

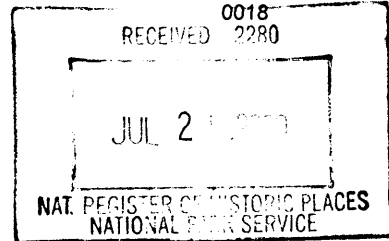
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to 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 an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, 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 Herrick Public School

other names/site number Herrick Independent School #36, Herrick High School, Herrick School

2. Location

street & number 450 Eighth Street

not for publication

city or town Herrick

vicinity

State South Dakota code SD county Gregory code 053 zip code 54538

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 for 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, SHPO  
Signature of certifying official/Title

07-18-2000  
Date

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 certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Date of Action

Edson H. Ball

8/16/00

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local       | <input type="checkbox"/> district               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State       | <input type="checkbox"/> site                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal     | <input type="checkbox"/> structure              |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> object                 |

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Schools in South Dakota

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

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

EDUCATION: School

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

OTHER: Vacant

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**7. Description**

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

LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque

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**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other \_\_\_\_\_

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**Narrative Description**

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

See Continuation Sheet.

**8. Statement of Significance**

**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.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or 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)

EDUCATION  
ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1919-1946

**Significant Dates**

1919

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(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

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:  
South Dakota Office of History

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately .2 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

Table with UTM coordinates (Zone, Easting, Northing) for points 1, 2, 3, and 4. Includes a checkbox for 'See continuation sheet'.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Christopher J. Hetzel
organization
street & number 5736 N. Las Virgenes Rd., #222
city or town Calabasas
date June 1, 2000
telephone (818) 871-9637
state CA zip code 91302

Additional Documentation

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.)

Property Owner

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

name Russ and Roxy Merrills
street & number P.O. Box 315 Telephone (605) 775-2756
city or town Herrick state SD Zip code 57538

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 listing. 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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Herrick Public School  
Gregory County, South Dakota

## SECTION 7: Description

The Herrick Public School in the Town of Herrick, Gregory County, South Dakota is an excellent example of standardized school design in South Dakota during the late 1910s. Established by the South Dakota Department of Public Instruction's standardized guidelines adopted in 1907 and the South Dakota Financial Incentive Program of 1919, South Dakota's standards for school design and construction influenced such features as classroom doors, egresses, window to floor area formulae, artificial lighting, windows, chimneys, and ventilation. Constructed in 1919, the Herrick Public School incorporated the standardized designs and facilities recommended for schools of the time. Its construction consequently reveals much about the evolution of standardized school design in South Dakota during the early twentieth century.

Typical of standardized schools built in the late 1910s and early 1920s, the Herrick Public School is a two-story, square building with a basement and symmetrical plan arranged around a central hall and staircase. It has a flat roof with a surrounding brick parapet wall, red brick veneer in a common bond pattern on the exterior walls, cast stone detailing, and a poured concrete foundation. The fenestration consists of original, one-over-one, double-hung, wood sash windows. Many of the windows have extant exterior wood-framed screens, while those on the second story of the south elevation have aluminum storm windows. All of the windows have wood frames and cast stone sills. Band courses of cast stone extend the circumference of the building below the first story and above the second. The building's corners feature three-tiered pilasters with ornamental brickwork and cast stone detailing that extend above the roof parapet. An eight-sided, cast stone cone caps the top of each pilaster. Below the first-story band course of cast stone the building's brick veneer has a banded pattern. Most the windows at this level are also enclosed.

The school exhibits a variation of the Romanesque style. This style alluded to the stability and venerability of European educational institutions. The school building stands on a parcel of land in the town of Herrick, South Dakota, with an east/west orientation. It is currently vacant. A city street bounds the school on the east, and fields bound the other sides of the property. No longer extant, a football field once existed east of the school.

The Herrick Public School's east (front) façade features a central three-story section containing the main entrance. The first two stories of this section project from the rest of the building with a flat roof, decorative brick parapet, and cast stone cap. A rounded cast stone arch, flanked by brick pilasters with cast stone detailing on the corners, characterizes the main entrance. The entrance contains a set of three-light, double wood doors with a ten-light, semi-circular transom window and twelve-light sidelights. Above the entrance, the words "PUBLIC SCHOOL" appear in relief in an ornate script. Both of the central section's upper two stories contain sets of three one-over-one, double-hung, wood sash windows in a palladian-like configuration. An extended parapet with decorative brickwork and two cone-topped pilasters top the central section. The main entrance is flanked on either side by sections of wall with a decorative brick veneer featuring large rectangles and cross patterns. Cast stone blocks are placed as added highlights.

The school building's north and south elevations are similar in design and configuration. Each contains two banks of classroom windows on each of the first and second stories, centrally divided by decorative brickwork and a small, extended parapet. Each bank contains six windows, providing each interior space with windows on only one wall. Single windows are regularly spaced along the building's basement level as well.

The Herrick Public School's west elevation is symmetrically divided with three bays of windows on each story. The central bay contains sets of two windows, while the outer bays contain space for sets of three windows each. The window openings in the outer bays of the first story and the northern bay of the second story are enclosed with brick. A brick outline demarcates the space of the three enclosed sections. An original condition, this configuration of window openings assured that classrooms were illuminated by only one wall of windows on the first floor. The school auditorium and stage occupy the

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Herrick Public School  
Gregory County, South Dakota

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second story of this elevation. An original fire escape tunnel extends from below a second floor window, running diagonally across the elevation, and a non-original door opening for an emergency exit was added to the basement gymnasium. An exterior door opening was also cut into one of the central first-story windows, leading to the superintendent's office.

The interior of the Herrick Public School is typical of the standardized school designs from the same period. The school's square plan is oriented around a central staircase and hall with three levels, including a basement. The basement level contains a gymnasium, a ticket booth, boy's and girl's restrooms, a furnace room, and storage rooms. The building's ground level has four classrooms, two on either side of the central hall, and a superintendent's office at the hall's west end. The second level, likewise, contains three classrooms, an auditorium, stage, and a restroom added over the front staircase. Grades 1-8 held classes on the ground level, and the high school classes met on the second level.

Much of the school's interior remains intact with only a few alterations. Each classroom contains original plaster walls, picture rails, baseboards, wood floor, wood cloak closets with vertical sliding doors, and wood storage closets. Original wood cloak closets flank the main hallway on the second level before entering the auditorium, and the auditorium stage contains its original proscenium arch. The building's original knob and tube wiring remains, and the extant furnace supplied steam heat through a standard radiator system, in addition to a series of wall chases and vents that provided ventilation throughout the building. The building's original lathe and plaster ceilings were removed on all levels except the basement, and many of the school's original blackboards are missing. On the third floor, a set of enclosing doors have been added to the main staircase, likely an original set of doors from the auditorium stage, and a wall partition was added to the level's southeast classroom. In addition, a kitchen was installed in the northeast classroom on the ground floor in 1959. The hook-ups for the kitchen equipment remain.

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Herrick Public School  
Gregory County, South Dakota

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## SECTION 8: Statement of Significance

The Herrick Public School in the town of Herrick, Gregory County, South Dakota is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C. The building is significant under Criterion A in the context of education as a school constructed by the Herrick Independent School District in 1919, and under criterion C as an excellent example of the type of standardized school design commonly built in South Dakota during the 1910s. Its construction represents the state of progressive educational reform in Herrick during the 1910s and the manner in which these reforms manifested themselves in the school's physical design.

Due to increased enrollment and severe overcrowding, the Herrick Independent School District first met to consider the construction of a new school building in September 1918. Bonded funds for the new school building were approved in March 1919, and construction bids were let the following June. The buildings subsequent design and construction followed a long history of state educational reform. The school closed in 1946.

Educational reform in South Dakota as it affected the design of new school construction had its origin in the Progressive era policies of the late nineteenth century. During this time, reformers believed that improved school facilities directly affected the quality of education in rural communities and advocated the implementation of standardized school designs. They cited overcrowding, inadequate lighting, and poor heating and ventilation as just a few of the conditions that hindered learning, and they believed that modern, properly constructed facilities would bring concepts of progress to rural communities.

To combat these perceived shortcomings, policy makers implemented progressive curriculum reforms at all levels of government. In 1880, the United States Bureau of Education published an influential plan book of standardized school designs and specifications for school improvement. Many state governments followed suit by formulating their own plans for educational reform, using the federal plan as a model. State policy, however, languished until 1908 when President Theodore Roosevelt formed the National Commission on Country Life. This Commission focused national attention on the inadequacies of rural schools and encouraged state governments to implement standardized formulas and recommendations for school design in the 1900s and 1910s.

