

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: REMOVAL

PROPERTY Original Slope County Courthouse
NAME:

MULTIPLE North Dakota County Courthouses TR
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NORTH DAKOTA, Slope

DATE RECEIVED: 2/16/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/03/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 85002994

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Spoke to SHPO NR reviewer Lorna Meindner who said that
action was in response to local concern that, due to alterations,
the building no longer merited listing.*

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER *[Signature]* DISCIPLINE *Historic*

TELEPHONE _____ DATE *4.3.15*

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Slope County Courthouse (original)

Name of Property

Slope County, North Dakota

County and State

Thematic Nomination of ND Courthouses

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7-8, 11, Photo Log

Page 1

When the original Slope County courthouse was listed in 1985, it was noted that the exterior changes had compromised its integrity. Since that time, the siding has been replaced with a larger lap siding and it now has a bright red metal roof. The main entry doors have been removed and framed down for a single six-panel steel door and the steps have been replaced with a concrete slab. Additionally, the last full size window was framed in to hold a smaller window and it appears several windows have been replaced. Conversations with the current Secretary of the Prairie Senior Citizens Center revealed the interior has been completely remodeled except for one small area. Due to the very low level of physical integrity, the building no longer exhibits the characteristics needed to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Lorna Meidinger, Architectural Historian
organization: State Historical Society of North Dakota
street & number: 612 E Boulevard Avenue
city or town: Bismarck state: ND zip code: 58505
e-mail: lbmeidinger@nd.gov telephone: 701-328-2089
date: December 17, 2014

Photo Log

Slope County Courthouse (original)
Amidon, Slope County, ND
Lorna Meidinger
August 24, 2014

View from the southwest
Photo 1 of 3

View from the southeast
Photo 2 of 3

View from the east-southeast
Photo 3 of 3

PRAIRIE SENIOR
CITIZENS CENTER





PRAIRIE SENIOR
CITIZENS CENTER



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

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

For NPS use only
received OCT 17 1985
date entered NOV 14 1985

Continuation sheet Item number Various Page 51

NAME: Original Slope County Courthouse

LOCATION: Second Street, bounded west by Court and east by West Streets, Amidon, North Dakota 38, Slope County 087.

OWNER: Prairie Senior Citizens, Inc., Amidon, North Dakota

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VRD: West 70' of lots 7-9, Block 6, Original Townsite of Amidon.

UTM: Zone 13, Easting = 628805, Northing = 5148710; Amidon, N. Dak. Quad.

DESCRIPTION: The original Slope County courthouse is a diminutive wood frame building situated on a block across the street from the current courthouse. It has lap siding and cornerboards, and is surmounted by a gable roof. The entry to the building is sheltered by a gabled vestibule with a projecting gabled tower with the sign "Prairie Senior Citizen's Center." The rear has a shed-roofed 22'x 18' addition. The central window on the buildings west side has been filled in. The other windows have been replaced, but remain in their original positions.

The building was moved to the site about 1915 to serve as the initial courthouse after county organization the year before. Photographic evidence from 1918 show the rear addition, but with an inconsistent siding appearance and a different roof treatment. Commissioners probably had the addition built to relieve spacial strain, as the original portion of the building is but a single room. Contact with local residents and documentary research could not confirm when the towered vestibule was added. The front addition is a result of the multiple uses to which the building was put after it ceased its role as a courthouse.

SIGNIFICANCE: Date: 1915

Architect/Builder: Unknown

The longevity of the original Slope County courthouse is impressive, but exterior changes may have compromised its architectural integrity. It is being nominated for its historical associations. The building is an architectural anomaly; no other extant structures have been identified which were temporary courthouses. Such buildings were generally occupied for only a few years because of their flimsy construction. Counties could ill afford to abandon a sound building because of the expense associated with a newer one. Thus, other facilities which were used as temporary courthouses have long since disappeared as a result of decay.

The original Slope County courthouse, however, has survived by continuing to serve a wide range of civic needs. Before being employed as a courthouse it was used as a community church. After its term as a courthouse it served as a school. Subsequent to that it fell into denominational hands and opened doors as a Presbyterian Church. After that it was converted back to its school role, only to be returned to religious use as the Amidon Church of Christ. Around 1979 it became the center for area senior citizens and remains so through the present. The entry tower is reminiscent of those used by schools and churches alike for their bells. Although the building served county government only a short time it still maintains a local notoriety as being the original courthouse: its integrity of association is firmly in place. The building has

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excellent integrity of setting, locational, and workmanship, and a marginal integrity of materials and design. Because it fits within the theme of county government and represents a rare instance of a historically common resource (the temporary courthouse) it was judged to be appropriate for inclusion in this nomination.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

"Addition Being Built on Our Court House," Slope County News, February 4, 1915, p. 1.

"Amidon Wins County Seat Contest from Sister City of Marmarth," Slope County News, March 29, 1917, p. 1.

Anderson, J. Allen

"Presbyterian Mission Work Centering in Wishek and Amidon, N.D." Fall 1916-Summer 1918, photograph collection.

"Building Boom Now on at Ambitious Amidon," August 12, 1915, p. 1.

"Building Court House Now at Amidon," Slope County News, July 22, 1915, p. 1.

"Contracts Let for Court House and Bridge," Slope County News, July 8, 1918, p. 1.

"Court House is Badly Needed," Slope County News, July 15, 1915, p. 1.

"Dyvbik Gets Contract for Court House," Slope County News, July 26, 1917, p. 1.

"Injunction Filed Against Court House and Bridge," Slope County News, August 5, 1915, p. 1.

Interviews with Robert Strommen, Slope County Auditor, June 10 and July 1, 1985.

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"To Build Court House and Several Bridges," Slope County News, May 27, 1915, p. 1.

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"Town Site Company Donates Site for Court House," Slope County News, February 11, 1915, p. 1.

"Vote for Amidon for County Seat," Slope County News, November 26, 1916, p. 1.

PRAIRIE SENIOR
CITIZENS CENTER



Original Slope County Court House
Amidon, ND

Photo credit: L. Martin Perry

Date of Photo: November 6, 1984

Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota
North Dakota Heritage Center
Capitol Grounds
Bismarck, ND 58505

Photo from southeast

Photo 20 of 26

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 _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name North Dakota County Courthouses TR
State North Dakota

Nomination/Type of Review _____ Date/Signature _____

- 11. Logan County Courthouse **Substantive Review** Keeper Beth Grosvenor 11/14/85
Attest _____
- 12. Former McLean County Courthouse **Substantive Review** Keeper Beth Grosvenor 11/14/85
Attest _____
- 13. McLean County Courthouse **Substantive Review** Keeper Beth Grosvenor 11/14/85
Attest _____
- 14. Ransom County Courthouse **Substantive Review** Keeper [Signature] 11/14/85
Attest _____
- 15. Renville County Courthouse **Substantive Review** Keeper [Signature] 11/23/85
Attest _____
- 16. Sheridan County Courthouse **Substantive Review** Keeper [Signature] 11/28/85
Attest _____
- 17. Former Sioux County Courthouse **Substantive Review** Keeper Beth Grosvenor 11/14/85
Attest _____
- 18. Slope County Courthouse **Substantive Review** Keeper _____
Attest _____
- 19. Original Slope County Courthouse **Substantive Review** Keeper Beth Grosvenor 11/14/85
Attest _____
- 20. Stark County Courthouse **Substantive Review** Keeper [Signature] 11/28/85
Attest _____

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Page 53

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Missing Core Documentation

| Property Name | County, State | Reference Number |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Original Slope County Courthouse | Slope, ND | 85002994 |

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

Nomination Form

Photographs

USGS Map

National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

Rec#
85002994

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Original Slope County Courthouse (North
Dakota County Courthouses TR)
Slope County
NORTH DAKOTA

Substantive Review

Working No. OCT 17 1985
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/85
Date Due: 11/14/85 - 12/1/85
Action: ACCEPT 11-14-85
RETURN
REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria Accept - A
Reviewer K. S. ...
Discipline Historic
Date 11/14/85
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

| | | | |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
| | Public Acquisition | Accessible | |

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

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

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 ___ national ___ state ___ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

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National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
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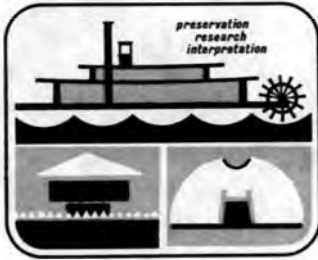
Slope Saga, (Bowman: Bowman County Pioneer, 1976).

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State Historical Society

of North Dakota (State Historical Board)

North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck, N.D. 58505

Telephone 701-224-2666

October 11, 1985

Ms. Carol Shull
Keeper of the National Register
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
United States Department of the Interior
440 G Street - Pension Building
DOI
W434
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find one completed and documented form nominating one property to the National Register of Historic Places. The property is identified as follows:

North Dakota County Courthouses (Thematic)

The property have been reviewed by the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Review Board, who after reviewing the historical, architectural, and archeological facts pertaining to the property and after applying the criteria for eligibility to it, agreed that the criteria were met and recommended that the property be nominated.

The property owners have been notified by letter of the proposed nomination action and invited to comment.

Please find enclosed two maps which should accompany the recently submitted North Dakota State University District nomination. Thank you for adding them to the submission.

