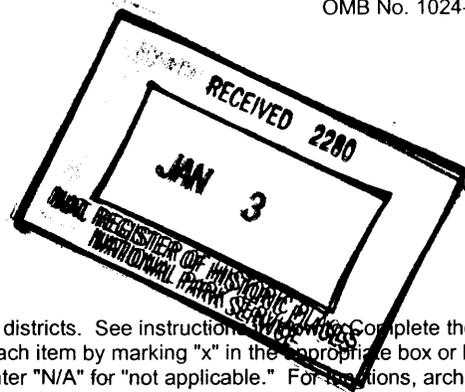


**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions on reverse. Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For locations, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Marshall County Courthouse  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

street & number 911 Vander Horck Avenue not for publication N/A  
city or town Britton Vicinity N/A  
state South Dakota Code SD county Marshall code 091 zip code 57430

**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 12-14-2005  
Signature of certifying official 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

**4. National Park Service Certification**

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register.
    - See continuation sheet
  - determined eligible for the National Register.
    - See continuation sheet
  - determined not eligible for the National Register
  - removed from the National Register.
  - other,  
(explain:)

Signature of the Keeper: Eason H. Beall      Date of Action: 2.14.06

**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	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A  
 Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) County Courthouses of South Dakota

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**6. Function or Use**

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**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Government Sub: Courthouse  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Government Sub: Courthouse  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Second Renaissance Revival  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation Concrete  
Roof Slate (historic); Asphalt (current)  
Walls Sandstone  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

See Continuation Sheets

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### 8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant Contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a Significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations** (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

Politics/Government  
Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1908-1955  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Marshall County Courthouse  
Name of Property

Marshall County, South Dakota  
County and State

**Significant Dates** 1908  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person** N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation** N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder** Bell and Detweiler (architects);  
Wold and Johnson (builders)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- Preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- Designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

### Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property** Approximately 2 Acres

### UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>14</u> Zone	<u>596826</u> Easting	<u>5071555</u> Northing	3	<u>          </u> Zone	<u>          </u> Easting	<u>          </u> Northing
2	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	4	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Jason Haug  
organization South Dakota SHPO date 13 October 2005  
street & number 900 Governors Drive telephone (605)773-6296  
city or town Pierre state SD zip code 57501

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## Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

**A USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

**A sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Marshall County Courthouse  
Name of Property

Marshall County, South Dakota  
County and State

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## Property Owner

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Marshall County  
street & number PO BOX 130 telephone 605-448-2401  
city or town Britton state SD zip code 57430

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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## NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Marshall County Courthouse is located in the center of a city block facing north in Britton, a city of about 1,300 residents in the northeast corner of South Dakota. The courthouse is located on Vander Horck Avenue (South Dakota Highway 10) in a residential area two blocks west of Britton's Main Street. A lawn and several trees surround the courthouse on the north, east, and west sides with paved parking on the south side of the block. A memorial for veterans sits north of the front entry.

The building was constructed in 1908 in the Second Renaissance Revival style. Along with the Neoclassical style, this style was common from 1890 through about 1920 for public buildings, including several South Dakota courthouses and the South Dakota State Capitol. Distinctive features of the Second Renaissance Revival style include the floors being divided into distinct horizontal zones by different stone finishes or window treatments, arcades or arched openings, pedimented openings, enriched cornices, prominent columns, and balustrades.

The courthouse is three and a half stories and has concrete walls faced with sandstone. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles, which replaced the original slate roof. The sandstone on each of the three stories has a different finish. The first floor is rock-faced and the second floor is polished. The third floor is also polished but features prominent rusticated quoins that distinguish the third floor from the second. The three stories are divided by a molded belt course with a main cornice along the roof line. The most notable feature of the courthouse is the large cupola. It has two levels with a domed metal roof. The first level has four pillars on all four sides with glass between the pillars. The second level of the cupola has a round window on each side. There are also rusticated quoins on the corners like those on the third floor. The historic windows throughout the building were wood one-over-one windows and above each window on the second and third floors was a small transom window. All of the historic windows and exterior doors have been replaced. While the original size of the windows is still intact, new aluminum windows have been installed and energy efficiency panels have replaced the transom windows on the second and third floors.

The façade, north elevation, is symmetrical with a central full-height pedimented entry. There are eight one-over-one windows across the first and second stories and nine across the third floor. The front entry has an arched opening with paired pillars on each side. Above the front door is a recessed opening that has a pillar on each side and balustrade between the pillars. A single one-over-one window is located behind and between the pillars. Above this opening is the main cornice

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page # 2

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with dentils that wrap around the entire roofline of the building. Just below the pediment and above the cornice is a half-circle window.

The west and east elevations are identical. There is a central protruding bay with a pediment and each story has six one-over-one windows.

The south elevation is similar to the façade without as much detailing. Like the façade, there are three protruding bays with a central pediment. There is an arched window over the central entry but it lacks pillars like the façade. It also lacks the recessed opening with pillars above the arched entry and instead has three one-over-one windows. There are eight one-over-one windows across the first and second floors and eleven across the third floor. The two left windows on the first floor have bars over them for the jail cells.

The interior of the Marshall County Courthouse retains nearly all of its original distinctive features. The floors are marble with some tile decoration, including a mosaic inside the front entrance that reads "Marshall County." The staircases have decorative metal balusters and newels with wood handrails. Paintings in the dome above the third floor were painted at the time of construction by artist Will Pease. Other murals in the Sheriff's and Assessor's offices were painted by Tino Walking Bull in 1963.

