

**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 DeBorgia Schoolhouse

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number Thompson Falls DeBorgia Rd. \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town DeBorgia  vicinity of congressional district

state Montana code 30 county Mineral code 061

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" 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 Mineral County Commisioners

street & number Box 517

city, town Superior \_\_\_ vicinity of state Montana 59872

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clerk of the Recorders Office

street & number

city, town Superior state Montana 59872

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Comprehensive Plan has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1977  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Mineral County Planning Office

city, town Superior state Montana 59872

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>1908</u>

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The DeBorgia Schoolhouse was constructed in 1908 by a builder from the Mullan, Idaho area. There is no record of who the architect was.

The schoolhouse is a two-story wood framed building of a rectangular floor plan. The exterior is sheathed with clapboard siding and the windows are a double-hung sashed type. The roof is hipped.

The front facade has a centered double door with a glass transom. The only ornamentation on the building is three placards above the front door that say: NO. 7, PUBLIC SCHOOL, 1908. The front door is flanked by a window on either side. There are also two windows on the second story of the front of the building.

The side walls have four windows on the second floor and none on the first. The roof has a dormer on the front hip that contains a louvred roof vent. The rectangular hipped roof has a two foot eave and is covered with a standing seam metal roofing.

The site around the schoolhouse is wooded with a lawn at the front of the building. A flagpole is placed on the left side of the steps at the front of the schoolhouse.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Criterion A: The DeBorgia Schoolhouse is significant as an institution that played an important role in the development and settlement of Montana at the turn of the century. The 'small local schoolhouse' was of particular importance to rural communities of Montana as a place for primary education, social gatherings, and community events. The DeBorgia Schoolhouse is one of the few examples left of this pioneering aspect of Montana's turn of the century history of rural development.

This non-ornate building was the first wood frame two-story structure built in what the locals call the "West End" of Mineral County. The great fire of 1910 destroyed the nearby communities of Haugan and Saltese. DeBorgia was totally burned except for the schoolhouse and the Catholic Church. The church was torn down several years later. Today the DeBorgia Schoolhouse stands alone as a reminder of the past.

The school was used until 1956 for grades 1-8. Many people had stories to tell about its place in the region. During the teens of this century, Mr. Neil Stoughton enjoyed a curious distinction. He went from 1st grade to 8th grade as the only member of his class. Miss Winnery taught this young man for those eight years and was quite proud to have made Ripley's Believe It or Not. Many other past students still remember the schoolhouse with fondness and feel that it is a cultural landmark that remains for them.

The schoolhouse is a remnant of a past era when rural community life focused upon such buildings as gathering and meeting places for a wide-spread population. The schoolhouse is still used as a community meeting hall and theatre. The DeBorgia Schoolhouse is a point of orientation for the community.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Correspondence from: Jack Wright, Mineral County Planning Director

# 10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property Two (2) acres (1) acre

Quadrangle name Haugan Mont. - Idaho

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UMT References SW 1/4 SW 1/4 NW 1/4 Section 30 T.19N. R.9E.

A 

11	624790	5248550
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 building sits on a two acre tract which is located 200yds. north of the DeBorgia exit on interstate 90 on Thompson Falls DeBorgia Rd.

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

state	code	county	code
None			

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jonathan M. Hayt and Jack Wright, Mineral County Planning Director

organization Montana Historical Society

date Sept. 17, 1979

street & number 225 N. Roberts St.

telephone 406-449-4584

city or town Helena

state Mont. 59601

# 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 Edric Venson, Jr Ken Rorte

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 9-18-79

For NCHS use only

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

Sally D. Debb date 12/22/79  
Keeper of the National Register

Justin O'Connell date 12/19/79  
Chief Administrator

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

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RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

DEC 27 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 1

**Deborgia Schoolhouse**

*Montana, to-wit:* Beginning at the Southwest corner of Lot Two (2) on the section line between Section Thirty (30), Township Nineteen (19) North, Range Twenty-nine (29) West, and Section Twenty-five (25), Township Nineteen (19) North, Range Thirty (30) West, thence running North along said section line a distance of 295.16 feet; thence East in said Section 30, Township 19 North, Range 29 West, a distance of 295.16 feet; thence South in said section, a distance of 295.16 feet; thence West in said section a distance of 295.16 feet to place of beginning; containing two (2) acres in said Section Thirty (30), Township Nineteen (19) North, Range Twenty-nine (29) West, together with the buildings and improvements thereon.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Deborgia Schoolhouse

+5/8" STEEL PIN SET BY  
REGISTERED SURVEYOR: 1"=100'

