

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Dakota
COUNTY: Yankton
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE FEB 9 1975

1. NAME	
COMMON: Yankton College Conservatory	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Yankton College <i>Campus</i>			
CITY OR TOWN: Yankton		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: No. 1	
STATE South Dakota	CODE 046	COUNTY: Yankton	CODE 135

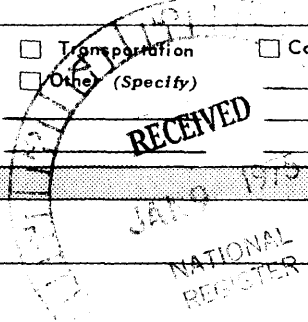
3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	OWNERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	STATUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC 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 type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Yankton College			
STREET AND NUMBER: 12th and Douglas Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Yankton		STATE: South Dakota	CODE 046

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Register's Office			
STREET AND NUMBER: Yankton County Courthouse			
CITY OR TOWN: Yankton		STATE: South Dakota	CODE 046

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: South Dakota Historic Sites Survey			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> 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



STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

On the crest of a hill rising gradually above central Yankton and the Yankton Historic District lies Yankton College. In the northern quarter of the campus' block area, the Conservatory stands relatively isolated from the other buildings.

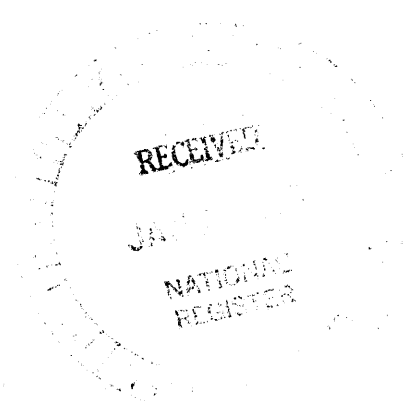
The Conservatory is three stories high with the first and second stories constructed of irregular coursed Sioux quartzite and the third encased in a mansard roof. Generally the first story windows are surrounded by irregular light colored sandstone quoins and roundheaded sandstone lintels. Flat lintels are found on the east and south facades however. Second story windows have no surrounds but are topped by segmental arches having two quartzite voussoirs and a sandstone keystone. A sandstone string course provides the springline for these arches and is evident on all facades except the southeastern tower. Another string course serves as a sill for the second story windows and is evident on all facades. Gently sloping arched dormer windows illuminate the top story.

The Conservatory has two towers. The larger stands on the building's southeast corner and because of its masonry construction, it appears as an extension of the building itself. It rises one level above the Conservatory's roof. The windows on this level are roundheaded but unlike any others in the building, they are encased within pointed arch surrounds. A peaked four-sided roof with clocks projecting from each side, tops the tower.

On the southwest corner above the door is another tower-like projection whose wood construction and classical design make it a rather incongruous attachment. Its dome is supported by an octagonal base consisting of eight columns and a denticulated entablature. Between the columns Roman windows provide a view of the bell inside. The whole of this structure rests on a square base rising above the doorway's pavilion. A square balustrade surrounds it at the roof line.

Its interior features, although well worn, remain relatively intact.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



4. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input 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) **1883**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input checked="" 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 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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Other than being the first building in Dakota Territory constructed for the purposes of higher education, the Yankton College Conservatory represents the pioneer efforts of Congregationalists to bring stability to the frontier. Built in 1883, the Conservatory was the pride of the territory's first educational system. That system developed through the efforts of church groups and the local citizenry as Yankton grew from a log cabin into an important commercial and political community.

Education of early Yankton residents began informally in 1864 when classes convened in a two-room building paid for by local donations. Four years later, Dakota Hall, a larger school, was built. Provided for by Episcopal church members in the East, Dakota Hall offered a prep school curriculum including Greek, chemistry, and philosophy. In response to the overwhelming demand for additional facilities, Dr. Joseph Ward, a Congregational Minister, organized a study group which soon evolved into another prep school--the Yankton Academy. Later this institution became the Yankton Public High School.

In 1881 Yankton College was established. The college owed its existence to Dr. Ward, who solicited \$25,000 from the local citizenry, the Congregational Church, and a number of Eastern acquaintances. The Conservatory, the institution's first building, crowned the educational efforts of Ward and his contemporaries. It is still in use but the campus has grown to include a number of buildings accommodating over five hundred students.

The Conservatory is also a memorial to Ward himself. Apart from founding Yankton College, Dr. Ward is credited with state educational legislation and contributing the state motto "Under God the people rule." His statue stands in the Capitol Building's Hall of Statuary in Washington.

Architecturally, the building fits into a pattern of collegiate architecture which developed during the nineteenth century. Its picturesque Gothic qualities and the insistence upon incorporating a Classic order into an otherwise mediievally inspired structure, are characteristic of this pattern. It is not particularly beautiful or unique when considered in this context; but to the community in which it was constructed, this link with the conventions of Eastern society meant a great deal. Indeed, it was to them, and remains today, a symbol of "civilized" progress in Dakota.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Durand, George Harrison. JOSEPH WARD OF DAKOTA. Pilgrim Press, 1913.
 Jennewein, J. Leonard, and Boorman, Jane (eds.). DAKOTA PANORAMA. Sioux Falls, South Dakota: Brevit Press, 1973.

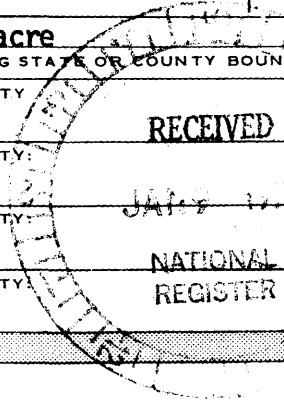
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	° ' "	° ' "		42 ° 53 ' 23 "	97 ° 23 ' 24 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1/2 acre**

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:
Paul Putz, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION: **Historical Preservation Center** DATE: **December 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: **1-7-75**

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

A.R. Martensen
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: *2/24/75*

ATTEST:
George Fleming
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: *Feb. 20, 1975*

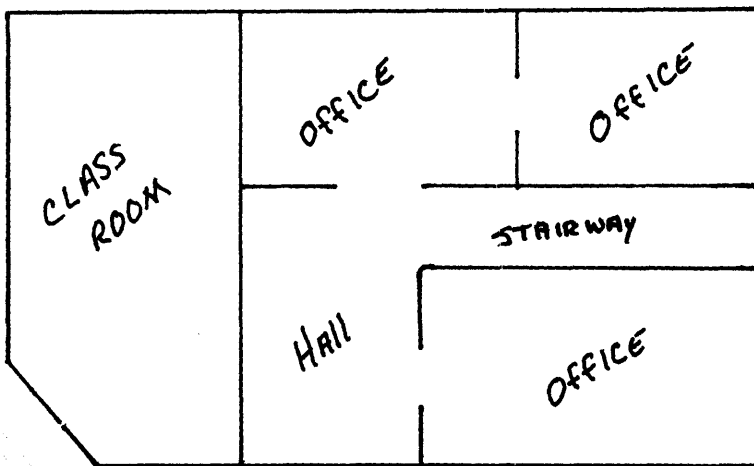
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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE South Dakota	
COUNTY Yankton	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 24 1975

(Number all entries)

