

Wendy M. Smith
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12/20/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER