

Utah State Historical Society

Property Type:

Historic Preservation Research Office

Site No. _____

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: 75 W. 100 South
 Santaquin, Utah County, Utah UTM:12 433920 4424940

Name of Structure: Santaquin Junior High School T. R. S.

Present Owner: Santaquin City Corporation
 68 E. Main Street

Owner Address: Santaquin, Utah 84655

Year Built (Tax Record): Effective Age: Tax #: 09-065-08
 Legal Description Kind of Building:

Beginning 7.5 rods W of NE corner of Block 8 Plat A Santaquin Townsite Survey; thence W 127 feet, S 14 rods, E 30.25 feet, N 1 rod, E 96.5 feet, N 13 rods to point of beginning. Less than one acre.

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Nebo School District Construction Date: 1935 Demolition Date:

Original Use: educational--school Present Use: government

Building Condition: Integrity: Preliminary Evaluation: Final Register Status:

Excellent Site Unaltered Significant Not of the National Landmark District
 Good Ruins Minor Alterations Contributory Historic Period National Register Multi-Resource
 Deteriorated Major Alterations Not Contributory State Register Thematic

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography: Date of Slides: 1983 Slide No.: Date of Photographs: 1983 Photo No.:

Views: Front Side Rear Other Views: Front Side Rear Other

Research Sources:

Abstract of Title Sanborn Maps Newspapers U of U Library
 Plat Records/Map City Directories Utah State Historical Society BYU Library
 Tax Card & Photo Biographical Encyclopedias Personal Interviews USU Library
 Building Permit Obituary Index LDS Church Archives SLC Library
 Sewer Permit County & City Histories LDS Genealogical Society Other

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

Twenty-first Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Utah for the Biennial Period Ending June 30, 1936. n.p., 1936.

Architect/Builder: unknown

Building Materials: brick

Building Type/Style: PWA Moderne

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

This 2-story brick school is a good example of the abstract classicism associated with the PWA Moderne architectural style. The composition of the building's principal facade is tripartite and symmetrical. The center section dominates and projects slightly forward. The entrance is placed centrally and includes a double door and a large transom. The windows are divided into vertical panels by pilasters and the upper and lower openings are separated by louvered spandrels. The roof is flat and there is a corbelled frieze consisting of pointed geometric figures. There have been c.1950-1960 additions to the building. These additions occur to the rear and side and are not compatible with the original design. They do not, however, infringe upon the integrity of the building and therefore are not seen to threaten the structure's eligibility.

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: 1935

Built in 1935, the Santaquin Junior High School is part of the Public Works Buildings Thematic Resources nomination and is significant because it helps document the impact of New Deal programs in Utah, which was one of the states that the Great Depression of the 1930s most severely affected. In 1933 Utah had an unemployment rate of 36 percent, the fourth highest in the country, and for the period 1932-1940 Utah's unemployment rate averaged 25 percent. Because the depression hit Utah so hard, federal programs were extensive in the state. Overall, per capita federal spending in Utah during the 1930s was 9th among the 48 states, and the percentage of workers on federal work projects was far above the national average. Building programs were of great importance. During the 1930s virtually every public building constructed in Utah, including county courthouses, city halls, fire stations, national guard armories, public school buildings, and a variety of others, were built under federal programs by one of several agencies, including the Civil Works Administration (CWA), the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), the National Youth Administration (NYA), the Works Progress Administration (WPA), or the Public Works Administration (PWA), and almost without exception none of the buildings would have been built when they were without the assistance of the federal government.

The Santaquin Junior High School was one of 233 public works buildings identified in Utah that were built during the 1930s and early 1940s. Only 130 of those 233 buildings are known to remain today and retain their historic integrity. Of the 233, 107 were public school buildings, 55 of which remain. In Utah County 33 buildings were known to have been constructed, 23 of which remain.

This school was built in 1935 as a Public Works Administration (PWA) project.