

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JUL 22 1976
DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1976

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

South Hall, River Falls State Normal School

AND/OR COMMON

South Hall

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

320 East Cascade Avenue

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

River Falls

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Wisconsin

CODE

55

COUNTY

Pierce

CODE

093

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

__DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

__STRUCTURE

__SITE

__OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

__PRIVATE

__BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

__IN PROCESS

__BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

__UNOCCUPIED

__WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

__YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

__NO

PRESENT USE

__AGRICULTURE

__COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

__ENTERTAINMENT

__GOVERNMENT

__INDUSTRIAL

__MILITARY

__MUSEUM

__PARK

__PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__RELIGIOUS

__SCIENTIFIC

__TRANSPORTATION

__OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

State of Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin System

STREET & NUMBER

1930 Monroe Street

CITY, TOWN

Madison

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Wisconsin 53711

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Chancellor

STREET & NUMBER

University of Wisconsin

CITY, TOWN

River Falls

STATE

Wisconsin 54022

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Wisconsin's Historic Preservation Plan, Volume II: The Inventory

DATE

1976

__FEDERAL STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

CITY, TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53706

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

South Hall is a red brick building incorporating a central block and two symmetrical wings. Located on the University of Wisconsin-River Falls campus, it was designed by William Waters and constructed in 1898.

The central block is three stories high and has a hipped roof with pronounced overhang. Its north wall is the building's front facade. The main entrance is a round arch with stepped sandstone voussoirs and a large keystone. Windows on the first floor have flat arches with radiating voussoirs. The building surface between those windows is punctuated by horizontal bands of recessed brick. Above the entrance, on the second story, engaged double sandstone columns with Ionic capitals stand on either side of a central window, supporting at its third points a large lintel bearing the inscription, "1874 State Normal School 1898." Its ends are supported by brick pilasters. The strong symmetry is further emphasized by two elaborately decorated pediment windows. There is sandstone belt coursing at all floor levels.

The east and west wings are two-and-one-half stories and have hipped roofs which abut the central block. There are arched secondary entrances at either end and the brickwork and window details are identical to those on the front facade.

Alterations include the removal of a cupola from the main block in 1914, the addition of dormers on the east and west ends of the building, and the structural incorporation of the gymnasium (originally connected by a narrow corridor) at the rear of the building in 1918. Interior changes have been consistent with the building's continuous use as an educational facility, though the basic floor plan has remained substantially the same. Although the wooden window frames and soffits are in need of restoration, the building is in reasonably good condition. An obsolescence study by state engineers in 1970, however, revealed a number of code violations that would be costly to correct and resulted in the prediction that the building would be physically unfit for use by the 1973-1975 biennium.¹ South Hall is still in use, nonetheless, although it is threatened by razing since its retention on the campus "does not relate well to the campus master plan."²

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1. Obsolescence Report, 1970.
 2. Field to Smith, April 16, 1976.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Community growth & development
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1898

~~BUILDER~~/ARCHITECT William Waters

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

South Hall is significant because of its role as the continuing locus of higher educational activity in the River Falls area. The River Falls State Normal School was established through the efforts of a group of settlers from New England. Their Yankee belief in education, religious training, and thrift as the proper foundations for community development spurred them to provide the land, labor, and capital for the school's establishment.¹ They were well aware of the close connection between business and culture which would mean easing the tax burden and increasing land values. It was expected that the normal school would bring many "first class settlers who will dot down here and there all over the country; it will furnish better, and consequently cheaper teachers...and it will, in and of itself, be a model after which our schools will be fashioned."² In due time much of this occurred, but not as quickly as had been hoped.

When the original Normal School (1874) was destroyed by fire in 1897, the sons and daughters of its founders led the fight to have the institution rebuilt in River Falls rather than be moved to another location, and they won out over several strong contenders.³ South Hall was subsequently built on the former school's foundations, thus providing assurance that the institution was to remain permanently in River Falls.

For sixteen years South Hall was the only building on campus. Through the ensuing decades it has stood witness as the Normal School became a State Teachers College, a State University, and finally a member of the University of Wisconsin System. The teachers who trained in its classrooms taught in schools throughout northern Wisconsin and across Minnesota to the Dakotas and Montana. The graduates who passed through its doors to become doctors, lawyers, clergymen, congressmen, and merchants, have had a lasting impact on the region.

South Hall at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls joins Bascom Hall at Madison and "Old Mains" at other campuses as a symbol of the important role played by higher education in the settlement and development of Wisconsin and the entire frontier.

1. Wyman, 137.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid., 144-146.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.5

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	5	5	2	9	7	7	5	4	9	6	6	5	5	0
ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

B

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING							

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Timothy L. Ericson, Archivist, and Staff, Area Research Center

ORGANIZATION

University of Wisconsin-River Falls

DATE

7/2/75

STREET & NUMBER

Chalmer Davee Library

TELEPHONE

715/425-3567

CITY OR TOWN

River Falls

STATE

Wisconsin 54022

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

James Morton Smith

7/16/76

TITLE

Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

7/16/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

James A. Fox
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
Charles D. ...
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11/9/96

DATE

11.3.76

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CONTINUATION SHEET

See
ITEM NUMBER Below PAGE 1

South Hall, River Falls State Normal School

9. Easton, Augustus B., Ed., History of the Saint Croix Valley, H. C. Cooper, Jr., & Co., 1909.
Letter, George R. Field, Chancellor, UW-River Falls, to James Morton Smith, SHPO, April 16, 1976.
State of Wisconsin, Department of Administration, Obsolescence Report: South Hall, Wisconsin State University, River Falls, Wisconsin, 1970.
Transactions of the Board of Regents of the State Normal Schools, 1898, (Area Research Center, UW-River Falls).
University of Wisconsin-River Falls Archives, Area Research Center, UW-River Falls.
Wyman, Walker D., Ed., History of the Wisconsin State Universities, River Falls State University Press, 133-168, 1968.
11. Donald N. Anderson, Historian & Registrar, Historic Preservation
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| State Historical Society of Wisconsin | May 11, 1976 |
| 816 State Street | 608/262-0746 |
| Madison | Wisconsin 53706 |