

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: 474 E. 2650 North
 North Ogden, Weber County, Utah UTM:12 419200 4573200

Name of Structure: North Ogden Elementary School T. R. S.

Present Owner: Weber County School District
 1122 Washington Boulevard

Owner Address: Ogden, Utah 84404

Year Built (Tax Record): Effective Age: Tax #: 18-19-0001; 0002; 0005

Legal Description: Kind of Building:

All of Lots 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, and the E 49.0 feet of Lot 3, Block 20, Plat A,
 North Ogden City Survey.
 Approximately 3.25 acres

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Weber County School District Construction Date: 1934-36 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.):

"Eber F. Piers." Architects File, Preservation Office, Utah State Historical Society.

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.

Architect/Builder: Eber F. Piers/unknown

Building Materials: brick

Building Type/Style: Art Deco

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

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

This is a large yellow brick school building that is constructed in the Art Deco style. It consists of a 2-story front classroom section and a large 3-story rear gymnasium/auditorium block. The roof is flat throughout and the composition is geometric and symmetrical. The principal elevation is divided into five large bays by wide brick piers. The center bay contains the entrance and is treated differently from the flanking window bays. There is a fluted metal canopy over the doorway and stepped-back pilasters with stylized geometric capitals found to each side. Between the tops of these pilasters and between the tops of the piers are found large pinkish metal panels. These panels are ribbed with low-relief decorative elements that rise arrow-like to break the line at the edge of the roof. The projecting points give the building a saw tooth silhouette and further serve to accent the verticality of this overly horizontal design. The windows are divided into vertical panels, and the upper windows are separated from the lower ones by brown spandrels. The decorative arrangement of the facade is carried over to the other elevations of the classroom section, but the large gymnasium block is largely unadorned. The building remains in excellent original condition and there have been no major alterations.

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: 1934-36

Built in 1934-36, the North Ogden 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 North Ogden 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. In Weber County 15 buildings were constructed. This is one of 7 that remain. The architect was Eber F. Piers.

The North Ogden Elementary School was constructed between 1934 and 1936 as a Public Works Administration (PWA) project. The building included an auditorium/gymnasium.

(See Continuation Sheet)

North Ogden Elementary School
History continued:

Eber F. Piers was born in Denver in 1889. He studied architecture briefly at the University of Colorado and in 1908 moved to Ogden, Utah, and began working as an architectural draftsman for the firm of Smith and Hodgson. Two years later he opened his own offices. He practiced alone until 1952 when he went into partnership with his son, John F. Piers. He died in 1959. During his career he designed more than 300 buildings, most of them in the Ogden area. They include the Edmund O. Wattis residence (1914), the Ruth Wattis Gwilliam residence (1917), the Ezekial Dumke residence (1917), the Virginia Houtz Green residence (1914), the Royal Eccles residence (1920), the Marriner Adams Browning Residence (1914), the South Ogden High School, Ogden's Central Junior High School, the First National Bank Building in Ogden, and a number of WPA buildings during the 1930s, including the Boys' Dormitory at the Utah School for the Deaf and Blind, the Industrial and Trades Building at the Utah State Industrial School, the Utah State Tuberculosis Sanitarium, the North Ogden Elementary School, and the El Monte (Ogden Municipal) Golf Course Clubhouse.