

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 15 1976
DATE ENTERED SEP 1 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC AND/OR COMMON
Name: South Dakota State Capitol and Governor's Residence
State Capitol Building

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Bounded by Broadway, Washington, & Capitol Aves.
Capitol Avenue — NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN Pierre VICINITY OF _____ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2nd
STATE South Dakota CODE 045 COUNTY Hughes CODE 065

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 State of South Dakota
STREET & NUMBER _____
CITY, TOWN Pierre VICINITY OF _____ STATE South Dakota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hughes County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER 100 W. Capitol Avenue
CITY, TOWN Pierre STATE South Dakota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE South Dakota Historic Sites Survey
DATE September 1974 — FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Historical Preservation Center
CITY, TOWN Vermillion STATE South Dakota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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 Dakota's State Capitol is a four-story Neo-Classic structure that has some English and Italian Renaissance features. It rests on a boulder or drift granite foundation. The material came from the surrounding prairie. Native granite also appears in the steps and in some of the window trimming. The first level of the structure displays a Marquette Raindrop sandstone for its facing while the other stories are of Bedford limestone.

The building has a similar floor plan to that of the nation's capitol with a central rotunda flanked by the legislative wings. The original 1910 structure was 124 feet wide, 292 feet long, and 161 feet high from the ground to the lantern tip. The only major change is an annex, built in 1931, that is located to the rear. A renovation in 1964-65 involved mostly the interior work, but the dome was recovered.

The building's design came from C.E. Bell's drawings of the Montana State Capitol. This device defrayed the costs of an original design. The contractor was O.H. Olson of Stillwater, Minnesota, under the supervision of State Engineer, Sammuel H. Lea. The cost of the project, including the grounds was under one million dollars.

Some of the stylistic features include a simplified Corinthian portico that shelters the three round arched entries. Similar half round windows with keystones appear above the other entrances, which have Ionic columns. Except for some oval windows, the remaining openings are flat and most have lintel and slipsill surrounds. The roof line has a slightly pitched roof and balustrade all around. Just below and on each side of the dome is a decorated typanum of the pediment type. The dome itself features nich-like pendentives, a Corinthian peristyle, lunettes, and is topped by a copper roof dome and lantern.

While the exterior has remained mostly unscathed by modernizations, the interior has had several alterations. William G. Andrews of Clinton, Iowa, designed the original classical decor. The major changes have occurred in the two legislative chambers and the various offices. All of these used to be much more lavish and ornate.

However, much of the early beauty of the capitol remains including the marble work. Italian workmen did the floor and used marble from their home country. Other types of marble used are dark Tennessee, gray Tennessee, Verde Antique, and Vermont Lightcloud. The interior pillars are of artificial marble. Four busts still adorn the rotunda, including two by Harry Daniel Webster and two by Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor of Mount Rushmore.

The Capitol is well known for its attractive murals and paintings. In the dome, four large round paintings appear, with female figures that symbolize the major activities in agriculture, livestock, mining, and the family. Charles Holloway designed the murals in the Senate, House of Representatives, and the Supreme Court chambers. Edward Blashfield, the most famous of the artists, painted the scenes in the Governor's conference room. Edward Simmond painted five murals, while recently Paul Warcloud finished another. There are various paintings throughout the Capitol including portraits of the governors and paintings by Oscar Howe, the Artist Laureate of the state.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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The Capitol grounds are attractively landscaped and add to the aesthetic setting. To the east is Capitol Lake which is fed by an artesian well. Also nearby is a flaming fountain of natural gas. On the other side of the lake sits the gray-colored Governor's Residence. The W.P.A. built this house in 1936 and it has served as the Chief Executive's home ever since. It is a combination of colonial and ranch house design with a pedimental entry, white shutters and a large joined chimney. Its landscaping is equally as attractive as the Capitol's.

The only intrusions are a small brick maintenance building just to the east and rear of the Capitol, and a rather modern walkway near the flaming fountain.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1907, 1910, 1931, 1936, BUILDER/ARCHITECT C.E. Bell

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The State Capitol, located in Pierre, South Dakota, is obviously the single most important governmental building in South Dakota. For over sixty-five years it has been the symbol of state government. As various governors, legislators, and judges have come and gone, the state house remains, a vivid reminder of their contributions to South Dakota's history and its laws.

The building is also important because it is probably the best example of Neo-classic Revival architecture in the state. A copper plated dome, Corinthian columns, rusticated walls of granite and Bedford limestone, and a decorative interior are some of the building's major features.

The stimulation for erecting such a building occurred in 1904 after a third election was held on where the capitol should be located.¹ Many citizens believed that a large, permanent structure would end any further relocation efforts. So the Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, and Commissioner of Schools and Public Lands became the members of a State Capitol Commission, whose duties were to plan the construction and to sell state lands to meet the costs.

It later became apparent that this means of funding would not suffice so the legislature provided a rather small appropriation. Laboring under such restrictions, the Commission decided to use the same plans that Montana had used for their new capitol. This would defray the costs of securing original designs. C.E. Bell of Bell and Detweiler of Minneapolis, who was the architect for the Montana project, became consultant for the South Dakota building.

Work on the structure began in 1905 with C. Lepper of Minnesota laying the drift granite foundation for the left wing. Progress slowed in 1906 because the question of whether native or cheaper imported materials should be used became a political issue. Finally on June 4, 1907, the Commission awarded the contract to O.H. Olson of Stillwater, Minnesota, for his low bid of \$540,525.

In 1908 and 1909, Olson, under the supervision of State Engineer Samuel H. Lea, finished most of the exterior work. The interior work and furnishings were completed in 1910 and on June 30 of that year the dedication ceremonies occurred. Speakers praised the fiscal responsibility of the people involved in the erection of the new state capitol, for the total cost of the structure and ground was under one million dollars.

¹The other two contests occurred in 1889 and 1890. The first was for location temporarily and several cities were involved. The 1890 was for permanent locale, and Pierre, Huron, and to a lesser extent, Watertown, were involved. In 1904, Pierre and Mitchell were rivals.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1) Kingsbury, George W. History of South Dakota Territory, Vol. III, Chicago: The S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1915
- 2) Sioux Falls Argus Leader. 30 June, 1 July, 1910. Sioux Falls, South Dakota
- 3) South Dakota Historical Collections, Vol. V. Pierre: State Publishing Co., 1910

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 20 acres

UTM REFERENCES

NW corner: 1at 44°22'02" long 100°22'52"
 SE corner: 1at 44°23'49" long 100°20'28"
 NE corner: 1at 44°22'02" long 100°20'28"
 SW corner: 1at 44°23'49" long 100°20'52"

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Scott Gerloff

ORGANIZATION

Historical Preservation Center

DATE

May, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

USD-Alumni House

TELEPHONE

605-677-5315

CITY OR TOWN

Vermillion

STATE

South Dakota

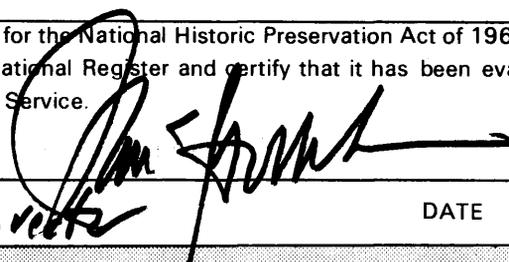
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

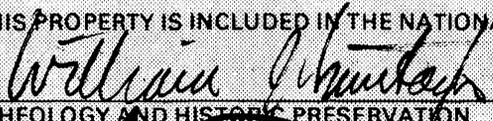
Cult & Arts Director

DATE

1-7-76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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



DATE

9/1/76

Acting DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:



DATE

8-27-76

Acting KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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SEP 1 1976