YANKTON COLLEGE CONSERVATORY
Interior layout

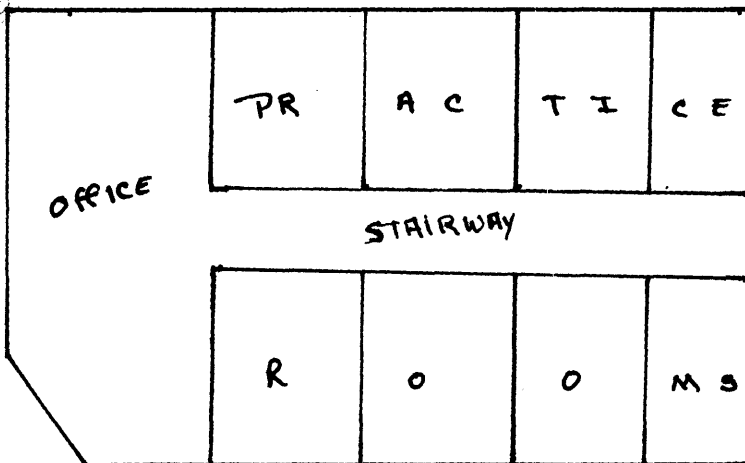


FIRST FLOOR

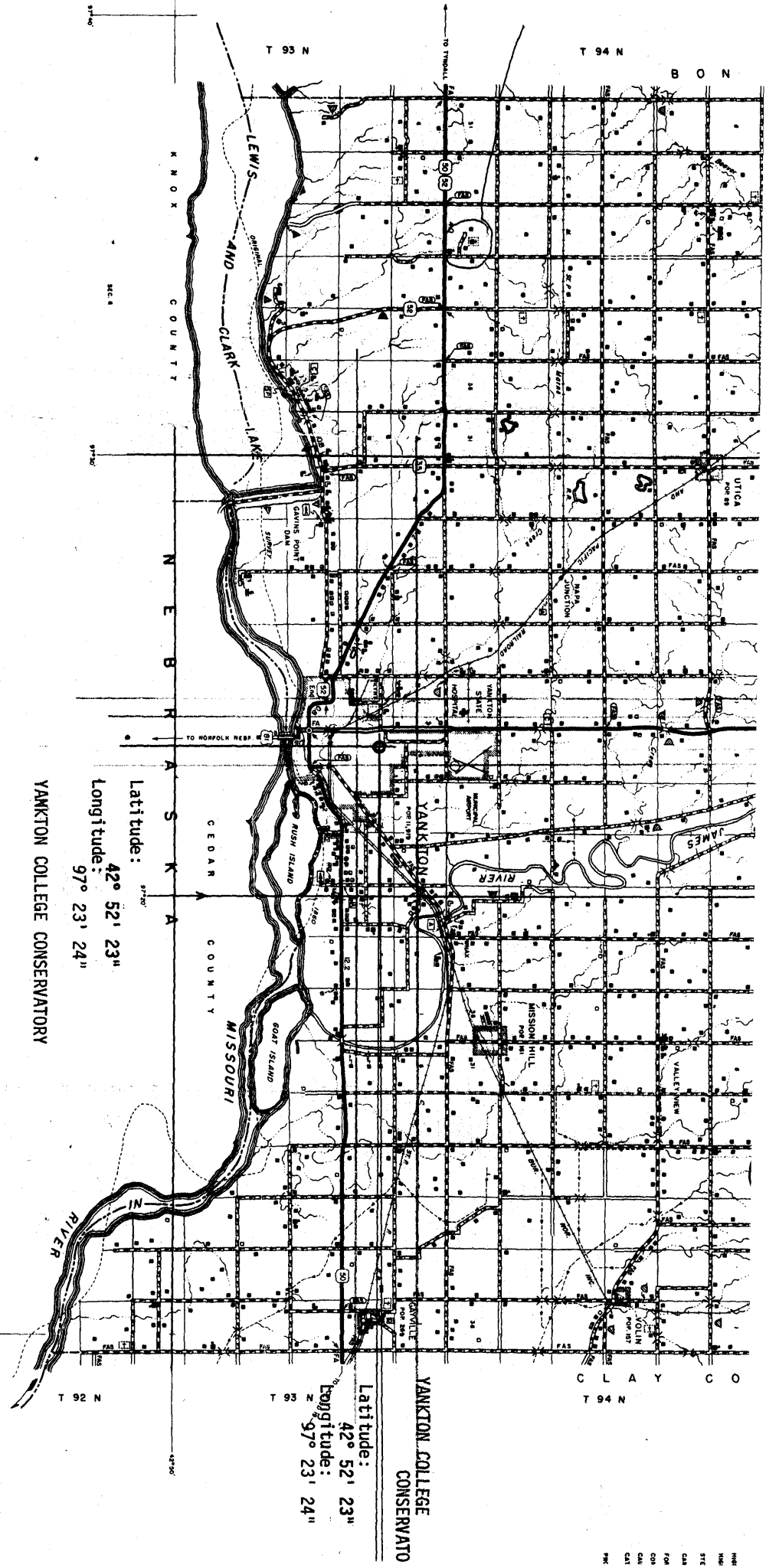
RECEIVED

JAN 9 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER



SECOND & THIRD FLOORS



YANKTON COLLEGE CONSERVATORY

Latitude: $42^{\circ} 52' 23''$
 Longitude: $97^{\circ} 23' 24''$

YANKTON COLLEGE
 CONSERVATO

Latitude: $42^{\circ} 52' 23''$
 Longitude: $97^{\circ} 23' 24''$

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