

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>South Dakota</b>
COUNTY: <b>Pennington</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>OCT 1 1974</b>

H3 2-17 E 641970

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Rapid City Historic Commercial District**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: *both sides of*  
~~Bounded by Main, St. Joseph, 7th, and 6th Streets, one full block, north half of one block, and portions of four other blocks.~~

CITY OR TOWN:

**Rapid City**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

**No. 2**

STATE

**South Dakota**

CODE

**046**

COUNTY:

**Pennington**

CODE

**103**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:

**Several**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

**Rapid City**

STATE:

**South Dakota**

CODE

**046**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

**Pennington County Courthouse--City Assessor**

STREET AND NUMBER:

**St. Joseph Street**

CITY OR TOWN:

**Rapid City**

STATE

**South Dakota**

CODE

**046**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

**South Dakota Historic Sites Survey**

DATE OF SURVEY: **March, 1974**     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

**Historical Preservation Center**

STREET AND NUMBER:

**USD Alumni House**

CITY OR TOWN:

**Vermillion**

STATE:

**South Dakota**

CODE

**046**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

485-160

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
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DATE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rapid City Historic Commercial District consists of thirty-eight buildings and is located in the center of the town's business area. This district includes one complete rectangular block and portions of five others. Streets that border the area are: Main to the north, Saint Joseph to the south, 6th to the east, and 7th to the west. All of these are four lane with vertical parking. The district is situated in a level area with modern sidewalks and a rounded curb system.

The visual characteristics of the buildings create the appearance of a late nineteenth and early twentieth century city. Most structures are two stories, but one and three story structures also appear. A single eight story building towers over the district. As in most commercial areas, a narrow alley divides the blocks and little space separates the building sides. All roof tops are flat and usually are covered with tar. Although roofing materials are similar, exterior wall coverings vary. A vast majority of buildings are brick but of different color, texture, and shape. Some limestone, cutstone, clapboard, stucco, and modern siding are used in the facing.

The district's materials show that modernization has influenced some of the buildings. Yet most of the structures were built in early days of Rapid City and reflect the date of construction. The statistical information on dates of construction are 1881 to 1891--eleven buildings; 1891 to 1900--seven buildings; 1901 to 1910--five buildings; 1911 to 1920--eight buildings; 1921 to 1930--four buildings; and 1930 to 1962--three buildings. Buildings constructed between 1880 and 1930 qualify as period structures. Period determination, modernization and visual significance were used in classifying the structures into one of five groups.

Fourteen buildings were classified as exceptional structures and eight are good period examples. These edifices have undergone only slight modernization. Buildings that blend into the district make up the third category which includes seven structures. The fourth and fifth groups are characterized by distracting or very distracting qualities; three are in the first and six in the second category. These buildings have a negative effect upon the district. This area has a large percentage of excellent period buildings.

A few of the most significant buildings architecturally are:

632 St. Joseph Street--Buell Building. Architecturally one of the most impressive and unusual commercial structures in the district, this two story brick building was constructed in 1888. Modern store fronts have affected the first floor, but the building retains architectural importance. Modernization efforts caused the removal of the lower portion of rounded arched openings on the first floor; however, the tops of the arches remain.

The second floor windows and surrounds are outstanding features. While the bottom portion has all masonry lugsills, the top features five different types of surrounds. The five types used are: flat with keystones, lintel shaped, segmented, round, and decorated pediment. They are arranged without any discernable pattern. The windows are either the single type with

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transom or grouped in two's and three's with mullion and transom. Above these slender and rectangular windows is an opaque leaded glass employed in either a fan or rectangular window. Small fluted columns are used as mullions for the windows.

On the south side, above the second floor an elaborate cornice and roof line are featured. Decorated brackets, dentils, and a sunburst design are used for ornamentation. The roof line also is highly decorative with two kinds of cresting. Four different types of pediments--triangular, round, broken, and elliptical--are the main ornamentation.

A third feature that attracts the viewers attention to the second floor is an elaborate oriel. The oriel is of Eastern European design with a helm or onion dome as its termus. The helm is supported by brackets and dentils and the sunburst design is utilized again. The center part of the oriel has three slender windows that overlook the intersection of Seventh and St. Joseph Streets. The building's style is eclectic. Its eclecticism makes it one of the finest commercial buildings in the state in a visual sense.

