

**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

For HCERS use only

received **OCT 6 1980**date entered **NOV 23 1980**

## 1. Name

historic Woodward School

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 100 West and Tabernacle Streets, not for publication

city, town St George vicinity of congressional district 02

state Utah code 049 county Washington code 053

## 3. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input 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:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Washington County School Board

street & number 193 West Tabernacle

city, town St George vicinity of state UT

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office, Washington County Bldg

street & number 197 East Tabernacle St.

city, town St. George, UT state 84770

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title none 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**

Woodward Elementary School is a two-story structure built of locally quarried stone. Volcanic stone for the foundation had been intended for an earlier structure which was never built. The walls are rough-faced, regular coursed red sandstone. Following a scheme similar to that of the Washington Elementary school and the Old Dixie College building which is located at the opposite corner of the Tabernacle Block, it is characteristic of many school buildings of the period. From the rectangular, truncated hip roofed central mass, gabled bays project on each elevation forming a symmetrical configuration. Atop the main entrance pavilion is a hipped roof bell tower or cupola. Under the wide eaves are decorative brackets. Entrances on the east and west elevations are round arched.

Windows are double hung sash types arranged in groups of three and four. Lintels are rough-faced blocks, coursed in conjunction with the walls. Sills are fully dressed ashlar elements which break the coursing somewhat.

Like the Old Dixie College building the Woodward School seems heavily influenced by late Victorian forms, but especially by the Richardsonian Romanesque style in the handling of materials, simplicity of form, window treatment and minimum detail. The rough-faced masonry and round arched entries are of course the primary indicator of this parallel.

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1897–1901 **Builder/Architect** probably Richard Watkins 1858–1941

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Woodward School is a representative example of turn-of-the-century school house architecture in its treatment of materials, plan and elevation. It occupies an important position in the St. George community on the northwest corner of the tabernacle block, one of seven significant public and religious structures there. Retaining integrity of general condition and setting, the building continues to serve as an elementary school. It is an expression of the commitment of the early citizen's of St. George to the value of education.

In December of 1861 when St. George was still a settlement of tents and wagons, the settlers appointed a committee "to choose school teachers and to organize schools". Modest school houses in each of the four wards were in use by 1868 supported by tuition paid by each students family. In 1871 local LDS Church authorities tried to establish "a High School in St. George to be called St. George Academy". The effect failed as did several subsequent attempts in the 1870's and 1880's.

In 1888 the St. George stake established an academy that met in the basement of the Tabernacle. A permanent teacher was obtained, plans made for building a proper school in the northwest corner of the Tabernacle block and a quantity of volcanic stone actually quarried for the foundation. The building campaign stalled in 1890, however, and in 1893 the academy closed. The provision or free public schools supported by a county tax, passed by the state legislature in 1890, had led both teachers and parents to desert the academy, always stunted in cash-starved St. George.

The broader financial base afforded by the possibility of a mill levy and the decision to meet the growing city's need for education by consolidating rather than expanding the old ward schools, led to the construction of the Woodward School. In 1898 the citizens approved a twenty mill levy, the legal maximum, to finance a brick school building. Stone was ultimately chosen for its permanence, however, and obtained from the same quarry that had supplied the building of the Tabernacle. The volcanic stone cut for the unbuilt Academy was used for the foundation. The school opened for classes in September, 1901. It was named for George Woodward, a trustee who had given generously of his time and his own funds to ensure that St. George would have a suitable school. Two years of high school were eventually offered at the Woodward School before first the Dixie Academy and then a separate high school assumed these responsibilities. Renovated after World War II, the school continues in use as part of the Washington County grade school system.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Andrew Karl Larson, I Was Called To Dixie, Salt Lake City, Deseret News Press, 1961.

## 10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property less than 1

~~ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED~~

Quadrangle name St. George, UT

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

### UMT References

A 

1	2	2	7	0	4	0	0	4	1	0	9	7	5	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

Beginning at the northwest corner of Block 16, Plat A, St. George City, Utah Survey; then East c 200'; then south c 100'; then west c 200'; then north c 100' to beginning.

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diana Johnson/Assis Architectural Historian; Henry O. Whiteside/ Historian

organization Utah State Historical Society date 28 Feb 80

street & number 307 West 200 South telephone 533-6017

city or town Salt Lake City state UT 84101

## 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 Melvin T. Smith

title Melvin T. Smith, State Historic Preservation Officer date 9/26/80

For HCRS use only

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

Sally G. Eldon  
Keeper of the National Register

date 11/23/80

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet

Item number

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Washington County School Buildings

Although a complete survey of Washington County has not yet been made, preliminary information indicates that this is one of three historic education buildings of this type remaining there. The plan and elevation, use of materials, scale and massing of this building place it in a genre of school architecture typical of the turn-of-the-century period, roughly ca 1880-1920. It is a representative of this type and was probably designed by Richard Watkins (1858-1941), who designed between two hundred and three hundred school buildings in Utah, most of which reflect characteristics seen in these examples.