

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received SEP 30 1985

date entered OCT 31 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad Depot

and/or common Chicago North Western Railroad Depot

2. Location

street & number 168 North Broadway

N/A not for publication

city, town Watertown

N/A vicinity of

state South Dakota

code 26

county Codington

code 029

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum (pending)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 Codington County Historical Society, Inc. (sale from C & NW in progress)

street & number 27 First Avenue, Southeast

city, town Watertown

NA vicinity of

state South Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Codington County Courthouse

street & number 1st Avenue, Southeast

city, town Watertown

state South Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

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

Situated near the warehouse district of Watertown, the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad Depot is a two story brick building with a high pitched slate gable roof and a projecting brick chimney. There is a partial basement which contains a furnace. The north and south facades of the structure have canopies over the entranceways. "Watertown" is engraved in stone over the door in the west facade and a south window.

Fenestration includes ten three-part rectangular windows on the lower south side, and four three-part rectangular windows on the upper south side. On the west facade, there are two rectangular windows on the lower level, three on the upper, and one in the attic. The north side has eight three-part rectangular windows on the lower story while the upper level has four windows. All of the lower level openings have granite sills and arched lintels with radiating voussoirs and keystones. There are doors on the west, north, and south (2) sides of the building. The doors on the north and south side of the baggage room are located at the extreme east end of the building.

Much of the original interior has been retained over the years including the hardwood floors, the ladies and gentleman's waiting rooms and the original wood furniture. The upstairs doors still display glass with etched titles (station master, etc.). The Codington County Historical Society, Inc. has the original blueprints and plans to restore the old depot to its original appearance for use as a railroad museum.

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 type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1911 **Builder/Architect** A.T. Hawks, Architect
J.B. Berry, Engineer

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Representing one of the vestiges of Watertown's important rail system, the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad Depot is significant in the area of transportation. The building, which appears today almost exactly as it did when constructed in 1911, is also significant in the area of architecture.

Founded during the Great Dakota Boom, Watertown was a product of the railroad. The City owed much of its initial success to the rail system. On September 7, 1875, the State of Minnesota made a land grant to the Winona and St. Peter Railroad Company "...granting to said railroad the odd numbered sections for ten miles on each side of said railroad from Winona, via St. Peter, to a point on the Big Sioux River, south of the Forty-Fifth Parallel of North Latitude. This land grant included Section 31, in Township 117 North, of Range 52 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian."¹

Section 31 was chosen for the town of Watertown. It was platted on October 7, 1878.² The first depot constructed was located across from the current depot. However, the building became too small and was torn down for a diesel house. The Minneapolis and St. Louis Depot replaced the original structure in 1911. It was built for \$50,000 as a joint venture of the Chicago Rock Island and Pacific, and the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad companies. A.T. Hawks was hired as the architect and J.B. Berry served as engineer. In 1960, the line was sold to Chicago and North Western until they abandoned it. In 1985, the old depot was purchased by the Codington County Historical Society, Inc., for use as a railroad museum.

The old Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad depot was one of the best in Watertown. It was tremendously important to the transportation needs of the community because it brought huge quantities of goods and large numbers of people to the community. It also provided a means of exporting farm products. This particular depot saw large numbers of people during the Last Dakota Boom when the area west of the Missouri was settled. Large numbers of troops also passed through its doors during World Wars I and II.

The depot today retains its original 1911 appearance. Its brickwork is intact as well as its high pitched slate gable roof. Some of the original wood furniture also remains. As one of only two remaining railroad depots in the City, the building today is a visual reminder of Watertown's important rail lines.

¹Newsletter of the Codington County Historical Society, June 1984.

²Ibid.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property About one acre

Quadrangle name Watertown

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	4	6	4	9	0	6	0	4	9	7	3	7	2	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 The boundaries are contained within the Legal Description: NE $\frac{1}{4}$, T.117N., R.52W of Section 31 (Division 31 C of City Map at Auditor's Office)

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joanita Kant Fischer, Executive Director (technical assistance: Melanie Betz, HPC)

organization Codington County Historical Society, Inc. date August 7, 1985

street & number Kampeska Heritage Museum telephone 605-886-7335 (work)
27 First Avenue Southeast telephone 605-882-2814 (home)

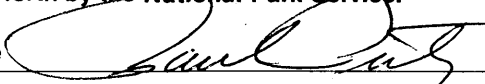
city or town Watertown state South Dakota

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

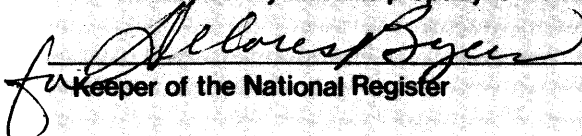
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title _____ date Sept 26, '85

For NPS use only

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


Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 10/31/85

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

Major Bibliographical References

Hamburg, James F. South Dakota History. "Railroads and the Settlement of South Dakota During the Great Dakota Boom, 1878-1887", Spring 1975, Volume 5, No. 2, State Historical Society, Pierre, pp. 167, 171, 172, 178.

1984 Interviews with R.R. Bultman and Harry Herington (retired roadmaster) by Joanita Kant Fischer, Watertown, Kapeska Heritage Museum archives.

Newsletters of the Codington County Historical Society, October, November 1984. Watertown Kapeska Heritage Museum.

"Codington Historical Society to Buy Depot", Watertown Public Opinion, July 18, 1985.