602 Main. Built in 1900, this is one of the state's better examples of a commercial Italianate style building. The two story structure, composed of a buff-colored brick, is situated on the northwest corner of Main and Sixth Streets. The addition of a modern store front does detract from the building.

The second floor has been untouched by modernization and has eighteen slender Italianate windows with compound rounded arches and keystones. The windows are rounded and of the two sash and transom type. Windows are separated by pilasters decorated with lighter colored brick. Another divisional device used is the corner window which has a small balcony.

The cornice features brackets and dentils. The front or south side employs large brackets with dentils while the east side has smaller coupled brackets and lacks dentils. The cornice, the slender windows and its surrounds create an excellent example of a commercial Italianate style building.

515-517 7th Street. This two story structure built in 1905 is a Romanesque Revival style of architecture. Almost all of the openings have Roman arch surrounds. The main material used on the facade is cutstone. The use of brick on the rest of the building rather than cutstone detracts from the purity of the style.

The openings are the most important aspect of the building. The first floor windows are rectangular with leaded, flush fan windows directly above. Each of the two doors has a similar fan window. The main door is a double leaf, four panel entrance with two small rectangular windows at the center. The second floor's eight windows have stringcourse masonry on the bottom surrounds. These openings are similar to the first floor's windows except for four leaded fan windows on the second floor.

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Another feature of the building is a flat roof with a slightly projected undecorated cornice. Quoins are used at the corners and along the sides of the main openings on the first floor with an alternating system of cutstone and smooth masonry. All these aspects give this structure an obvious period appearance.

608, 612, and 616 St. Joseph Street. These three side-by-side buildings were built within four years of each other: one in 1900 and the other two in 1904. All three Italianate buildings are the same width and height. They vary in decorative aspects and color of brick. Yet the spring line, cornice line, and roof line are all the same as are the slender segmental windows. These buildings individually enhance the district and together represent a continuity in rhythm, proportion, and style.

PRINCIPLE BUILDINGS IN RAPID CITY HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT:

1. 512 6th Street--1911. This structure was one of the three main buildings in the district used for professional offices. Also, many business concerns were carried on here which included the United Bank. The building was built by the Elks for a meeting hall. It is of the Neoclassical type and is three stories high. Brick and masonry are the main facing materials used. The building features pilasters, dentils, brackets, cresting and masonry ornamentations. This flat roofed structure is in good condition.
2. 601 Main--1916. A two story structure of Neoclassical design is situated at the corner of 6th and Main Streets. This building is the Pennington County Bank and is constructed of limestone. Some of the Neoclassic elements include: modillion, pilasters, engaged columns, and classic openings. The building has always been a bank and reflects the district's commercial importance.
3. 602 Main--1898. It is described in detail in the description. It was one of the main business buildings in Rapid City.
4. 610 Main--1915. This structure has and still does house a fire station; there are few such fire stations left from this era. It is a two story brick veneered building with masonry materials used as decorative features. It still has the fire house doors and the only alteration has been the addition of another vehicle door on the west side.
5. 631 Main--1914. This building is the American State Bank and in a commercial district is an important site because it represents a financial center. The bank is a good example of Neoclassic architecture. It is constructed of a blond colored brick with masonry foundation and decorations at the cornice. Two Ionic columns are found at the entrance. Pilasters are used on the right side while the left side is not exposed. There has been a small rear addition, but done in sympathy with the building.

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6. 609 St. Joseph--1883. This building is important for its Neoclassical architecture. It is a four story building with a narrow width. It has a masonry facade with many carved designs of the swag type. It is in good condition and adds to the district.
7. 608-610 St. Joseph. Described in detail in the description.
8. 612-614 St. Joseph. Described in detail in the description.
9. 616-618 St. Joseph--1900. Described in detail in the description.
10. 623 St. Joseph--1884. This structure is one of the best period structures in the district for the reason that it has been altered very little. It still maintains its wooden front on the first floor which includes decorative carvings. The remainder of this two story building is constructed of brick with a cutstone foundation. A highly decorative cornice along with a decorated plaque at center. Condition is good.
11. 632 St. Joseph--1889. Described in detail in the description. This is one of the three commercial buildings that many professional people operated from, such as lawyers, doctors, and businessmen.
12. 523 6th Street--1927. This eight story structure was one of the earliest tall buildings in the state. It has served as a hotel throughout its existence. It is constructed of brick facing with masonry used as decoration. Above the first floor windows are the Indian heads inside of circles taken from the design of the Indian head nickles and pennies. This building is in excellent condition.
13. 507 7th Street--1886. This was one of the three most important commercial buildings for the professional and business people in Rapid City.
14. 515 7th Street--1905. Described in detail in the description. This is an important building housing a grocery store and the first business college.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE RAPID CITY HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT:

The legal descriptions of the district are: Block 84; North one-half of Block 94; Lots 17 and 18 of Block 75; Lots 27 through 32 of Block 74; South 59 1/2' of lot 12, East 15' of south 59 1/2' of lot 13, North 80 1/4' of west 10' of lot 13, North 80 1/2' of lots 14 through 16 Block 85; Lots 1 and 2, north 40' of lots 28 through 32, west 10' of south 75' of lot 28, east 15' of south 65' of lot 8 and south 65' of lots 29 through 32 block 83.

All the above are located in the original town addition and are found in the Pennington County Court House at the City Assessor's Office.

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1881-1924**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rapid City Commercial Historic District represents the major area of business activity since the advent of Anglo-American settlement in the Black Hills area. It became initially important as a commercial center for transient miners in the 1870s, but later served the needs of more stable social-economic groups. The district's structures are of late nineteenth and early twentieth century origin and reflect typical period architecture.

Rapid City was started with the idea that it would be a service center for people and materials destined for the gold fields. John R. Brennan persuaded a group of unsuccessful miners to establish a town on the eastern slopes of the Black Hills where he and his followers had discovered an adequate water supply in Rapid Creek. They founded their community on February 25, 1876, and named it for the nearby stream.

The city initially failed to grow in population and economic strength despite its location on freight routes from Nebraska and eastern South Dakota. As corporate mining replaced individual prospecting, and stable homesteading and ranching elements settled the surrounding areas, Rapid City became a permanent consumer market. It soon aspired to be the wholesale center for western South Dakota and the "gateway city for the Black Hills."

The citizens decided better transportation was necessary to achieve their goal of commercial primacy and took steps to attract a railroad. Municipal bond sales induced the Missouri, Fremont, and Missouri Valley Railroad to enter the city on July 4, 1886; several important results followed the introduction of the railroad. Expanded opportunities produced new businesses, the population quadrupled between 1880-1890, and Rapid City achieved commercial dominance of the Black Hills region. Three additional railroads followed the Missouri, Fremont, and Missouri Valley and contributed to the economic security of Rapid City.

The new businesses served many community needs. Wholesale and retail establishments provided groceries, hardwares, implements, and dry goods. Financial institutions also sprang up in the district in the 1880s and 1890s. The influx of large businesses led to the establishing of smaller local service commercial activity. At the same time, professional people set up legal and medical practices in the district area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Case, Leland D. "History Catches Up," THE BLACK HILLS. Ed. by Roderick Peattie. New York, New York: The Vanguard Press, Inc., 1952.  
 Korsgaard, Ross P. A HISTORY OF RAPID CITY DURING TERRITORIAL DAYS. Masters Thesis for University of South Dakota, 1955.  
 HOLIDAY GREETINGS. Rapid City, South Dakota: Resources Unlimited, The Home of Opportunity. Joseph Gossage, Alice Gossage, Albert F. Wells, issued by RAPID CITY JOURNAL, 1915.  
 HOLIDAY GREETINGS, 1919-1920.

