

DH0679755

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	NOV 2 1976
DATE ENTERED	APR 13 1977

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 ***

Harney Peak Mining News Building/Von Woehrmann Building

AND/OR COMMON

Von Woehrmann Building *Use this*

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Hill City

--- VICINITY OF

2nd

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

South Dakota

046

Pennington

103

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

___ DISTRICT

___ PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

___ AGRICULTURE

___ MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

___ UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

___ PARK

___ STRUCTURE

___ BOTH

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

___ EDUCATIONAL

___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ RELIGIOUS

___ OBJECT

___ IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

___ GOVERNMENT

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ BEING CONSIDERED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ NO

___ MILITARY

___ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Ross

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 616

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Hill City

--- VICINITY OF

South Dakota

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Pennington County Courthouse - Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

301 St. Joseph Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Rapid City

South Dakota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

South Dakota Historic Sites Survey

DATE

October 1975

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Historical Preservation Center

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Vermillion

South Dakota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

The Harney Peak Mining News building consists of a commercial area and living quarters. The one story structure, built in 1885, has an irregular boom town front; a fire has destroyed the gable roof which was behind this false facade. The exterior facing is white stucco with brown wood trim acting as a border.

On the store part of the structure, a central door divides two flat-topped windows on the front facade; they are single wash and employ slipsills. The apartment's door has been cemented in and its windows reduced in size on both the front and rightside. The left side is completely devoid of openings, while the rear has a door.

Two additions have occurred; one in 1890 when the building was extended in order to be closer to the sidewalk and another in 1960 when a small work area was added. Sometime in the middle 1920's the interior of the store was remodeled, the apartment has been redone more recently.

After a fire in 1975, it was discovered that most of the building's walls consisted of very long, hand hewn pine logs. These logs have been covered since the 1920's renovation. They are in excellent condition, but the chinking is either gone or crumbling. There is only one hole in the logs and that is a doorway that connects the store with the apartment. The 1890 portion of the building is framed with lumber facing.

At present the owners are in the process of rescuing the building from the fire damage. They plan to leave the logs exposed in the interior but not the exterior for fear they may decay.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1885 BUILDER/ARCHITECT C. Von Woehrmann

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In the early years of the Black Hills Gold Rush, log buildings were common in the urban landscapes. The virgin forests provided accessible construction materials for the transient population. As the populus became more permanent, new buildings began to reflect construction types and styles common to the eastern United States and the log structures were either destroyed or left to deteriorate. Thus, the recent discovery of the log Harney Peak Mining News building in Hill City is significant. It represents a nearly extinct type of construction in the architectural history of the state.

After a fire in 1975 the owners discovered the original log walls between the stuccoed exterior and the plastered interior. The logs are for the most part about thirty feet in length, and are in extremely good condition, although the chinking has crumbled. The discovery led the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Ross to research the building further, and they found that it once housed the Harney Peak Mining News, an important publication in Hill City. The paper provided not only contemporary news, but also information on mining techniques and developments vital to the community.

The owner of the newspaper and builder of the structure, Camillo Von Woehrmann, was an immigrant from Dresden, Germany. He left his native country to avoid conscription in Otto Von Bismarck's army. Woehrmann arrived in the Black Hills in 1877, and, after a few years in Rockerville and Deadwood, took up residence in Hill City in 1885. At that time he built this structure to house his saloon and sleeping quarters. In 1890 he started a newspaper called the Harney Peak Mining News.

Besides operating a newspaper office, Von Woehrmann was a Justice of the Peace, a stockholder in several mines, and one of Hill City's most prominent citizens. He decided to return to Germany during the middle 1920's, and he left his land to E. M. Gentry, a local banker, to dispose of for him, which he did in 1928 to Carl F. Carlson. The new owner ran a nightclub until he sold it to Betty W. Larson in 1929, the Larson ownership lasted until 1946. Henry Kniss operated a fix-it shop in it for eleven years, until he sold it to Charles W. Hallsted in 1957. Hallsted and the next owner Harry White operated a car garage. Thenafter the 1975 fire, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Ross bought the structure and planned to utilize it as a fly shop.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ross, Helen, interview 1 October 1975 with Scott Gerloff.
 Coates. George, personal notes, Hill City, used by permission of Mrs. Marianna Gregson (Coates).
 Ford, Gayland, personal interview, Hill City, 1976, with Mrs. Melvin Ross.
 Martin, George, ed., South Dakota: Its History and Its People, vol. 5. The S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., Chicago: 1915.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY one

UTM REFERENCES

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Scott Gerloff and Helen Ross
 ORGANIZATION

DATE

February 23, 1976

Historical Preservation Center
 STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

USD Alumni House

(605) 677-5314

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Vermillion

South Dakota

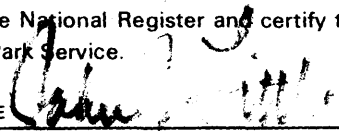
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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



TITLE

Director, Historical Preservation Center

DATE

October 28, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

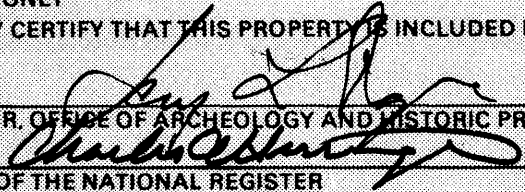
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

4/13/99

ATTEST:



DATE

7.18.77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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The structure has experienced three fires, two of which have destroyed large portions of the town. The frame front of the building is the result of the official town platting in 1890 which after completion showed the structure to be set back from the sidewalk. So to get it closer to the pedestrian flow the front was extended about fifteen feet. After Woehrmann sold it in the 1920's the new owners stuccoed the exterior walls and plastered the interior. Gradually the memory of it being a log building faded, and it was quite a surprise when the discovery was made in 1975.