

PH0661236

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JAN 27 1978  
DATE ENTERED JUN 9 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

DORA MOORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

AND/OR COMMON

(Originally known as Corona School)

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East Ninth Avenue at Corona Street

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Denver

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Colorado District 1

STATE

Colorado

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CODE  
08

COUNTY

Denver

CODE

031 ✓

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

\_\_\_ DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

\_\_\_ AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_ MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_ PRIVATE

\_\_\_ UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_ COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_ PARK

\_\_\_ STRUCTURE

\_\_\_ BOTH

\_\_\_ WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_ SITE

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

**ACCESSIBLE**

\_\_\_ ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_ RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_ OBJECT

\_\_\_ IN PROCESS

\_\_\_ YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_ GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_ SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_ BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_ INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_ TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_ NO

\_\_\_ MILITARY

\_\_\_ OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Denver Public Schools

STREET & NUMBER

900 Grant Street

CITY, TOWN

Denver

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

City and County Building

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Designated Landmark by City and County of Denver

DATE

April 6, 1975

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Planning Office, City and County of Denver

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located in Denver's historic Capitol Hill area, Dora Moore Elementary School is composed of two essentially distinct structures. The initial building opened its doors to students in 1889 as the Corona School and originally housed eight grades and a school for exceptional children (hereinafter referred to as the "Original Building"). In 1909 a second structure was added to the east of the Original Building and is connected to it by a second floor bridge (hereinafter referred to as the "East Building"). At this time some remodeling of the Original Building was undertaken, including the creation of an auditorium space within the attic space under the large roof.

The Original Building (1889) is considerably more interesting architecturally than its sister structure. Its mass is rectangular, two stories plus full basement and usable attic. The formal plan is dominated by a central stair-circulation system around which the classrooms radiate. Each corner of the building has an entry portal and tower set at a forty-five degree angle from the main mass. The structure of the Original Building is in very good condition and is composed of brick masonry bearing walls, heavy timber floor framing and cast iron interior columns and beams. The main roof is framed with an unusual lattice truss system which allowed its conversion into usable space in 1909. Additional usable space is to be captured in the attic as part of a renovation program currently underway.

Specific features of interest in this structure include:

- Onion dome roofs at corner towers, repetitious arched door and window openings and terra cotta detail panels. The inspiration for the terra cotta panels comes from the acanthas decoration used in Roman, Renaissance and Baroque architecture. The decorative rhythm of the terra cotta around the entry arches and roof base give the building an elegance lacking in many public structures of this era.
- Interior wood detail including doorways, wall paneling and stair rail of central stair system.
- Miscellaneous details such as stained glass window lights, woodwork, polished granite restroom partitions and ornamental iron work.

The East Building (1909) is a two story, with full basement, rectangular brick structure. The architecture of this structure is simpler and more "institutional" than the Romanesque revival original building. It graphically represents the change in attitude and fortune that the City of Denver experienced at the turn of the century.

The primary facade of the East Building is dominated by a vertical tower that provides fresh air for the school. This feature has relevance to today's interest in passive energy conservation measures. The structural system used is similar to the Original Building, but greatly simplified.

In recognition of the unique contribution of its Principal of thirty-five years, Corona School became Dora Moore Elementary School in 1938.

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In the Spring of 1977 the Denver Public Schools allocated \$500,000 for improvement to Dora Moore School. Included in this program are restoration of the central stair/circulation system shown in photographs 6 and 7 and removal of the fire escape added to the west facade at the Original Building. In addition, funds will be used to bring the classrooms, toilet rooms and the cafeteria to contemporary standards, while retaining their historic amenities. This work is scheduled to commence in the Spring of 1978.

Parents involved in advising the School District for this renovation program have formed a non-profit corporation, Friends of Dora Moore School, Inc., to raise additional funds for the restoration and improvement of Dora Moore School. Funds raised by this effort will be used for restoration of the exterior of the building, site development and planting (including removal of all vehicular parking from the site), replacement of the bridge link between the two structures and construction of an independent gymnasium facility.

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David A. Shepard - Chairman of the Board of Anglo-American Oil, Trustee of the Rand Corporation, Chairman of the Carnegie Foundation.

Bethuel M. Webster - Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration under the Hague Convention, Trustee of the Ford Foundation and President of the New York Bar Association.

Moore graduates with familiar names include Mamie Dowd Eisenhower, Douglas Fairbanks, Sr. and Paul Whiteman. Within the City of Denver, Moore graduates serve on the Board of Education of the Denver Public Schools, as President of one of Denver's principal banks, as the State of Colorado's Historic Preservation Officer and in any number of other key positions.

