

DEC 11 1987

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1. NAME: Longfellow Grade School
2. LOCATION: 1629 Roosevelt Avenue, Butte, MT 59701
3. CLASSIFICATION: Category--building
Ownership--public
Public Acquisition--N/A
Status--occupied
Accessible--yes
Present Use--educational
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY: Butte School District Number 1
111 North Montana
Butte, MT 59701
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Clerk and Recorder's Office
Butte-Silver Bow Courthouse
Butte, MT 59701
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS: Suburban Grade Schools of Butte
7. DESCRIPTION: Condition--good; altered; original site

The Longfellow Grade School is a one-story U-shaped Collegiate Gothic-style structure with a flat roof and concrete foundation. The original 1917 building is polychromated brick veneer with sandstone and white terra cotta trim. The north facade has the main entrance with a recessed entry flanked by towers with mock-crenelated towers. The west tower contains three 4/4 double-hung windows, one in each bay of the tower. Within the entry recession are two wooden doors separated by a 6 light window. A Tudor arch with carved sandstone detailing and a panel with the name "Longfellow School" marks the entry. Above the arch are four 4/4 double-hung windows. Above that are four sandstone quatrefoils topped with a crenellation containing two openings. The north facade is divided symmetrically into bays by brick pilaster strips. Within the bays closest to the entry are two sets of three 6/6 double-hung windows surrounded by sandstone trim. Above each set of three windows are repeating sandstone panels containing carved stone detailing. White terra cotta and diamond-shaped brick detailing and raised parapet trim characterize the bays at the east and west end of the north facade. The east and west facades of the 1917 portion of the school have two sets of six 6/6-light double hung windows with the same sandstone brick detailing as the north facade. A tall brick chimney extends from the structure which has two white terra cotta bands, white terra cotta diamond-shaped detailing and a concrete cap.

A gymnasium was built in the original 1917 structure on the south of the central facade behind the main entry. This was damaged by fire in 1937 and rebuilt that year. New additions were also added to the east and west extensions of the original building in 1949 and 1957. Apparently, further extensions were built from these additions. The additions are wood-frame with brick veneer and have flat roofs and concrete stops with iron railings. Windows are 9-lights in sets of two, 6-lights and 3-lights in the earlier addition and 12-lights in sets of three and 6-lights in the newest addition, replicating the original 6/6 windows on the north facade.

Although the original 1917 structure has new rear additions, the school has sustained few other visible alterations. Constructed to be

compatible to the original building, the additions do not detract from the historic structure which was designed to have additions constructed in the rear. The 1917 school retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

8. SIGNIFICANCE:

Areas of Significance; architecture, suburban
development

Specific dates: 1917

Architect: Wellington Smith

The Longfellow Grade School's significance is both historical and architectural because the building reflects the early suburbanization of Butte and is an intact example of the Collegiate Gothic style. Platted in 1907, the Gilman Addition received its biggest growth in the 1910s when Butte reached its peak in population. Sometime prior to 1916, a streetcar line connected the neighborhood with the central city which further stimulated construction. Until 1917, the area had no school for its children. However, as neighborhoods grew throughout Butte's suburbs, the Butte School District #1 embarked upon a building program. One of the schools erected in 1917 was the Longfellow Grade School in the Gilman Addition. Costing \$55,000, the Longfellow was an "exact duplicate" to the Hawthorne Grade School, also constructed in 1917 in the Lake Avoca region. Both schools contained six rooms in a U-shape with all of the rooms built on the outer walls for better ventilation and illumination. Each contained a gymnasium 40X60 feet with steel lockers, showers, baths and indoor tracks. Students occupied the structure in September, 1917.

With its crenelated parapet wall, brick detailing, multipaned windows and Tudor arch entrance flanked by towers, the Longfellow School is a good example of Collegiate Gothic architecture. Collegiate Gothic arose as part of the Gothic Revival which often characterized suburban development. Used mainly for public buildings, such as schools, the style shaped campuses such as Princeton University and the University of Pennsylvania.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: See section 9 of cover form

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA: Acreage--1.75

Quadrangle--Butte South

Quad Scale--1:62,500

UTM References--12/382650/5092680

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Lots 27-52, Block 14 of Gilman Addition, Butte-Silver Bow, Montana

T3N;R7W SE 1/4 section 30

Roosevelt Ave.

Wynne Ave.

Mantle Ave.

LONGFELLOW
SCHOOL

1917

1937
gym

1957
addition

1949
addition

NORTH

