

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

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



**1. Name**

historic Conrad City Hall

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 15 4th Ave SW \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Conrad \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district First

state Montana code 30 county Pondera code 073

**3. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name City of Conrad

street & number 15 4th Ave SW

city, town Conrad \_\_\_ vicinity of state Montana

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pondera County Courthouse, Book of Deeds

street & number 4th Ave SW

city, town Conrad state Montana

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" 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 (interior)		

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

The Conrad City Hall is of a frame construction with a brick veneer. It appears to be structurally sound and in good condition. The building was constructed in 1916 and the exterior brick was fired locally. The brick plant operated in the early 1900's in the area but is no longer in existence. The only exterior alterations made to the building are 1) a police "shack" lean-to at the back of the building, 2) the original front entrance doors have been replaced with aluminum framed doors and windows 3) new signage (City Water Office & City Library) has been added above the front entrance 4) the original lights on either side of the front entrance have been removed.

The front facade is adorned in a two color brick scheme with raised pilasters separating the facade into bays. The exterior brick is a fired brick of light tan color with a darker brick used to highlight ornamental details. The dark brick highlights pilaster bases and capitals, window arch keystones, cornice details, and decorative insets between windows. The pilasters are spaced approximately twelve feet on center and are used to separate windows and the front entrance. The first floor windows are a wood sash double-hung window with mullions dividing glass panes. The second story windows are arched wood sash windows with mullions separating window panes. The front entrance doors have a flat arch of dark brick with a brick keystone above them. The windows have a dark brick sill running beneath them.

Inside, the top floor is occupied by a large auditorium, complete with stage and changing rooms and a viewing balcony. Also on the top floor are two small offices and a restroom. The balcony (or mezzanine) is not original to the building and was added later (date unknown).

The main floor currently houses the city council chambers, the city library, and city offices. Only the rooms occupied by the city offices have been altered, with a false ceiling and room divider. In the back of the building, there is what used to serve as the county/city jail. It is unaltered, used now for storage.

The basement is an area for the heating plant and storage.

# 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"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** erected in 1916 **Builder/Architect**

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Criteria A

The Conrad City Hall is the oldest governmental building still standing in Pondera County. It pre-dates the County Courthouse by twenty years.

The building was constructed with an architectural style and with native brick building materials that typified all the downtown buildings erected in Conrad during the period. Only three other buildings of that style-workmanship remain. Hence, the City Hall is architecturally important as representative of the character and flavor of a past period.

The city Hall has held an historically significant place in social, political, and governmental activities of the region. The first county jail was in this building. Prior to construction of the county courthouse, the traveling district judge held court in the auditorium above city hall. The first performing theatre and, later (during the 1930's and 1940's), the first cinema were held in the upstairs auditorium. As well, the City of Conrad has done business out of the building continuously for 64 years. The auditorium is famous locally for the many poultry exhibitions that were held there in the early years.

The City Hall was built as a direct result of the Conrad Woman's Club taking it on as their "pet project" and seeing the financing and other details through.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Pondera, Pondera History Association, 1968. Chapter 4

# 10. Geographical Data

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

Acreege of nominated property 0.2a.

Quadrangle name Conrad, Montana

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A	<u>12</u>	<u>4296010</u>	<u>53353160</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
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D			
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E			
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F			
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G			
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H			
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### Verbal boundary description and justification

E50', Lots 11,12,13, Block 6, Conrad Townsite

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patrick Landon, Executive Director

organization Golden Triangle Area Development Corp. date July 12, 1979

street & number 704 S. Main St. telephone 278-3962

city or town Conrad state Montana

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

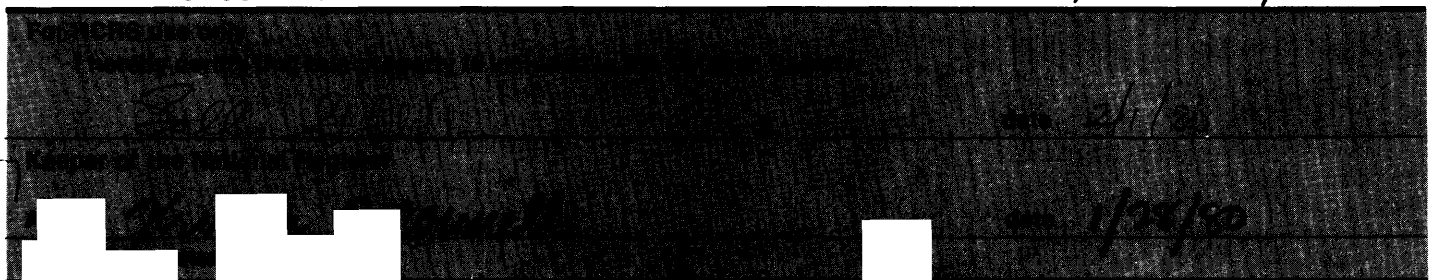
national  state  local

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Ednie Kraus for Ker Harte

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 9-10-79



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

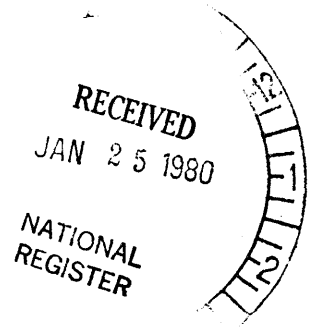
FOR HCRS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	FEB 1 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET Conrad City Hall ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Verbal Boundary description and justification:

E50', Lots 11,12,13, Block 6, Conrad Townsite /Change to:

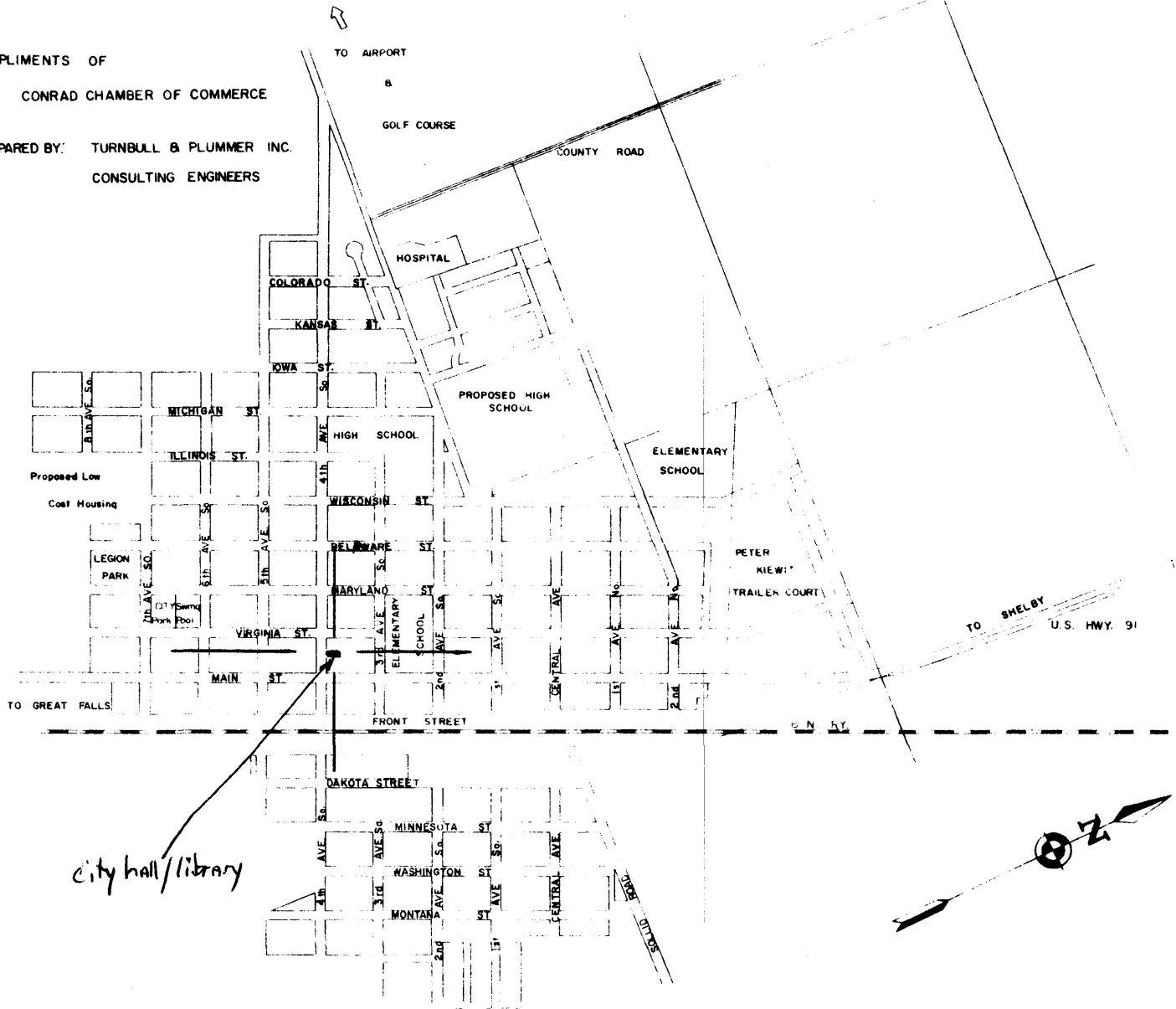
The East 50' of Lots 11,12,13, Block 6, Conrad Townsite on the west side of the alley of Block 6(the first block of 4th Ave. SW), Conrad, Montana.



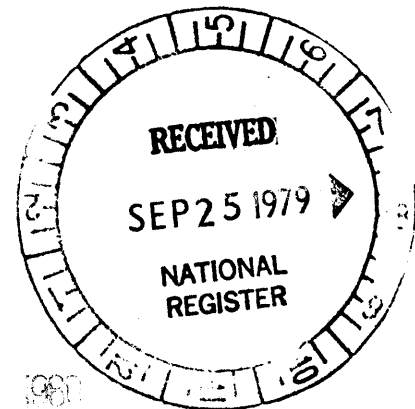
COMPLIMENTS OF

CONRAD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PREPARED BY: TURNBULL & PLUMMER INC.  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS



CITY of CONRAD



FEB 1 1980