

**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 Dell Rapids Water Tower

and/or common Old Stone Water Tower, Old Water Tower

2. Location

street & number 10th and Orleans NA not for publication

city, town Dell Rapids NA vicinity of _____ congressional district _____

state South Dakota code 046 county Minnehaha code 099

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 type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>NA</u> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" 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 City of Dell Rapids

street & number 302 4th Street

city, town Dell Rapids NA vicinity of _____ state South Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Minnehaha County Courthouse, Attn: Register of Deeds

street & number 415 N. Dakota Avenue

city, town Sioux Falls state South Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title NA has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date _____ federal state county local

depository for survey records _____

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The cylindrical Dell Rapids Water Tower, surrounded by a small city park, rises approximately 45 feet with a base diameter of approximately 30 feet and a top diameter of approximately 24 feet. Constructed of locally quarried Sioux quartzite, the tower was designed in 1894 by S.B. Howe with the assistance of C.W. Hubbard, contracting firm. The original wooden tank that was once positioned atop the stone tower has been removed.

There are doors at the base and at the top of the west side as well as doors placed at the top and about midway from the top on the north and south sides. The arches above the doorway are Sioux quartzite and framed with wood. A "snow fence" has been erected to keep pedestrians from approaching the area beneath the arch above the west door which is badly deteriorated. A modern pump house is located to the southeast of the quartzite structure and a single-legged modern water tower, built in the 1960's, is located to the north.

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 type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1888 **Builder/Architect** S.B. Howe, Architect; C.W. Hubbard,
Contractor

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Dell Rapids Water Tower, one of the few engineering structures of its kind in South Dakota, is a visual symbol of the well planned water system which served the city for over sixty years.

After a fire in February of 1888 which destroyed the south side of Main Street (eleven businesses in all),¹ the city fathers and residents of Dell Rapids decided the city needed a new water system. When constructed, the system had "three miles of mains, twenty-five fire hydrants, and the pressure (was) about sixty pounds to the square inch".² The History of Minnehaha County, South Dakota (1899) described it as "a complete system and a credit to the enterprise of the city as well as being of great value as a fire protection and a convenience and luxury to the citizens..." The water tower, erected in 1894, was constructed of the same Sioux quartzite used for many of the buildings in the Dell Rapids business district (now a downtown Historic District).

¹Dell Rapids Times, February 17, 1888, p. 5.

²Baily, Dana R., History of Minnehaha County, South Dakota, Sioux Falls, 1899, p. 1029.

³Ibid, p. 1029.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Baily, Dana R. History of Minnehaha County, South Dakota, Sioux Falls, 1899.

"Water System...", Dell Rapids Tribune, November 24, 1894, p.1.

Earls, Mrs. U.S. History of Dell Rapids. Dell Rapids, 1952.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Dell Rapids

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	4	6	8	4	2	1	0	4	8	5	5	3	0	0
Zone		Easting					Northing							

B

Zone		Easting					Northing							

C

Zone		Easting					Northing							

D

Zone		Easting					Northing							

E

Zone		Easting					Northing							

F

Zone		Easting					Northing							

G

Zone		Easting					Northing							

H

Zone		Easting					Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 6, Block 14, Grave's Addition to the City of Dell Rapids, Minnehaha County, South Dakota. (as per City Map in City Hall, Dell Rapids, South Dakota)

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Timothy J. Schwebach (with the assistance of Melanie Betz, Historical Preservation Center, Vermillion)

organization Dell Rapids, SD, Historical Council date November 15, 1983

street & number P.O. Box 69 telephone (605)428-5498

city or town Dell Rapids state South Dakota 57022

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 

title Director, Office of Cultural Preservation

date 1/16/84

For HCERS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date

2/23/84


Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration