

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Wedge, Lucille, "Once a Showplace" in THE RAPID CITY SUNDAY JOURNAL. (South Dakota)  
April 11, 1965.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	13	6143710	48651710	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Scott Gerloff, Historic Preservation Assistant II

ORGANIZATION

Historical Preservation Center

DATE

January 1976

STREET & NUMBER

USD Alumni House

TELEPHONE

605/677-5314

CITY OR TOWN

Vermillion

STATE

South Dakota

# 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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*John J. Little*

TITLE

Director, Historical Preservation Center

DATE

8 Oct 76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

CHIEF

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

4/11/77

ATTEST:

*Charles A. ...*

DATE

3-18-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

# 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"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1800-1899, 1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

There are few nineteenth century hotels remaining in South Dakota, especially of the clapboard type. In fact, the Harney Peak Hotel of Hill City may be the last example of this kind that remains. Not only is the building significant architecturally but it is one of the former showplace hotels in the Black Hills during the gold rush and territorial years. For these reasons and because the building remains in such a well preserved condition, it should be listed in the National Register.

The early history of the hotel is sketchy because of lack of records, but apparently a man named McClure was its first operator. During the early 1890's, it became one of the Black Hills' showplaces because the railroad arrived here in 1891 and the big tin strike allowed the English Harney Peak Company to employ over four hundred people. Zachary Taylor operated the hotel during 1902 when fire threatened the establishment.

In 1912 the Pahasapa Mining Company sold the hotel to Eugene Little for \$5,000. He ran it for twenty-two years. R. L. Hawkridge purchased the inn in 1934 and Mrs. Evelyn Rowdin, in 1940. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were the last owners until the Harney Peak Company bought it.

Harney Peak Hotel has served guests for over eighty-eight years, including 200 tin miners in the 1890's and CCC employees in the '30's. Today, the hotel is gradually being turned into a rooming house, but the most important aspect is that it remains exteriorly much as it did in 1888.

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The location of Harney Peak Hotel is Hill City which is in the central Black Hills. It has remained on this corner lot overlooking the town's main street since its construction in 1888. The two story structure has retained almost all of its original exterior appearance.

The outer walls consist of brown painted clapboard with green trim which is reminiscent of the color schemes used during the later nineteenth century. Because of its U-shaped design, there is a courtyard that several back doors and stairways lead to. The reason for the courtyard was because the pump out back was the hotel's main water supply. The front facade's most attractive feature is a two story veranda with square supports and an X-patterned railing. Most of the windows are rectangular in shape, have lintel and slipsill surrounds, and are double hung with either two or four sash division. The openings on each side of the door are grouped in threes. The entrance is a corner door with double doors and transom. The front facade features three other entrances including a door to the second story balcony which is covered by a gable roof.

The only major changes are the use of tin on the roof and concrete blocks as supports for the veranda. Also, the present owners have been remodeling some of the fifty rooms and portions of the lobby and dining area. However, the hotel still conveys more of what a nineteenth century clapboard hotel on the western frontier looked like than any other in South Dakota.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	NOV 2 1976
DATE ENTERED	APR 11 1977

**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  Harney Peak Hotel

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Hill City

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

2nd

STATE

South Dakota

CODE  
046

COUNTY  
Pennington

CODE  
103

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Harney Peak Company (Terrance Crow/Waldtraut Matush, Partnership)

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 675

CITY, TOWN

Hill City

VICINITY OF

STATE

South Dakota

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Pennington County Courthouse--Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

301 St. Joseph Street

CITY, TOWN

Rapid City

STATE

South Dakota

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

South Dakota Historic Sites Survey

DATE

October 1975

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Historical Preservation Center

CITY, TOWN

Vermillion

STATE

South Dakota