

3072

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

DEC 01 1988

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Model School, St. Cloud State Normal School
other names/site number Riverview Hall

2. Location

street & number 826 First Ave. South not for publication N/A
city, town St. Cloud vicinity N/A
state Minnesota code MN county Stearns code 145 zip code 56301

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Nina M. Archabal 11/22/88
Signature of certifying official Nina M. Archabal Date
Minnesota State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau Minnesota Historical Society

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:) _____

Alma Byers Entered in the National Register 12/29/88

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
EDUCATION/college

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
EDUCATION/college

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)GEORGIAN REVIVAL

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation GRANITE
walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Built in 1913, the St. Cloud State Model School is a 2½-story, buff-colored, common bond brick building. While not a pure example of Georgian Revival architecture, the building is mildly representative of the style as seen in its formal arrangement, symmetrical fenestration and composition, and enrichment through classical detail. It is located on the east edge of St. Cloud State University, some 75 feet above the Mississippi River. The Model School occupies a prominent position on the campus, sited atop a small hill surrounded by predominantly mid- to late-1900s academic buildings.

The Model School is constructed on a granite foundation with the half-story built just above grade. The first seven feet of bricks project out six inches from the wall surface; each fifth row of stretchers is raised slightly to create a continuous banding effect around the entire building. Double hung 1/1 sash windows light the half-story, and a granite water table caps the brick.

The east and west elevations of each pavilion of the H-shaped building are identical. Corner pilasters which extend for the height of the first and second floors accent each gable. An elaborate metal cornice with return eaves is highlighted by modillions and dentils that encircle the pavilions. Gable walls are pierced by two narrow, single pane, aluminum frame windows on each floor; an oculus trimmed with four granite stones and a circular pattern of brick is located in the tympanum. All windows on the upper floors have very slight segmental arches; original 6/1 double hung sash were replaced in 1966 with double pane, aluminum frame openings.

The north and south walls are identical except the south elevation has a wide arched entry (altered at an unknown date) with a granite keystone. Flanking the entrance are five tall, rectangular windows. The same fenestration is repeated on the top floor. Small hipped dormers project from the north and south roof pitches.

The west-facing facade is emphasized by a pedimented projecting pavilion made of dark gray granite. An entrance with altered sidelights is flanked by a pair of Doric columns. Multiple windows light the main and second floors.

The east (rear) elevation features two aluminum and glass doors with transoms and sidelights. Covering the entrances are non-original porches supported by

See continuation sheet

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Model School, St. Cloud State Normal School, St. Cloud, Stearns Co., MN

Section number 7 Page 1

wooden posts. Like the west facade, the east wall is pierced by numerous windows on each floor to create a nearly-balanced appearance.

Dominating the roof is a tall cupola featuring a square wooden base which supports four Tuscan columns surrounding semicircular louvered panels and a four-sided bell cast tower. Three hipped dormers project from the east and west roof.

The Model School's interior remains largely unaltered. Centered on the main floor is a double staircase with an oak balustrade. The 11½'-high central corridor leads to offices and has terrazzo floors (which replaced original wood at an unknown date), wood columns and pilasters, and plaster cornices. Classrooms located on both floors of the pavilions have maple floors and 12'-high ceilings.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
EDUCATION

Period of Significance
1913-1938

Significant Dates
1913

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Johnston, Clarence H., Sr., architect

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The St. Cloud State Model School is historically significant in the context of higher education in Minnesota as the earliest example of a teacher-training facility in the state. For nearly 120 years the school in St. Cloud has provided student teachers with optimum conditions and facilities in which to practice, and since 1913 the Model School Building has served as the site for educating thousands of students who became teachers within the public school system.

