

Structure/Site Information Form

APR 26 1986
APR 5 1986

75 N. 100 East

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: Morgan, Morgan County, Utah

UTM: 12 443500 4542980

Name of Structure: Morgan Elementary School

Quad: Morgan, Utah

T. 4 N R. 2 E S. 36

Present Owner: Morgan County School District
230 E. Young

Owner Address: Morgan, Utah 84050

Year Built (Tax Record):

Effective Age:

Tax #:

Legal Description

Kind of Building:

Commencing at the NW corner of Block 31 Morgan City Survey, thence SE'yly along said block line 400 feet, NE'yly 400 feet, NW'yly 400 feet, SW'yly along said block line to beginning. 3.7 acres.

This is the only building located on the property described above, though there are other adjacent school buildings on the entire 8 acre tract.

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Morgan County School District Construction Date: 1936

Demolition Date:

Original Use: Education

Present Use: Education

Building Condition:

Integrity:

Preliminary Evaluation:

Final Register Status:

- | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Site | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant | <input type="checkbox"/> Not of the | <input type="checkbox"/> National Landmark | <input type="checkbox"/> District |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Alterations | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributory | Historic Period | <input type="checkbox"/> National Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Resource |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major Alterations | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Contributory | | <input type="checkbox"/> State Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Thematic |

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography: Date of Slides: 1985 Slide No.: Date of Photographs: 1985 Photo No.:

Views: Front Side Rear Other

Views: Front Side Rear Other

Research Sources:

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abstract of Title | <input type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U of U Library |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plat Records/Map | <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utah State Historical Society | <input type="checkbox"/> BYU Library |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tax Card & Photo | <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Encyclopedias | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Interviews | <input type="checkbox"/> USU Library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permit | <input type="checkbox"/> Obituary Index | <input type="checkbox"/> LDS Church Archives | <input type="checkbox"/> SLC Library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Permit | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County & City Histories | <input type="checkbox"/> LDS Genealogical Society | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

Twenty-first Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Utah for the Biennial Period Ending June 30, 1936, n.p., 1936.

The Fine Arts Study Group, compilers. Mountains Conquered: The Story of Morgan. The Fine Arts Study Group, 1959.

The Morgan County News (Morgan, Utah), 1935-36.

Architect/Builder: Carl W. Scott & George W. Welch/Campion Company

Building Materials: brick

Building Type/Style: Art Deco

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

The Morgan Elementary School is a large two-story school that is constructed of brick in the Art Deco style. Additions have been made on the north side of the building, but they do not significantly affect the integrity of the original section, which remains relatively unaltered.

The plan is rectangular and consists of two sections: a classroom section on the north and an auditorium/playroom section on the south (see figure 1). The auditorium section has a gabled parapet and a projecting entrance/kitchen/restroom section on the narrow south end wall. Entrances into the classroom section are on the north end and on the east and west sides at the center of the building, which is where the two sections are joined. The walls of both sections are divided into vertical window panels by low-relief pilasters. The stylized geometric capitals on the pilasters break the coping line at the edge of the flat roof and give the building a crenelated appearance. Windows in the classroom section are taller than those in the auditorium section.

A few alterations have been made to the building over the years. On the northwest end, a covered, metal fire escape stairway has been attached (n.d.), but it does not significantly detract from the building's original integrity. A well-matched, two-story addition was constructed on the rear of the building, probably during the 1940s. It closely resembles the original classroom section in terms of size, materials and stylistic decoration. It is

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: 1936

Built in 1936, the Morgan Elementary School is part of the Public Works Buildings Thematic Resource nomination and is significant because it helps document the impact of New Deal programs in Utah, which was one of the states that the Great Depression of the 1930s most severely affected. In 1933 Utah had an unemployment rate of 36 percent, the fourth highest in the country, and for the period 1932-1940 Utah's unemployment rate averaged 25 percent. Because the depression hit Utah so hard, federal programs were extensive in the state. Overall, per capita federal spending in Utah during the 1930s was 9th among the 48 states, and the percentage of workers on federal work projects was far above the national average. Building programs were of great importance. During the 1930s virtually every public building constructed in Utah, including county courthouses, city halls, fire stations, national guard armories, public school buildings, and a variety of others, were built under federal programs by one of several agencies, including the Civil Works Administration (CWA), the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), the National Youth Administration (NYA), the Works Progress Administration (WPA), or the Public Works Administration (PWA), and almost without exception none of the buildings would have been built when they were without the assistance of the federal government.