The first floor of the courthouse houses offices for the Director of Equalization, Social Services, Emergency Management, the Sheriff, dispatch, and a small jail. The County Commissioners meeting room, Register of Deeds, Auditor, and Treasurer are located on the second floor. The third floor houses the courtroom, judge's chambers, jury room, Clerk of Court's office, and the law library. A fourth level used to have living space for the custodian and his family but is now used for storage.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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## NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Marshall County Courthouse is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its role as the symbolic and functional seat of government for Marshall County during the twentieth century. Since its construction in 1908, this building has housed the main administrative, operational, and judicial functions of Marshall County. The courthouse is also eligible under Criterion C as a significant example of the Second Renaissance Revival style applied to public and institutional architecture in South Dakota during the early twentieth century. Several other courthouses and public buildings, including the South Dakota State Capitol, were also designed in this style.

Marshall County, named for Day County Commissioner Marshall Vincent, was originally part of Day County to the south but was separated by an act of the Dakota Territory Legislative Assembly on March 13, 1885, and approved by a public vote in May of that year. After agreeing to provide free office space for county officials, Britton was selected as the temporary county seat. County business was initially conducted in various Main Street buildings until 1896 when the County purchased the Arlington Hotel on the southwest corner of South Dakota Highway 10 and Main Street. The Arlington Hotel served as the Marshall County Courthouse until 1906 when a \$40,000 bond issue was passed to construct the nominated courthouse. Earlier bond issues in 1888 and 1893 were both defeated by voters.<sup>1</sup>

County Commissioners accepted the design of architects Bell and Detweiler of Minnesota, who each also designed other public buildings in South Dakota, including the South Dakota State Capitol, the Brown County Courthouse, and the Lawrence County Courthouse. Wold and Johnson were contracted for the construction of the Marshall County Courthouse and completed the work in 1908 at a cost of \$52,935.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Marshall County Historical Society, *Marshall County, South Dakota*. Taylor Publishing Co., Dallas, TX, 1979, 9.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*, 9.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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The completion of the Marshall County Courthouse and other South Dakota courthouses in general not only provided much needed office space to conduct County business and secure storage for county records, but it also established a perception of permanence for the county government and the county seat. Voters were less likely to move a county seat if it involved vacating an expensive courthouse. This building has served as the center of government for Marshall County since 1908 and has consequently played a major role in the development of Britton in addition to the rest of the county. The period of significance thus encompasses this history from the date of construction to the fifty-year closing date. The courthouse is thus eligible under Criterion A for its association with the government of Marshall County.

The courthouse is also significant as an example of the classical architectural applied to most courthouses and public buildings in South Dakota during the early twentieth century. By the early twentieth century, most counties in South Dakota had been established for nearly a generation and had established themselves economically. This allowed county governments to undertake larger construction projects, such as more elaborate courthouses. These new courthouses generally featured classical design elements such as columns, balustrades, and prominent entries. Many also included space for murals that depicted a county's history and development. Murals were of agricultural, pioneering, mining, hunting, Native American, or landscape scenes.<sup>3</sup>

Courthouses in Brown, Brookings, Lawrence, and the nominated Marshall County all utilized the Second Renaissance Revival style. This style featured the floors being divided into distinct horizontal zones by different stone finishes or window treatments, arcades or arched openings, pedimented entries, enriched cornices, prominent columns, and balustrades. The Marshall County Courthouse features nearly all of these elements. Its three stories are visually distinctive because of the different stone finishes. There are arched openings above the front and rear entries, main pedimented entries and bays on each elevation, columns, and balustrades. The courthouse also features murals that depict agricultural scenes and one of a Native American buffalo hunt.

<sup>3</sup> David Erpestad and David Wood, *Building South Dakota: A Historical Survey of the State's Architecture to 1945*. South Dakota State Historical Society Press, Pierre, SD: 1997, 164-171.

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Despite the alterations to the windows and the doors, the building retains sufficient historic integrity from its period of significance to be a significant example of the Second Renaissance Revival style. The Marshall County Courthouse is thus also eligible under Criterion C for its distinctive architecture.<sup>4</sup>

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Blumenson, John J. *Identifying American Architecture: A Pictorial Guide to Styles and Terms, 1600-1945*. American Association for State and Local History: Nashville, 1977.
- Britton Centennial Committee. *Britton Centennial History, 1884-1984*. Britton Journal: Britton, SD, 1984.
- Erpestad, David and David Wood. *Building South Dakota: A Historical Survey of the State's Architecture to 1945*. South Dakota State Historical Society Press: Pierre, SD, 1997.
- Marshall County Historical Society. *Marshall County, South Dakota*. Taylor Publishing Co., Dallas, TX, 1979.
- Rogers, Stephen and Lynda B. Schwan. *Architectural History in South Dakota*. South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office: Pierre, SD, 2000.

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<sup>4</sup> John J. Blumenson, *Identifying American Architecture: A Pictorial Guide to Styles and Terms, 1600-1945*. American Association for State and Local History, Nashville, TN: 1977, 40-41.

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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary is a square that includes the entire city block on which the courthouse is located. It is bounded on the north by Vander Horck Avenue (SD Highway 10), Eighth Street to the south, Tenth Avenue to the west and Ninth Avenue to the east. The legal description of the property is Lots 1-18, Block 31, Original Plat, Britton, Marshall County, South Dakota.

## BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated boundary includes the courthouse building, parking lot, and landscaped grounds that surround the courthouse. It coincides with the legal description of the tract of land historically set aside for the courthouse.