HB  
 Zn 17  
 E64192  
 N4882H

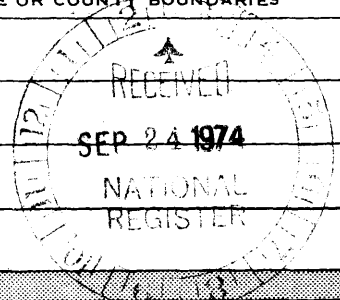
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	44° 4' 59"	103° 13' 46"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	44° 4' 52"	103° 13' 36"		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	44° 4' 46"	103° 13' 44"		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	44° 4' 48"	103° 13' 33"		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **10 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Scott Gerloff, Consultant**

ORGANIZATION: **Historical Preservation Center**      DATE: **June, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**USD Alumni House**

CITY OR TOWN: **Vermillion**      STATE: **South Dakota**      CODE: **046**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National       State       Local

Name: *James E. Gillihan*  
 Title: **Historic Preservation Officer**

Date: **Sept 13, 1974**

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

*AR Martens*  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: *10/1/74*

ATTEST:  
*Constance*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: *9-27-74*

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**Significance--Page 2**

Commercial success is manifested in the district's architecture. Rapid City's earliest buildings normally consisted of non-descript frame structures. Prosperity soon stimulated more elaborate construction consisting of brick, cutstone, and limestone. Italianate, Neoclassical, and Renaissance designs dominated throughout the district. Several of the more solid buildings remain functional, although modern alteration has occurred on many of them. Still, a significant percentage reflect the architecture of over fifty years ago.

The period architecture and historical importance of these buildings create an impressive historic district. In an era of urban renewal and desire for modern buildings, a good commercial historic district is difficult to locate. This area of Rapid City represents an excellent example of its type.





United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 74001897

Property Name: Rapid City Historic District

County: Pennington State: South Dakota

none  
Multiple Name

-----  
This property is determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Linda M. Clelland  
Signature of the Keeper

March 20, 1997  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 7. Description: The Penny-Haines Building, 605 Main Street, and the Coolidge Brothers Building, 609 Main St., are, hereby, determined to contribute to the significance of the Rapid City Historic Commercial District. The recent removal of the 1950s tile facade has demonstrated that the early twentieth century facade of each building is intact and is consistent with the significant architectural character of the historic district.

-----  
Steve Rogers of the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment on March 20, 1997.

-----  
**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Rapid City Historic Commercial District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: SOUTH DAKOTA, Pennington

DATE RECEIVED: 10/24/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/07/07  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 74001897

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 12.5.07 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Additional Documentation Accepted**

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER Edson Beall DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 12.5.07

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

74001897

Rapid City Commercial Historic District

Pennington County, South

Dakota

County and State

Name of Property

NPS FORM 10-900-A  
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jay D. Vogt  
Signature of certifying official

10-22-2007  
Date

South Dakota SHPO  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. (\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Name of Property

NPS FORM 10-900-A  
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

### Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
24	6	buildings
0	1	sites
0	0	structures
0	2	objects
24	9	Total

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## 7. Description

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### Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Italianate, Romanesque ; Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival, Spanish Colonial Revival; Late 19th and 20th Century American Movements: Commercial (Utilitarian) style, Chicago, Bungalow/Craftsman, Skyscraper; Modern Movement: Art Deco, Moderne, International; Mixed

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### Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	Concrete, Stone
roof	Asphalt, Fiberglass
walls	Brick, Sandstone, Granite, Limestone, Cast Iron, Stucco, Concrete, Glass
other	Porcelain Enamel Panels

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### Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

627 St. Joseph is an Italianate building located in main business district in Rapid City, South Dakota. The building has a concrete foundation, brick walls, and composite asphalt roof. A false façade put up in circa late 1950s was recently removed to expose the original Italianate architecture.

The façade (north elevation) has a central recessed entry flanked by large showroom windows. To the west of the recessed entry is another opening that was historically used to access the second floor, that entry had been covered by the false façade and is now infilled with a temporary screen. Between the first and second floors is a wooden sign for the business. The second floor has five two-over-two long, narrow windows with stone lintels, and corbelled window hoods with keystones. Above the windows are corbelled bricks that form the bottom of the cornice line; the top of the cornice was removed when the false façade was put on.

The east and west elevations border other buildings.

The south elevation faces an alley.

627 Saint Joseph is part of the Windsor Block building, which is divided into three businesses. The Windsor Block was historically one building; it was divided into separate businesses in the 1950s. 625 Saint Joseph is listed. 627 has recently had the false façade removed and been determined eligible. 629 is still covered.