St. Cloud State University opened as the Third State Normal School in September 1869, eleven years after Minnesota's first legislature authorized the creation of academies for higher education. St. Cloud State's Normal School was preceded by Winona in 1860 and Mankato in 1868, and by 1913 the state had a total of six schools (the other three were in Moorhead, Duluth, and Bemidji). The development of St. Cloud's normal school system paralleled the unprecedented growth of the nation's higher education institutions, particularly public colleges, during the period from 1860 to 1917.

From the day it opened, the Third State Normal School at St. Cloud strongly emphasized teacher training in its educational program. Between 1869-1874 the first campus building, the Stearns House, provided space on the second floor for a "laboratory school" in which prospective students could practice their teaching skills. The Normal School's first students consisted of 40 women and 10 men. A group of 70 pupils primarily from the city of St. Cloud (who had to pay an annual tuition of sixteen dollars and buy their own textbooks and supplies) were divided into a primary or intermediate department within the Model School. In 1874 the Model School moved into the recently-completed Old Main Hall, remaining there until 1906 when a new Model School was built to accommodate increasing enrollment. By 1911 this building had become too small and the school was lobbying for funds to construct yet another model school (none of the earlier model school facilities are extant).

Just eleven years following its inception, St. Cloud employed seven faculty members and had graduated twenty students from its fledgling program. By 1895,

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Model School, St. Cloud State Normal School, St. Cloud, Stearns Co., MN

Section number 8 Page 1

fifty-two teachers had successfully completed their training at the school. Due to overcrowding, in 1908 the State Normal School Board limited attendance at St. Cloud to 500. But only four years later, the school had a total enrollment of nearly 1,100 students.

The typical student at St. Cloud during the early 1900s followed a curriculum that focused on a variety of basic classes that prepared him/her to become an elementary school teacher. Beginning with the 1908-1909 academic year, the State Normal School Board adopted a new standardized course of study for all the schools. In order to receive the school's diploma students were required to take classes in the following subjects:

Algebra I, II, III	History, U.S. I, II, III
Arithmetic I, II, III	History, General I, II, III
Botany I, II	History, English I
Chemistry I, II	Latin I-XI
Civics I, II, III	Literature I, II, III, IV
Drawing I, II, III	Manual Training I, II, III
Education:	Music I, II, III
History of I, II	Physics I, II, III
Theory of I, II	Physiography I
Practice of I, II, III	Physiology I
School Management $\frac{1}{2}$	Psychology I, II
Elementary Science I	Reading and Expression I, II, III, IV
English Composition I, II	Rhetoric I
Geography I, II, III, IV	Social Science I
Geometry I, II, III	Themes I
Grammar I, II, III, IV	Zoology I, II

In 1917 college-level courses were introduced to Minnesota's normal schools, and entering students were required to have a high school diploma. Four years later the legislature officially renamed the state normal schools as "state teachers' colleges," granting them the authority to confer bachelors' degrees. All of the schools except Duluth (which became part of the University of Minnesota in 1947) were renamed "state colleges" in 1957; they became "state universities" in 1975.

All of Minnesota's normal schools originated with the purpose of training school teachers. Students who agreed to teach in the state for a minimum of two years following graduation received a free education, a policy that continued at least until 1934. In the early 1900s most normal school activity was focused around one "Main" building which had multiple functions such as providing classroom and office space, practice teaching rooms, and sometimes dormitory space for students and faculty. Only two original main buildings remain today among the state normal schools - at Duluth (1901, NRHP) and Bemidji (1919). St. Cloud's Old Main was razed in 1950. After the turn of the century when student enrollment dramatically increased, schools were

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Model School, St. Cloud State Normal School, St. Cloud, Stearns Co., MN

Section number 8 Page 2

forced to build additional structures, thereby eliminating the single-building campus. Because of the focus on teacher training, many state normal schools erected new model school buildings. Four of these are extant at St. Cloud (1911), Winona (1916), Duluth (1926, NRHP), and Moorhead (1932). Construction of St. Cloud's Model School resulted from \$60,000 in legislative funds secured by Senator J.D. Sullivan. Shortly after it was completed, the Model School received praise from Isabel Lawrence, president of St. Cloud State from 1915-1916 and a teacher at the institution since 1879:

This building is one of the finest school buildings in the United States. It is a continual object lesson to the normal school students of the right environment for children. The temperature is right. There is fresh air. The health of the pupils testifies to the value of hygienic surroundings. The building is an example of beauty and good taste in architecture and furnishings, of what should daily surround children if there is to be cultivation of their sense of beauty and order. The grounds give ample opportunity for playground apparatus and for gardening (Cates 1968, p. 145).

