

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JAN 27 1987

date entered

FEB 26 1987

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

1. Name

historic Coughlin Campanile

and or common Same

2. Location

street & number Medary Avenue (900 Block)

N/A not for publication

city, town Brookings

N/A vicinity of

state South Dakota

code 046

county Brookings

code 011

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name South Dakota State University

street & number University Station

city, town Brookings

N/A vicinity of

state South Dakota 57007

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. South Dakota State University

street & number Physical Plant - Administration Building

city, town Brookings

state South Dakota 57007

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title City of Brookings

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date Summer, 1986

federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records City of Brookings

city, town Brookings

state South Dakota 57006

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Coughlin Campanile towers 165 feet above the campus of South Dakota State University, and is visible more than twenty miles away from the City of Brookings.(1) The chimes tower is constructed with red brick, concrete, steel, and Bedford stone to harmonize with the nearby Coolidge Sylvan Theatre and the Lincoln Memorial Library. The specifications of general construction describe the cut stone as Indiana, Oolitic Limestone that is hoosier silver grey.(2)

The structure measures 47 feet square at the cube-like base, including the approaches. The 30-foot bedford stone base contains four massively constructed approaches. Each cardinal point portal entrance contains eight lights. The entrances are highlighted by scroll bracketed tablets inscribed with the history of South Dakota and State College:

"Louisiana Territory purchased April 30, 1803"

"Land Grant Colleges Established July 2, 1862"

"South Dakota State College Founded February 21, 1881"

"State of South Dakota admitted February 22, 1889"

The classically inspired approaches create a solid base for the tower itself.

The tower proper measures 94 feet and is constructed with a running bond pattern of red brick. Two casement steel windows are irregularly located on each side of the structure. One hundred eighty steps lead to the balcony floor, "the highest point reached by visitors."(3) A central recessed shaft extends from the bottom of the column to the top, evoking a multiple column effect. This area creates a long, graceful line that adds to the overall height of the tower. The verticality abruptly ends with a stone trimmed band centered with a balcony constructed of stone and wrought iron. Scroll design modillions decorate and support the balcony. Casement doors are placed at the top and are framed by squares of red brick. This arrangement is a repetition of the cube motif used on the base of the structure, although there is an exchange of construction materials. This is repeated on the other sides.

Resting gracefully on the cube base is the 37 foot Bedford stone chimes tower designed as an elongated palladian window with ornate pilasters, and an ornamental motif at the top of the central arch. The palladian device is repeated on each side and creates a translucent aura for the chimes tower that houses a set of 18 electrically operated chimes. These chimes play Westminster tones from an automatic player "installed in a small room at the base of the tower. More than 100 musical selections on rolls similar to those for player pianos can be set to provide regular chimes concerts each day."(4) Today the carillon automatic player is installed in a room in the Lincoln Music Hall. The chimes tower is topped with "eight feet of copper containing four leaded glass openings through which the beacon lights will shine."(5) This 8,000,000 candle power beacon revolves at the rate of six revolutions per minute.

The steps of each approach are flanked by lamplights that flood the base of the tower with white light at night. Several floodlights create blue and white lighting that intersperses with the base lights to create a dramatic mood at nighttime for this striking landmark on the campus.

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<sup>1</sup>"Campanile Recently Built at the South Dakota State College at Brookings," The Improvement Bulletin, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 8 February, 1930.

<sup>2</sup>"Specifications of General Construction Work for a Campanile," Perkins and McWayne, Architects, Brookings, South Dakota, 1 January, 1929.

<sup>3</sup>"A Few Facts about the Coughlin Campanile and Chimes," South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota.

<sup>4</sup>"Cornerstone of Chimes Tower to be laid on Commencement Day: Campanile will be South Dakota product, President Pugsley points out," The Industrial Collegian, 4 June, 1929.

<sup>5</sup>"New Chimes Tower at College will be one of State's outstanding structures," Brookings Register, 21 March, 1929.



# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Brookings

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	4	6	7	6	4	2	0	4	9	0	9	1	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

See Continuation Sheet

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sherry DeBoer

organization City of Brookings Hist Pres Commission date November 12, 1986

street & number City Hall - Box 270 telephone 605/692-6629

city or town Brookings state South Dakota 57006

# 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 [Signature]

title Director, Office of History date 1/22/87

For NPS use only

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

[Signature] date 2/26/87  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date

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- "A Few Facts about the Coughlin Campanile and Chimes," South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota.
- "Campanile Recently Built at the South Dakota State College at Brookings," The Improvement Bulletin, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 8 February, 1930.
- "Cornerstone of Chimes Tower to be Laid on Commencement Day: Campanile will be South Dakota Product, President Pugsley point outs," The Industrial Collegian, 4 June, 1929.
- "Coughlin Accepts Plans for 167 Foot Chimes Tower and Adds Improvements," Brookings Register, 28 February, 1929.
- "Coughlin orders more attractions for the Campanile," Brookings Register, 14 March, 1929.
- "Expert Player from Factory will be in charge Inaugural Chimes Concert," Brookings Register, 5 December, 1929.
- General Campus Building File, Campanile, Negative Number 1616 (1929), Photo Lab, South Dakota State University, Pugsley Center, Brookings, South Dakota.
- Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings, American Vernacular Design: 1870-1940, Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, New York, 1985.
- "New Chimes Tower at College will be one of State Outstanding Structures," Brookings Register, 21 March, 1929.
- Personal Interview, David Erpestad, History of Architecture in South Dakota project, Minneapolis, Minnesota, November, 1986.
- Personal Interview, Dr. Norman Gambill, Professor and Head, Department of Visual Arts, South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota, October, 1986.
- Personal Interview, Bruce Grulke, R.A., Assistant Professor, Department of General Engineering, South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota, October, 1986.
- Personal Interview, Dick Waldner, Physical Plant, South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota, October, 1986.
- Plans for New Campanile at College Call for Structure 167 feet tall," Brookings Register, 21 February, 1929.

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Powers, William H., Editor, A History of South Dakota State College, South Dakota State College, Brookings, South Dakota, 21 February, 1931, pp. 100-107.

"Public Buildings: Contracts Awarded" (also includes list of 8 subcontractors used), The Improvement Bulletin, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1 June, 1929.

Sewrey, Charles L., A History of South Dakota State College: 1884-1959, South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota, 1959, pp. 64-66.

"Specifications of General Construction Work for a Campanile," Brookings, South Dakota, 1 January, 1929; Addenda to Specifications of General Construction Work for a Campanile, Brookings, South Dakota, 21 March, 1929.

Trimmer, Charles A., State Engineer, Thirteenth Biennial Report of the State Engineer: 1929-30, State Publishing Company, Pierre, South Dakota, 1 October, 1930, p. 36.

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Forming a rectangle, the boundaries of this site are imaginary lines that lie twenty feet from the north, south, east, and west facades of the campanile. The site is located within the legal description as recorded in the Register of Deeds Office, Brookings County Courthouse: North one half of the Southwest one quarter, Section 24, Township 110 North, Range 50 West (October 10, 1881), in Brookings County.