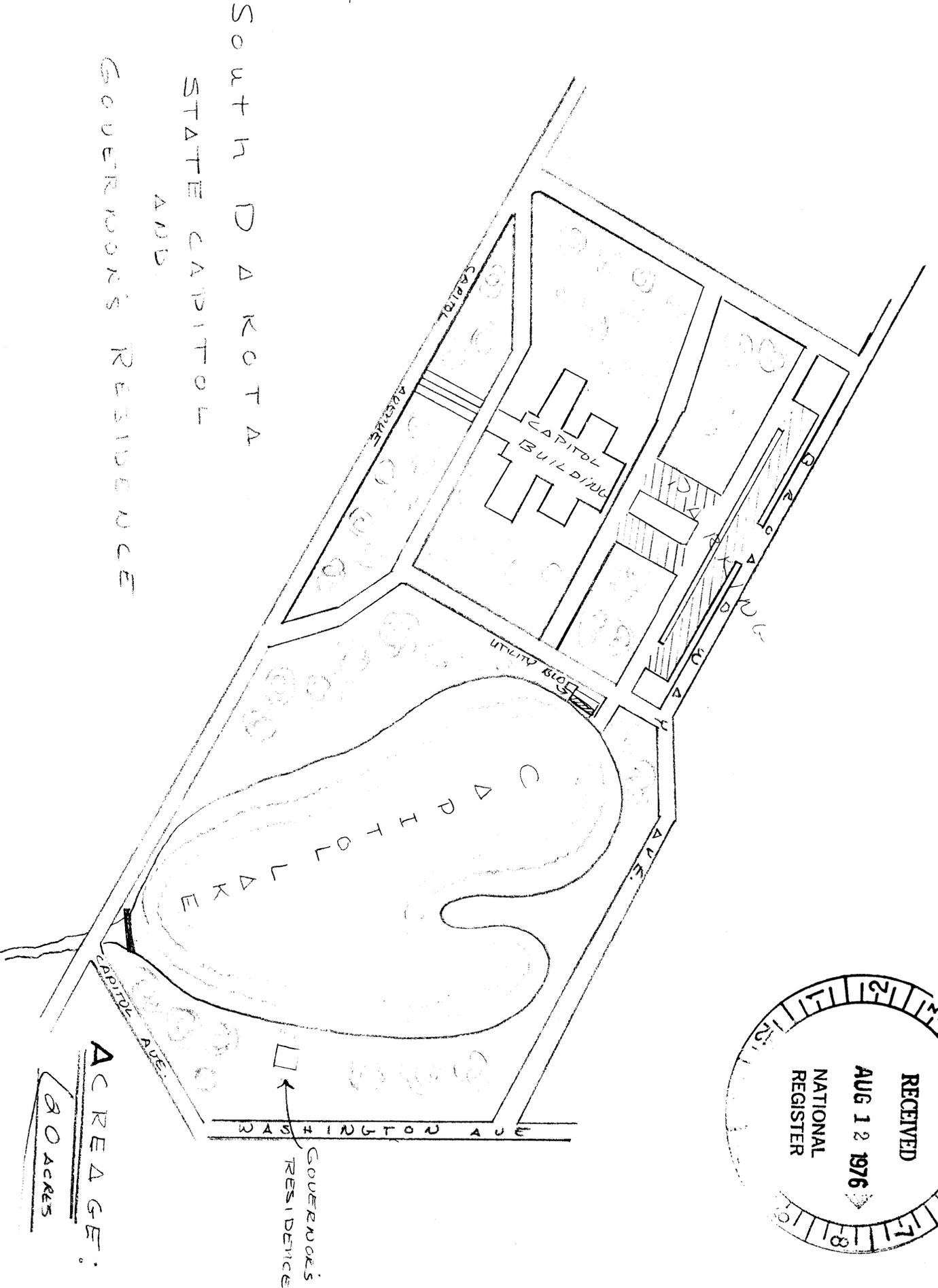
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Also located on the grounds is Capitol Lake. An artesian well supplies the lake with 92° water which keeps it from freezing over in the winter. This well originally provided natural gas for the city of Pierre. Its depth was 1,350 feet with a flow of 1,620 gallons of water a minute. But in the 1950's an explosion occurred and the gas pipes were sealed. However, there was still too much gas coming from the well so the state built a flaming fountain, which after some adjustment has remained lit.

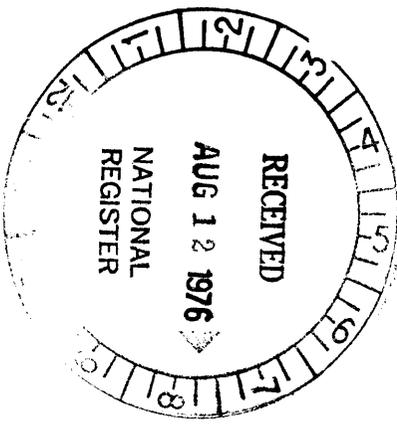
On the east side of the lake is the Governor's Residence, which is a combination of ranch house and colonial designs. The W.P.A. built the home in 1936. It is a rambling gray-colored two story house that has been the residence of every governor for the last forty years.



SOUTH DAKOTA
 STATE CAPITOL
 AND
 GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE

ACREAGE:
 80 ACRES

GOVERNOR'S
 RESIDENCE



(19)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 76001737

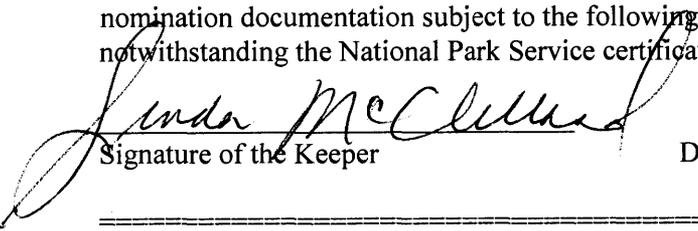
Property Name: South Dakota State Capitol

County: Hughes State: South Dakota

N/A

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

August 05, 2006
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 1: The Name of the Property is, hereby, changed to "South Dakota State Capitol" to indicate that the Governor's House, originally located on the grounds, has been removed and no longer contributes to the significance of the property.

The South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)