Dora Moore Elementary School physically links past, present and future. Its designation as a National Historic Place would give pride and pleasure to a large community of people. Based on information received from the Educational Facilities Laboratory, Dora Moore School will become one of just a handful of schools in this country constructed prior to 1900 with a long-term useful life.

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DORA MOORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

List of Accompanying Photographs and Documents

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|---|--|
| <p>1. Dora Moore School<br/>West Elevation (1889 Structure)<br/>Denver, Colorado<br/>Larry Shirkey<br/>Kay Weed, Denver, CO<br/>October, 1977</p> <p>2. Dora Moore School<br/>South View Both Structures<br/>Denver, Colorado<br/>Larry Shirkey<br/>Kay Weed, Denver, CO<br/>October, 1977</p> <p>3. Dora Moore School<br/>NW Entry Tower (1889 Structure)<br/>Denver, Colorado<br/>Kay Weed, Denver, CO<br/>October, 1977</p> <p>4. Dora Moore School<br/>Detail - Brick &amp; Terra Cotta (1889 Structure)<br/>Denver, Colorado<br/>Kay Weed, Denver, CO<br/>October, 1977</p> <p>5. Dora Moore School<br/>Window &amp; Terra Cotta Detail (1889 Structure)<br/>Denver, Colorado<br/>Kay Weed, Denver, CO<br/>October, 1973</p> | <p>6. Dora Moore School<br/>Central Stair (1889 Structure)<br/>Denver, Colorado<br/>Kay Weed, Denver, CO<br/>October, 1973</p> <p>7. Dora Moore School<br/>Wood Detail (1889 Structure)<br/>Denver, Colorado<br/>Kay Weed, Denver, CO<br/>October, 1973</p> <p>8. Dora Moore School<br/>1977 Site Plan<br/>Denver, Colorado<br/>HWH Associates, Inc.<br/>Denver, CO<br/>June, 1977</p> <p>9 thru 20<br/>Dora Moore School<br/>Reproductions of original<br/>Architectural Drawings (1889 Struc)<br/>Denver, Colorado<br/>Robert S. Roeschlaub<br/>Fuller &amp; Fuller Associates<br/>April, 1889</p> |
|---|--|

# 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 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 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 See Below

BUILDER/ARCHITECT See Below

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Specific Dates: Original Building ca. 1889

Architect: Robert S. Roeschlaub

Builder: John Monat and Co.

East Building ca. 1909

Architect: David W. Dryden

Dora Moore Elementary School is significant for both its architecture and its place in the community. Opening in 1889 as the Corona School, it was located on the eastern edge of Denver. From the school Indians at their campsites could be seen. Today Moore is in the center of Denver's urban core and has become a rallying point for those concerned with the vitality of the inner city.

The Original Building was designed by Robert S. Roeschlaub, the first licensed architect in Colorado and one of three architects who set the standard for Denver as it changed from town to city. Roeschlaub designed the majority of Denver's schools over a twenty year period and Moore represents one of his most exciting and successful efforts. Roeschlaub's Trinity Methodist Church and Central City Opera House have already been placed on the National Register of Historic Places and retention of the Original Building of Moore School will provide balance in understanding this significant architect's work.

Throughout its life Moore School has been a leader in establishing educational patterns. It was the starting point in Colorado for the concept of student participation in the operation of a school through a student council. Dora Moore, a young teacher who came to Denver from Illinois and served as Principal of the school for thirty-five years, was a force for many changes in public education in Denver and Colorado. Miss Moore initiated the idea of a Parents-Teachers organization through the establishment of the "Mothers' Congress". An Art League was formed during her tenure to buy art objects and musical instruments for the school, setting a pattern for many charitable efforts to enrich the school in later years.

Throughout its ninety year history Moore has served a community of mixed social and economic status. Today's student population reflects this pattern with children arriving at Moore's doors from a public housing project, the Denver Country Club area, a district experiencing major urban transition, and the Colorado Governor's mansion. Examples of the people who attended Moore School and followed this experience with significant careers include:

Quigg Newton - Mayor of Denver, President of the University of Colorado,  
President of the Commonwealth Fund.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brettell, Richard R., HISTORIC DENVER Denver: Historic Denver Inc. 1973

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.6

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 3	5 0 2 3 3 0	4 3 9 7 5 5 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property is a full city block rectangular in shape, 425 feet by 260 feet. Bounded by the following Denver streets: North - 9th Avenue; East - Downing Street; South - 8th Avenue; West - Corona Street.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
NA			

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

~~R. R. Brettell~~ Seacat, President

ORGANIZATION

Friends of Dora Moore School Inc.