The Morgan Elementary School is one of 232 buildings constructed in Utah during the 1930s and early 1940s under the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and other New Deal programs. Of those 232 buildings, 133 are still standing and eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Of the 232, 104 were public school buildings; 51 of which remain. In Morgan County 4 buildings were constructed; 2 of them are left.

The Morgan Elementary School was built in 1936 as part of a \$155,000 Public Works Administration (PWA) building program in the Morgan County School District. Also included in the program was the construction of an elementary school at Devil's Slide (since demolished), the construction of a shop

Morgan Elementary School
Description continued:

joined to the original building only by a narrow corridor which was the original projecting entrance/stairway bay on the rear. Also attached to the rear of the original building is a one story addition extending from the auditorium; it is relatively small and unobtrusive. A large, one-story brick addition has recently been added to the rear of the c. 1940s addition. Though large, it does not greatly affect the integrity of the original school building, which is still clearly visible in its original configuration.

Total number of contributing buildings: 1
 Total number of noncontributing buildings: 0

History continued:

building at the Morgan High School, and extensive remodeling at the Morgan High School.

Upon completion, the following description of the building was given in the local newspaper.

"It is of fireproof construction throughout. All walls are covered with acoustic plaster. All floors are laid with attractive linoleum. It has tile lavatories equipped with hot and cold showers. Ventilation and heating are automatic.

"The school has a modern kitchen and a large table for cafeteria service. It also has especially designed rooms and furniture for student activity and class work.

"Pupils who formerly attended classed in Peterson, Porterville, Milton, North Morgan and South Morgan now come to the consolidated school.¹

Consolidation was an important step in the development of the Morgan County School District. After the completion of this building, 97 percent of the total pupils in the county were attending school at the "central campus," which consisted of four buildings for students from first grade through high school.

The Morgan Elementary School was designed by Scott & Welch of Salt Lake City, the general contractor was Campion Company of Ogden, and the foundation was laid by Earl S. Paul, also of Ogden.²

The building's architects, Carl W. Scott and George W. Welch, were both prominent Utah architects. Scott was born October 17, 1887, in Minneapolis, Kansas, and graduated in 1907 from the University of Utah with a degree in mining. Following graduation he began a career in architecture as a draftsman for Richard Kletting in Salt Lake City. In 1914 he became partners with George W. Welch. Welch was born in Denver, Colorado, on May 15, 1886, graduated from Colorado College, and came to Salt Lake City to begin work as an architect. Active in political affairs while here, he was a member of the Utah House of Representatives from 1919 until 1921. Among the buildings that Scott and Welch designed were Salt Lake City's Elks' Club Building, South High School, the Masonic Temple, and many public school buildings throughout Utah, including Hawthorne Elementary School and Bryant Junior High School in Salt Lake, Marsac Elementary and the High School Building in Park City, Tooele High School, Blanding High School, and Cedar City Elementary School. They also designed a number of commercial buildings including the N.O. Nelson

Manufacturing Company Warehouse, the Nelson-Ricks Creamery Building, and the Firestone Tire Company Building, all in Salt Lake City.

A well-matched addition was made to the school, probably in the 1940s, providing more classrooms, a new lunch room and kitchen on the ground floor, and art and music rooms.³ In recent years a large one-story addition was built on the rear of the 1940s addition, significantly expanding the size of the school.

The building currently serves as the Morgan Middle School.

¹Morgan County News, October 8, 1936, p. 1.

²Ibid.

³The Fine Arts Study Group, compilers, Mountains Conquered, pp. 92-93.