

Historic Preservation Research Office

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: 120 S. 100 West
 St. George, Washington County, Utah UTM: 12 270300 4109760

Name of Structure: St. George Elementary School T. R. S.

Present Owner: Washington County School District
 197 E. Tabernacle

Owner Address: P.O. Box 579
 St. George, Utah 84770

Year Built (Tax Record): Effective Age: Tax #: SG 258
 Legal Description Kind of Building:

The E 2/3 of Lot 7, the N 1/2 of Lots 1-4, and all of Lots 5 & 8 Block 17 Plat A
 St. George City Survey. 3.70 acres

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Washington County School Dist Construction Date: 1935-36 Demolition Date:

Original Use: educational--school Present Use: educational--school

Building Condition: Integrity: Preliminary Evaluation: Final Register Status:

| | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Site | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant | <input type="checkbox"/> Not of the | <input type="checkbox"/> National Landmark | <input type="checkbox"/> District |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor Alterations | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributory | Historic Period | <input type="checkbox"/> National Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Resource |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | | <input type="checkbox"/> Major Alterations | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Contributory | | <input type="checkbox"/> State Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Thematic |

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography: Date of Slides: 1983 Slide No.: Date of Photographs: 1983 Photo No.:

Views: Front Side Rear Other Views: Front Side Rear Other

Research Sources:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abstract of Title | <input type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> U of U Library |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plat Records/Map | <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utah State Historical Society | <input type="checkbox"/> BYU Library |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tax Card & Photo | <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Encyclopedias | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Interviews | <input type="checkbox"/> USU Library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permit | <input type="checkbox"/> Obituary Index | <input type="checkbox"/> LDS Church Archives | <input type="checkbox"/> SLC Library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Permit | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County & City Histories | <input type="checkbox"/> LDS Genealogical Society | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

Twenty-first Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Utah for the Biennial Period Ending June 30, 1936. n.p., 1936.

Washington County News (St. George, Utah), 1935-36.

Architect/Builder: unknown

Building Materials: brick

Building Type/Style: PWA Moderne and Colonial Revival

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

This is a large 2-story red brick school that is a blend of PWA Moderne and Colonial Revival stylistic ideas. The building itself has a long rectangular plan and a projecting rear ell. The low hipped roof is broken by a slightly recessed central entrance bay which extends several feet up through the line of the cornice. This bay is also hipped and has a cornice that matches the one circling the rest of the building. Bands of low-relief string courses are found every few feet up to the bottom level of the second story windows. The upper windows are arranged in long horizontal lines, while the first story windows are contained in vertical pink stucco panels. A large 2-story staircase wing has been added to one end of the building and several of the windows on the rear ell have been painted white. These alterations do not significantly affect the historic integrity of the building.

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: 1935-36

Built in 1935-36, the St. George Elementary School is part of the Public Works Buildings Thematic Resources nomination and is significant because it helps document the impact of New Deal programs in Utah, which was one of the states that the Great Depression of the 1930s most severely affected. In 1933 Utah had an unemployment rate of 36 percent, the fourth highest in the country, and for the period 1932-1940 Utah's unemployment rate averaged 25 percent. Because the depression hit Utah so hard, federal programs were extensive in the state. Overall, per capita federal spending in Utah during the 1930s was 9th among the 48 states, and the percentage of workers on federal work projects was far above the national average. Building programs were of great importance. During the 1930s virtually every public building constructed in Utah, including county courthouses, city halls, fire stations, national guard armories, public school buildings, and a variety of others, were built under federal programs by one of several agencies, including the Civil Works Administration (CWA), the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), the National Youth Administration (NYA), the Works Progress Administration (WPA), or the Public Works Administration (PWA), and almost without exception none of the buildings would have been built when they were without the assistance of the federal government.

The St. George Elementary School is one of 233 public works buildings identified in Utah that were built during the 1930s and early 1940s. Only 130 of those 233 buildings are known to remain today and retain their historic integrity. Of those 233, 107 were public school buildings; 55 of them remain. This is one of 43 elementary schools built, of which 19 are left. In Washington County 10 buildings were constructed and 5 are left.

This school was built between 1935 and 1936 as a Public Works Administration (PWA) project. Construction began in the fall of 1935 and was completed for the opening of school in the fall of 1936. It was part of a \$232,000 building program that included the Hurricane High School and the Enterprise High School Gymnasium.