

PH 0507857

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 22 1977
DATE ENTERED JAN 18 1978

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 Elsinore White Rock School House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

25 South 100 East

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Elsinore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

01

STATE

Utah

CODE

049

COUNTY

Sevier

CODE

041

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input 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 Elsinore Town Corporation

STREET & NUMBER

25 South 100 East

CITY, TOWN

Elsinore

VICINITY OF

STATE

Utah

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Sevier County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

200 North Main

CITY, TOWN

Richfield

STATE

Utah

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Utah Historic Sites Survey

DATE

August 1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Utah State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Salt Lake City

STATE

Utah

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Elsinore White Rock School of native white limestone is a two and a half story building with a full-height basement half out of the ground. The plan is a simple 35 ft. by 76 ft. rectangle divided roughly into thirds with classrooms at each end of the rectangle and foyer, closets and restrooms in the middle third. A central entrance bay projects 14 ft. and contains the wide stairway. The entrance gable faces the street and is topped by a square bellfry. The deep pediment of the gable matches the depth of the roof overhang.

The simple massing of the building is made substantially more interesting by the square notches taken out of each corner. The cornice is also notched at each corner and the roof is double-hipped at each end to create the same relief in the roof form. The cornice is finished off with large, simple brackets spaced about two feet apart.

The White Rock School Building consists of two stories above ground with a belfry and a basement which originally housed class rooms and the furnace room. The entrance projects 14 ft. beyond the south wall and is 21 ft. wide. The outside measurement of the building is 76 ft. by 35 ft. There are four large rooms 25 ft. x 25 ft. and the hallways are 16 ft. wide. The restroom facilities are on the main level. The recent fire uncovered the original heating ducts that extend to the top floor adjacent to the chimney. They apparently had never been used to heat the upper story. Someone had covered them over with wainscoating. The white rock used for the building had been identified as white limestone.

The significance of the school house lies in the points that the Scandinavian people of the town relied heavily upon the natural resources of the Sevier Valley to construct the school. The talents of the residents were tapped to cut and place stones, make a bell and to complete the entire structure. The people relied upon what they had in both money and supplies rather than expecting help from the school district of the state.

The quality of the school is self-evident by its mere existence when you compare it with the red brick building that replaced the White Rock School as an educational facility. The red brick structure was torn down after sixty years of use and the White Rock School is still structurally sound.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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

Built 1896-98

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

A: T. T. Davis

B: John Marinus Johnson

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Elsinore White Rock School is significant as the educational center for the community of Elsinore. Its stone construction reflects the high quality of craftsmanship of the local rock masons who constructed the building. The community of Elsinore was almost exclusively Scandinavian born or children of Scandinavian immigrants. The school, constructed by the Scandinavians using locally available materials, stands as a reminder of their united effort and their commitment to the education of their children.

HISTORY:

From its early beginnings in 1896, the White Rock School Building has occupied a prominent place in Elsinore. The building was constructed 23 years after Mormon converts from Scandinavia established Elsinore in 1873. The school was the community educational center as well as a place for social and religious gatherings.

Construction of the building commenced in 1896 and was completed in 1898. The white rock was quarried from a mountain 12 miles southeast of Elsinore near the Piute-Sevier county line. The quarried rock was transported by wagon from the quarry to the construction site. Most of the freighters were only able to make one trip per day but N.P. Anderson, a Dane, became the exception by making two trips each day.

John Marinus Johnson, a stone cutter and mason trained in America, contracted to build the school according to plans prepared by architect T.T. Davis. The stone work done by Johnson and his sons exemplify a remarkably high quality of stonework.

Most of the able bodied men of Elsinore participated in the construction of the School. Carl and Hans Johnson, Niels Anderson were the blacksmiths on the project. Peter "Wheelmaker" Christensen, a wheelmaker by trade, kept the rock bearing wagons in repair. Tenders and mud mixers were Ras Nielson, Chris "Cute" M. Anderson, Hans Johnson, Jim Hermansen, Fred Lott, and Chris Christiansen. Chris Christopherson did a great deal of the brick work, including the chimney. The carpenters were Christian Canutson and James "Black Jim" P. Hansen.

Thomas Christian Jensen, the father of Bishop J.I. Jensen, and James C. Nielson made the silver tone bell in the belfry. Thomas Christian was a brazier by vocation. The bell was constructed at the foundary on the canal behind Jensen's home in Elsinore. The bell rang the children to and from school until the closing of the school in 1958. Unfortunately in the last 7 years, the bell has disappeared.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

BOOKS:

Jacobson, Gwendolyn, ed., Memories of Little Denmark: History of Elsinore and Brooklyn, Utah, Elsinore Literary Club, Richfield Reaper, Richfield, Utah, 1966.

Warnock, Irvin L., Thru the Years: Sevier County Centennial History, Daughters of Utah Pioneers, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1947.

"See Attached Page"

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5.60 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A [1, 2] [4 0, 0] [2, 2, 5] [4, 2] [8, 2] [3, 7, 5]
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
 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 Ken C. Hansen, Project Historian

ORGANIZATION Utah State Historical Society

DATE September 7, 1977

STREET & NUMBER 603 East South Temple

TELEPHONE (801) 533-5755

CITY OR TOWN Salt Lake City, Utah

STATE

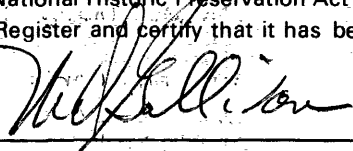
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL X

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.

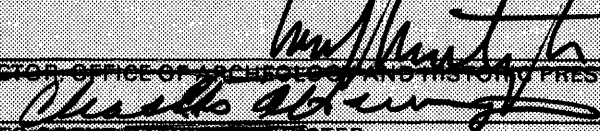
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE Michael D. Gallivan, State Historic Preservation Officer DATE October 14, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST 
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 11/18/78
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 1-16-78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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When the school first opened in 1898, the first school teachers were Parley Magleby and Charlie Engar. Parley boarded in an adobe home which was about 70 North 100 East. Charlie Engar, a gifted musician, provided the children with good musical training.

In 1958, the Elsinore School was closed as the students were transferred to a nearby red brick junior high building. The White Rock School House was not used until 1974 when the town decided to restore the structure as a town hall and activity center. The Elsinore Lions Club initiated the restoration by selling the bricks from the junior high building which was being demolished, to obtain the initial funds.

The restoration of the 79 year old structure was nearly 75% complete when a fire in July 1977 burned the roof and damaged much of the second floor. Despite the disastrous fire, the community is committed to completion of the restoration work so that the school can continue to function as a town hall and meeting place for the communities clubs and groups.

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UNPUBLISHED WORKS:

Anderson, Ada Lena Nielson, "Biographical Sketch of Niels Peter Anderson", Elsinore, Utah.

Elsinore Town Records, Minute Book Vol. 1, 1890-97, Elsinore, Utah.

Sevier County Records, Abstract Book "A", Town Lots, Sevier County Courthouse, Richfield, Utah.

Journal of John Marinus Johnson, possession of Alvin F. Johnson, Elsinore, Utah.

INTERVIEWS:

Busk, Stiner, Elsinore, Utah. Interview September 13, 1977.

Johnson, Alvin F., Elsinore, Utah. Interview July 12, 1977.

Staples, Elizabeth, Elsinore, Utah. Interview February 20, 1977.