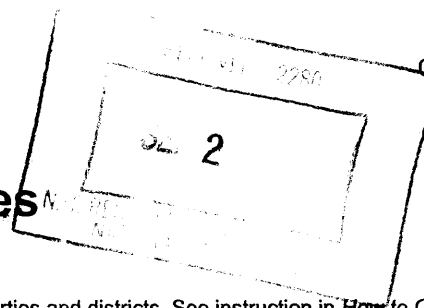


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



1008

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Sitting Bull Monument

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number SE 1/4 of SE1/4 of Sec 13 T18 R29 [] not for publication

city or town Mobridge [x] vicinity

state South Dakota code SD county Corson code 031 zip code 57601

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this
 nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jay D. Vogt State Historic Preservation Officer 09-19-2006
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- other, explain
 See continuation sheet.

Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper 11-8-06 Date of Action

Sitting Bull Monument
Name of Property

Corson County, South Dakota
County/State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
1	0	objects
0	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture/Work of Art

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture/Work of Art

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls
roof
other Granite

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Sitting Bull Monument
Name of Property

Corson County, South Dakota
County/State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Art

Periods of Significance

1953

Significant Dates

1953

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Korczak Ziolkowski

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Sitting Bull Monument
Name of Property

Corson County, South Dakota
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 14 384004 5041450
 Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Chris B. Nelson

organization SD State Historic Preservation Office date 20 May 2006

street & number 900 Governors Drive telephone 605-773-3103

city or town Pierre state SD zip code 57501

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Sitting Bull Foundation Inc

street & number 603 1st Ave telephone 605-845-3749

city or town Mobridge state SD zip code 57601

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Section number 7 Page 1Corson County, South Dakota

DESCRIPTION

The Sitting Bull Monument is located on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in eastern Corson County, South Dakota. The monument sits approximately one-quarter mile from the Missouri River on a grassy hill surrounded by native vegetation.

The monument consists of a concrete base, a polished granite pedestal with the inscription "Tatanka lyotake, Sitting Bull, 1831-1890," and Ziolkowski's granite sculpture of Sitting Bull.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Section number 8 Page 2Corson County, South Dakota

SIGNIFICANCE

Korczak Ziolkowski completed his Sitting Bull (Tatanka Iyotake) sculpture in 1953. The statue was erected the same year at the current site. The Sitting Bull Monument is eligible under Criterion C as a work of art by nationally significant sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski.

Ziolkowski was born in 1908 and grew up in a series of foster homes in Boston. At sixteen he worked odd jobs in order to put himself through Rindge Technical School and became an apprentice pattern maker in the Boston shipyards. Although he had never had any formal training in art or sculpture, Ziolkowski began his career and completed his first sculpture at age 20. From 1933 on, Ziolkowski began producing several sculptural works, including busts of important composers, musicians, and other prominent New England personalities.

Ziolkowski began doing commissioned sculptures throughout New England. His marble portrait PADEREWSKI, Study on an Immortal, won first prize in the popular vote of the 1939 New York World's Fair. In 1939 he was asked to assist Gutzon Borglum at Mount Rushmore. The two became close friends working on the national monument that summer.

Ziolkowski went back to Connecticut for a few years to carve his 13 1/2 foot Noah Webster Statue. He volunteered for service in World War II, was wounded, and was later invited to make government war memorials in Europe. He declined to accept an invitation to carve the Crazy Horse Memorial in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Ziolkowski worked on Crazy Horse for 36 years until his death in 1982 at age 74. During this time he also carved his Sitting Bull sculpture.

The Story of Sitting Bull (Tatanka-Iyotanka)

Sitting Bull was a Hunkpapa Lakota leader born in the Grand River area of South Dakota around 1831. As a young man, Sitting Bull became a leader of the Strong Heart warrior society and, later, a distinguished member of the Silent Eaters, a group concerned with tribal welfare. Widely respected for his bravery and insight, he became a head chief of the Lakota nation about 1868. Although he fought against the U.S. Army, Sitting Bull was known and respected for always trying to solve problems through diplomacy and resulted to war only after the failure of peaceful avenues. After the Little Big Horn, Sitting Bull and his followers fled to Canada until 1881, at which time they turned themselves in to the federal government at Fort Buford, Dakota Territory and were placed on the Standing Rock Reservation. The government perceived Sitting Bull as a threat during the Ghost Dance Craze in 1890 and sent the Indian police to arrest him. A fight broke out during the attempted arrest and Sitting Bull was killed.

