

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Watertown Public Opinion, 28 November 1975.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 1/2 acres

See this

UTM REFERENCES

*Lebanon
11876*

A	1, 4	6, 4, 8, 8, 9, 0	4, 9, 7, 3, 2, 9, 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

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

Scott Gerloff

ORGANIZATION

Historical Preservation Center

STREET & NUMBER

USD Alumni House

CITY OR TOWN

Vermillion

DATE

December 1975

TELEPHONE

(605) 677-5314

STATE

South Dakota

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

John J. Little

TITLE Director/Historical Preservation Center

DATE 9/3/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Acting

John J. Little

DATE

12/12/91

ATTEST:

DATE

12/6/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Government
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1900-1908

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A post office is obviously significant in the categories of communication and government, for the building provides shelter for the daily processing of mail and government business such as Selective Service, a U.S. Agriculture Department, and other offices. However, the 1908 Watertown Post Office is also representative of postal institutions built during the early 1900's for two reasons: its use of limestone facing and its display of Second Renaissance Revival Architecture. Other cities used similar designs which show how people and the government around 1900 believed post offices should look. Yet, let us not forget that to Watertown this structure also represents one of the better examples of academic architecture in the city and is important to their structural development.

Construction of the Post Office began on July 1, 1908, and it was not completed until late 1909. In 1933, it became apparent that the postal facilities were too small, which resulted in an addition that was sympathetic to the building's design. Up to this time, the structure has served the people of Watertown and the surrounding area for over seventy years.

However, in 1976 the city will have a new facility which leaves the building's future in doubt. Many citizens, including the local historical society, believe the structure is important to Watertown's heritage and are concerned that the structure might be removed. Therefore, because of the structure's significance, as stated in paragraph one, and the desire of local citizens to see the building properly recognized, the site is submitted to the National Register of Historic Sites.

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 Second Renaissance Revival Watertown Post Office is two stories tall and made of two different shades of cut limestone as well as a different type of stone foundation. A balustraded roof line with an American eagle at its center adorns this building which is three bays wide and five bays long. First floor windows are compound Roman arches with keystone and form an arcade-like appearance on the structure's facade. These openings also feature sixteen muntin divided sashes with a mullion and transom. Square windows with six sash divisions appear on all second floor windows. These feature bracketed lugsills and are double hung.

The middle bay on the front (west) facade features the main entrance which has a round arched surround and a black grill work in its transom with the letters "U" and "S" overlapping each other. Double doors with center glass lead to the building's lobby.

Originally, the Post Office was symmetrical and ~~rectangular~~ ^{L-shaped} in shape. But in 1933, increased post office needs required more space, and an addition to the rear was the result. This addition was rather sympathetic to the original design by using similar windows, design features, and limestone, which was slightly lighter in color. Later on, a loading dock was also added. However, this building's front facade is almost exactly like it was in 1908. The interior also has retained most of its original appearance.

LEBOUR

11.8.76

PH0690970

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED SEP 9 1976
DATE ENTERED DEC 12 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
Watertown Post Office
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
26 South Broadway
CITY, TOWN
Watertown
STATE
South Dakota
VICINITY OF
1st
COUNTY
Codington
CODE
046
CODE
029

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input 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	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
U.S. Government-Postmaster General
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Washington
VICINITY OF
STATE
D.C.

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Codington County Courthouse - Register of Deeds
STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Watertown
STATE
South Dakota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
South Dakota Historic Sites Survey
DATE

December 1975
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Historical Preservation Center

CITY, TOWN
Vermillion
STATE
South Dakota