If you have any questions about this nomination please feel free to contact Mr. Marty Perry, Architectural Historian, at 224-2672 at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Marty Perry
for James E. Sperry
State Historic Preservation Officer
(North Dakota)

MP/je
Enclosures

OCT 17 1985

12-19-84

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES DATA COLLECTION FORM

| | | | |
|---------|--------|---|---|
| State | County | | |
| Surname | | | |
| Date | List | | |
| Start | Stop | S | T |

*01. Reference Number _____ (8) †01a. Control No. _____ (10)

*02. Resource Name
SLOPE COUNTY COURTHOUSE _____ (120)

†03. Other Name/Site Number _____ (120)

**04. Address/Boundary
SECOND ST _____ (120)

*05. City AMIDON _____ (36) †05a. Vicinity _____ 06. Restricted Address _____

*07. State Code ND *08. County Code 087 - SLOPE

†09. Ownership: Private Public (Local) Public (State) Public (Federal)

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| *10. Resource Type <u>B</u> (B, D, S, U, O) | †11. No. of Contributing Buildings _____ | Non-contributing Buildings _____ |
| | Sites _____ | Sites _____ |
| | Structures _____ | Structures _____ |
| | Objects _____ | Objects _____ |

†12. Federal Agency _____

... should be left blank.

12-19-84

+01. Reference Number _____ (8)

*13. Nom/Det Type M

+14. Multiple Name
NORTH DAKOTA COUNTY COURTHOUSES TR

(120)

*15. Nominator
 State Federal Local Other

+16. Nom. Name/Designations

(26)

+17. NPS Park Name _____

*18. New Certification _____

*18a. Certification Date
 / /
 / /
 / /

+19. Current Certification
 Primary: _____
 Other: _____

+19a. Other Certification Dates
 / /
 / /
 / /
 / /
 / /
 / /
 / /
 / /

+ This field should be left blank.
+ Field may be left blank if information is not given.
+ [unclear] data element; field must be filled in.

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 12-19-84 * † 20/20a. Historic | Function/Subfunction Codes 04_10451_1_1_1_1_1_1_1_1_1 | †† 22. Construction Materials Foundation Roof Walls Other 01 01 501 011 |
| * † 21/21a. Current | 04_10451_1_1_1_1_1_1_1_1_1 | *24. Level of Significance NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ST <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IO IN |
| †23. Arch Style 011_1_ | †23a. Other Description ----- | (28) |
| *25. Applicable Criteria <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D | †25a. Significant Person's Name ----- | (26) |
| *27. Areas of Significance 03012501_1_1_1_1_1_1_1_1 | *28. Periods of Significance 041_1_1_1_1_1_1_1_1 | |
| †29. Circa _ _ _ | †29a. Specific Significant Years 1917 --- --- | 30. Cultural Affiliation ----- ----- ----- |
| †31. Architect/Builder/Engineer/Designer | LEUM, G. A. MEINERKE BROS. & DYURBEK, EDWARD | |

+ This field should be left blank.
 * Mandatory data element that must be completed.
 † Data element that may be left blank if information is not given.
 †† Mandatory data element that must be completed in the first occurrence in each field of the building sections.

12-19-84 +01. Reference Number -----

*32. Other Documentation NR DOE NHL LCS

32a. HAER/No. -----

32b. HABS/No. -----

*33. Acreage ----- 3.9 -----

*34. UTM Coordinates

N/ 13116281670115114818301

C/ -----

E/ -----

G/ -----

I/ -----

K/ -----

M/ -----

O/ -----

Q/ -----

S/ -----

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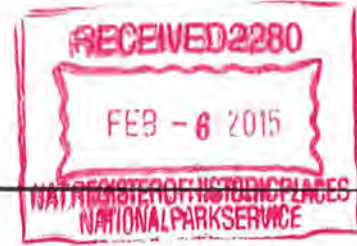
* This field should be left blank.

* Mandatory data element; field must be filled in.



**STATE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
OF NORTH DAKOTA**

85002994



Jack Dalrymple
Governor of North Dakota

February 5, 2015

**North Dakota
State Historical Board**

Calvin Grinnell
New Town - President

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street NW (MS 2280)
Washington DC 20005

A. Ruric Todd III
*Jamestown - Vice
President*

Dear Mr. Loether,

Margaret Puetz
Bismarck - Secretary

Enclosed please find one request for removal of a greatly altered building from the National Register of Historic Places. Our State Historic Preservation Review Board reviewed the request and voted approval on January 30, 2015.

Albert I. Berger
Grand Forks

Gereld Gertholz
Valley City

Though I am saddened by the loss of this historic North Dakota property, we will continue to seek out new properties to represent our history in the National Register.

Diane K. Larson
Bismarck

Sincerely,

Chester E. Nelson, Jr.
Bismarck

Sara Otte Coleman
*Director
Tourism Division*

Claudia J. Berg
State Historic Preservation Officer
(North Dakota)

Kelly Schmidt
State Treasurer

Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State

Mark Zimmerman
*Director
Parks and Recreation
Department*

Grant Levi
*Director
Department of
Transportation*

Claudia J. Berg
Director

*Accredited by the
American Alliance
of Museums since 1986*