Sitting Bull's body was taken to Fort Yates, North Dakota, and buried in the military cemetery. In 1953, Sitting Bull's nephew, Clarence Grey Eagle, obtained power of attorney from Sitting Bull's three remaining granddaughters to act on their behalf. Acting with help from local businessmen in Mobridge, Grey Eagle went to North Dakota to file a request to remove his relative to a spot on the reservation in South Dakota. North Dakota refused to issue the permit, even though their legal authority to do so was questionable. The Department of the Interior eventually ruled in favor of Grey Eagle, although there were many objections from politicians.

One night in 1953, after much red tape, Grey Eagle and a group from Mobridge went to Fort Yates and exhumed Sitting Bull under the supervision of the Fort Yates Superintendent Spencer, who was supportive of the project. The exhumation was done without the consent or knowledge of North

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Section number 8 Page 3

Corson County, South Dakota

Dakota, who had no jurisdiction on the reservation in this case, but who regardless would have tried to stop the removal. Once Sitting Bull's remains were removed under the careful supervision of Grey Eagle, the bones were transported to the current site in South Dakota and buried in 20 tons of concrete.

Controversy still remains as to the actual final resting place of Sitting Bull. Some say that Sitting Bull's body was removed prior to 1953 and buried somewhere secret on the reservation. This scenario is completely possible and the event would have been kept a secret. Others claim that the evidence suggests that the bones exhumed in 1953 were Sitting Bulls. Others claim that the Sitting Bull's bones were never removed from North Dakota. Both sites in North and South Dakota are and should be recognized.

Significance of the Sitting Bull Monument

During his 36 years at Crazy Horse, Ziolkowski also worked on smaller sculptures. In 1951 he carved "Wild Bill" Hickock out of Crazy Horse granite and in 1962 he gave a mahogany sculpture of Chief Henry Standing Bear to President John F. Kennedy. It was also during this time that he carved Sitting Bull. Ziolkowski made several other models during this period, but destroyed several of them, including his model of Gutzum Borglum that was to be placed at Mount Rushmore before being rejected by the National Parks Service.

The stone used to carve Sitting Bull was an 11 ton piece of granite blasted off the Ziolkowski's epic Crazy Horse monument. The finished sculpture weighs 7 tons and sits on a granite base from Dakota Granite in Milbank, South Dakota. The memorial was dedicated in 2 December 1953. There are no other comparable memorials to Sitting Bull.

Ziolkowski's "Wild Bill" Hickock sculpture done in 1951 was also created from this granite. After completing "Wild Bill," Ziolkowski swore he would never make another sculpture out of the Crazy Horse granite because it was extremely hard, making it difficult to work with, and because of the many mineral veins running through it that could cause a sudden change in color. He suggested getting stone from the east for the monument, but changed his mind after Nancy Kicking Bear, one of Sitting Bull's granddaughters whom he respected, asked him to make the sculpture from the Crazy Horse granite.

During the sculpting of the monument, Nancy Kicking Bear was frequently at his studio. Ziolkowski used the features of her face to ensure a family resemblance when sculpting Sitting Bull. During the sculpting of the face, Ziolkowski was worried that the mineral veins in the face were negatively affecting the color of the face. Nancy put his mind at ease saying that the variations in color looked like battle scars, a feature that would please Sitting Bull. Subtleties such as this only enhance the artistry and appreciation of the sculpture.

Ziolkowski's Sitting Bull is significant for its contribution as a work of art. Although deliberately created as a memorial to the Lakota Sioux leader, the sculpture transcends its intended purpose as purely commemorative and has superceded that function to become significant as a work of art. Although honoring an important figure in history, the intrinsic value of the sculpture as an example of Ziolkowski's talent and artistry cannot be underestimated.

The Sitting Bull Monument has received some damage through vandalism over the years. The tip of the nose has been broken off and the top of the feather has also been chipped away. However, its artistic impact still lives in the stern mouth, solid jaw, and uncompromising stare of the Lakota leader.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

Section number 8 Page 4

Corson County, South Dakota

The setting of the monument has not changed since its placement in 1953. It has excellent integrity in location, design, feeling, and association.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

Section number 9 Page 5

Corson County, South Dakota

BIBLIOGRAPHY

DeWall Robb. *Korczak: Storyteller in Stone*. Korczak Heritage Inc. Crazy Horse: SD, 1984.

DeWall Robb. *The Saga of Sitting Bull's Bones*. Korczak Heritage Inc. Crazy Horse: SD, 1984.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Section number 10 Page 6Corson County, South Dakota

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The boundary is an imaginary line encompassing the statue. The boundary starts at a point three feet northwest of the northwest corner and runs east to a point three feet northeast of the northeast corner. The line then runs south to a point three feet southeast of the southeast corner and then runs west to point three feet southwest of the southwest corner. The line then runs north to the original starting point three feet northwest of the northwest corner.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

THE BOUNDARY ENCOMPASSES THE AREA ASSOCIATED WITH THE SITTING BULL MONUMENT.