Such compliments were well deserved for the Model School, because it represented an extension of the continued commitment to teacher training by the St. Cloud school. More significantly, the Model School served as a prototype for all other laboratory schools that were constructed later in Minnesota. It is the earliest of the four extant examples, and unlike other Model Schools which had a variety of functions, St. Cloud's building was exclusively used until the early 1960s as a laboratory setting where prospective instructors taught students from the first through the sixth grades.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Cates, Edwin H. A Centennial History of St. Cloud State College. Minneapolis: Dillon Press, 1968.

DeLestry's Western Magazine. March, 1899.

Murphy, Patricia. The Public Buildings of the State of Minnesota: An Architectural Heritage. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society, 1986.

Turner, Paul V. Campus: An American Planning Tradition. Cambridge, MA.: The Architectural History Foundation, M.I.T. Press, 1984.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than one

UTM References

A

1	5
---	---

4	1	0	3	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

5	0	4	4	6	2	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary description of the Model School is shown as the solid black line on the accompanying map entitled "Model School, St. Cloud State Normal School, St. Cloud, Stearns Co., MN Boundary Map" 1988, and drawn at a scale of 50 feet to the inch.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property includes the parcel of school property that has historically been associated with the Model School at St. Cloud State University.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

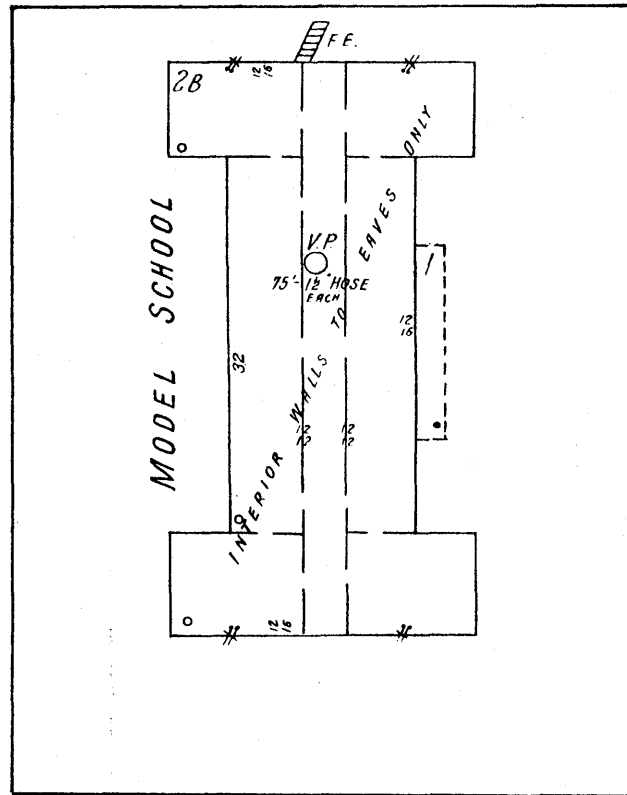
name/title Michael Koop
organization N/A date June 1988
street & number 615 Jackson St. NE telephone 612-623-8356
city or town Minneapolis state MN zip code 55413

8TH ST. S.
↑

1st. Ave.S.

6" W. PIPE

800



Model School
St. Cloud State Normal School
St. Cloud, Stearns Co., MN
Boundary Map 1988
1 inch = 50 feet

Scale of Feet

