

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: Modena, Iron County, Utah UTM: 12 242490 4187470
 Name of Structure: Modena Elementary School T. 34 S R. 19 W S. 36
 Present Owner: Gregory James Bruce
 3105 Greenwood Avenue
 Owner Address: Sacramento, California 95821

Year Built (Tax Record): _____ Effective Age: _____ Tax #: E-1834-2
 Legal Description: _____ Kind of Building: _____

Lots 12-33, both inclusive, Block J. Plat A, Extended Townsite of Modena.
 Less than one acre

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Iron County School District Construction Date: 1935-36 Demolition Date: _____

Original Use: educational--school Present Use: vacant

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Major Alterations | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Contributory | | <input type="checkbox"/> State Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Thematic |

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography: Date of Slides: 1983 Slide No.: _____ Date of Photographs: 1983 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 type="checkbox"/> U of U Library |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plat Records/Map | <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input 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 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.):

Iron County Record (Cedar City, Utah), 1935-36.

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.

Architect/Builder: Frank J. Jackson/~~Frank~~ J. Jackson

Building Materials: stone

Building Type/Style: Vernacular

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

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

This is a narrow one-story building that is constructed of rock-faced ashlar. The plan is rectangular and the principal facade is symmetrically arranged. There is a sharply pitched gable roof and a centrally located front entrance portico. The main door is flanked by small windows and topped by an elaborate decorative arch and a sunburst wooden inset panel. A stone is found in the portico gable that contains the name, "Modena," and the date of the building's construction, 1936, is carried into the keystone of the arch. The building is boarded up and vacant, but remains in excellent original condition.

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: 1935-36

Built in 1935-36, the Modena Elementary School is part of the Public Works Buildings Thematic Resources 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 Modena Elementary School is one of 233 public works buildings identified in Utah that were built during the 1930s and early 1940s. Only 130 of those 233 buildings are known to remain today and retain their historic integrity. Of the 233, 107 were public school buildings; 55 of which remain. This is one of 43 elementary schools built, 19 of which remain. In Iron County 7 buildings were constructed; 3 of them are left.

This school building was constructed between 1935 and 1936 as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project at a cost of \$5,377. Construction began in October 1935 and was completed in March 1936. The architect was Frank J.

(See Continuation Sheet)

Modena Elementary School
History continued:

Jackson of Cedar City. The stone for the building was furnished free of charge by a Mr. Henspack who owned a ranch near Modena. The school's staff consisted of one teacher who taught all six elementary grades and a principal who also served as the janitor.