In South Dakota, the first statewide effort towards school standardization occurred in 1907 when the State Superintendent of Instruction adopted specific guidelines for school construction. The state legislature formalized these guidelines and granted the State Superintendent the power of approval over all new school construction plans at this time. These new standards for school construction called for at least fifteen square feet of floor space in each classroom, two hundred cubic feet of air space per pupil, and an approved heating and ventilation system among other regulations. The placement of classroom windows was of particular concern as contemporaries believed that improper illumination caused headaches, backaches, and various nervous disorders. Consequently, the state guidelines prescribed specific window arrangements and formulas, dictating the size of windows and limiting their placement on only one wall of a classroom. By 1915, these regulations also extended to such features as classroom doors, egresses, window-to-floor area formulae, artificial lighting, windows, chimneys, fire drills and escapes, ventilation, and water fountains. Moreover, in 1919 the State legislature passed a financial incentive program offering \$150 to each rural school that complied with the State standards.

The construction of the Herrick Public School represents an important step in the evolution of these standardized designs. Completed in 1919, the school exhibits an early form of standardized school design that replaced an older school building constructed in 1907 and preceded the design of larger consolidated school buildings in the 1920s and 1930s. The design of the older school embodied earlier conceptions of standardized school design. It was a two-story, wood-frame structure with

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Herrick Public School  
Gregory County, South Dakota

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clapboard siding, a hipped roof, and a square plan. On the interior, it had a basement, two classrooms on the first floor, and classrooms and a laboratory on the second. Similar to much smaller one-room rural schools, it also had coal and wood burning furnaces and no electricity. Prior to South Dakota's aforementioned standardization efforts, these larger schools (averaging four to eight rooms) were characterized by irregular floor plans arranged asymmetrically around a central hall and possessed symmetrical facades. Many also lacked the gymnasiums, auditoriums, and other amenities that characterized later structures.

In comparison, the Herrick Public School incorporated the standardized designs and facilities recommended for large schools in the late 1910s. The two-story school had a basement level gymnasium and a symmetrical interior plan arranged around a central staircase and hallways. The school also contained an auditorium and stage on the second floor, a modern heating and ventilation system, and each classroom was illuminated by only one wall of windows, contained prescribed cloak closets and blackboards, and featured standardized wood doors. All of these details, among others, were in keeping with contemporary notions of standardized school construction. On the exterior, the Herrick Public School reflected contemporary school design with its symmetrical façade, brick veneer, cast stone detailing, and Romanesque style elements.

The standardized plans and designs promulgated by the State of South Dakota were similar to those prescribed by the United States Department of Education, and other state and local agencies in the early twentieth century. These standards provided schools across the nation with uniformity in layout, appearance, and function best suited to for educational environment. The Herrick Public School is a local example of this prominent building type.



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Herrick Public School  
Gregory County, South Dakota

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## SECTION 9: Bibliography

Erpstad, David and David Wood. Building South Dakota: A Historical Survey of the State's Architecture to 1945. Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 1997.

Gowans, Alan. Styles and Types of North American Architecture: Social Function and Cultural Expression. New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers, 1992.

Gulliford, Andrew. America's Country Schools. Niwot, CO: University Press of Colorado, 1996.

Hallstrom, Linda and Maricarrol Kueter. South Dakota Country School Days. Dallas, TX: Taylor Publishing Co., 1987.

"Herrick School Reunion, 1904-1978." June 27 and 28, 1981.

Onsite Photography. "A Context for Educational Development in South Dakota." Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historical Society, 1999.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Herrick Public School  
Gregory County, South Dakota

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SECTION 10: Geographical Data

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

S2 NW4 of approximately .2 acres, Section 24-96-71, Annex to Herrick Town, Old Herrick, Gregory County, South Dakota

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with Lincoln School #12.

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Herrick Public School  
Gregory County, South Dakota

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ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION: Photographs

Name: Herrick Public School  
Location: Herrick, Gregory County, South Dakota

Photographer: Christopher J. Hetzel  
Date: July 1999

Location of Negatives: Historic Resources Group  
1728 Whitley Court  
Hollywood, CA 90028

1. East and south elevations, looking northwest
2. East elevation, looking west
3. North elevation, looking south
4. West elevation, looking east
5. South elevation, looking north
6. Detail of east elevation
7. First floor classroom, looking southwest
8. First floor classroom, looking southwest
9. First floor hallway and principal's office, looking west
10. First floor hallway, looking east
11. Auditorium, second floor, looking northwest
12. Girl's restroom, basement, looking northeast
13. Gymnasium, basement, looking north