DATE

1 November 1977

STREET & NUMBER

1770 Blake Street

TELEPHONE

303 825-8123

CITY OR TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado 80202

## 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

*Stephen W. Hunt*

TITLE COO SAPP

DATE 1/14/78

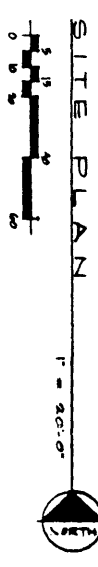
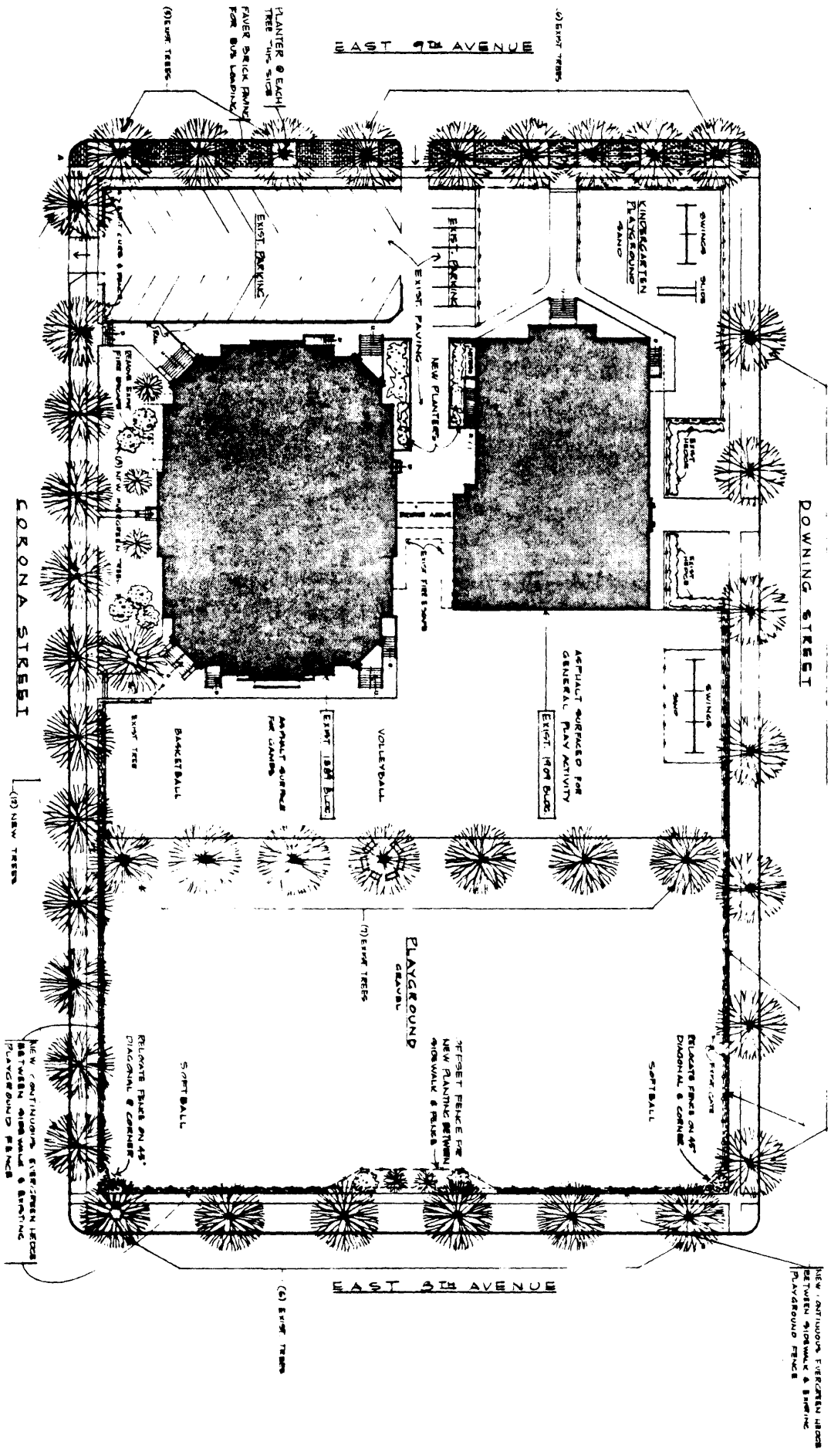
FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: Wallace H. Cole DATE 6/9/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE 6-5-78



REMODELING of  
**DORA MOORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
 CORONA STREET at EAST 8th AVENUE DENVER COLORADO

SCHEMATIC DRWG.

NO.	DATE	BY	CHKD.