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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 1 1978
DATE ENTERED DEC 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
Old Rock School
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
914 Bequette Street

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Dodgeville

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Second

STATE
Wisconsin 53533

CODE
55

COUNTY
Iowa

CODE
049

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
___DISTRICT	___PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	___AGRICULTURE ___MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	___UNOCCUPIED	___COMMERCIAL ___PARK
___STRUCTURE	___BOTH	___WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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
C. F. and J. M. Baime

STREET & NUMBER
5614 Winnequah Road

CITY, TOWN
Madison

___ VICINITY OF

STATE
Wisconsin 53716

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Iowa County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
222 North Iowa Street

CITY, TOWN
Dodgeville

STATE
Wisconsin 53533

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places

DATE
1975

___FEDERAL STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS State Historical Society of Wisconsin

CITY, TOWN
Madison

STATE
Wisconsin 53706

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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Rock School, converted into a private residence in 1882, has been restored to a close approximation of its original state. Built in 1853, it is a two-story rectangular school building of coursed limestone rubble, with a gable roof and central chimney. Quoins and lintels are massive blocks of dressed limestone. Fenestration is six-over-six double-hung sash, with 4" by 6" white oak lintels on the interior. Originally the west facade had no doors or windows; this acted as a barrier against the wind. An exterior stairway on the north wall led to the upper floor. This entranceway now functions as a window. Except for removal of chimneys constructed in the east and west walls, and the addition of a door in the west facade (c. 1890), the building's exterior looks much as it did in the 1850's.

The main facade, which faces north, is three bays wide on the second story, with a door and two bays on the entrance level. The south facade has the same composition as the north. The east facade has two symmetrically-spaced bays on each floor. The west facade has only a central door at ground level. The gable ends face east and west.

Extensive restoration work has returned the Old Rock School's interior to a two-room plan. The building's use as a single family dwelling in the 1890's, and later as a multiple unit residence in the 1950's, altered its stark and simple beauty. The interior measures 22' by 36' with one room per floor. The walls have been stripped of paneling and plaster, exposing the limestone masonry. A false floor and layers of linoleum were shed to reveal the school's original pine flooring on the entrance level. The first floor has an 11'6" ceiling with exposed hand-hewn beams which span the width of the building. The center section of the upper floor, badly sagging, was removed and is now skirted by a 32" high railing. The ceiling of the second floor was removed to expose the roof beams, secured with wooden pegs.

Building materials used in the restoration process (still continuing in 1978) were recycled from portions of the schoolhouse. New doors located on the north, south, and west walls were made by hand. A new roof covered with 3/4"-thick hand-split red cedar shakes now crowns the Old Rock School

The natural limestone exterior (covered with a green cement bonding paint that was carefully peeled off) once again exhibits the schoolhouse's original appearance. The Iowa County Historical Society plans to furnish a portion of the first floor with late-nineteenth-century school furniture.

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 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	1853	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Thomas Carkeek, mason
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Rock School's limestone masonry construction represents the craftsmanship of public buildings built in Dodgeville during the nineteenth century. The Old Rock School is the only schoolhouse to remain of the pair constructed in 1853. The school is significant as a fine example of Cornish masonry work and as the one remaining original schoolhouse built in Dodgeville.

Architecture

The Old Rock School is significant as an example of nineteenth-century Cornish masonry work indigenous to the Dodgeville area. The builder, Thomas Carkeek, an immigrant from Cornwall, participated in the construction of "nearly every other considerable building" in the region including the Iowa County Courthouse and jail.¹ The schoolhouse's restoration, sensitively handled, makes it a fine example of one of Dodgeville's limestone masonry public buildings built in the 1850's.

Education

The school's status as the only remaining permanent schoolhouse of the two built in 1853 makes it significant to the educational history of the Dodgeville area. Dodgeville was the metropolis of the lead mining region in southern Wisconsin during the late 1820's. The height of the mining era in the 1840's was marked by the steady influx of Cornish and Welsh immigrants and the establishment of a local government for the thriving community. Various "schoolrooms" were rented in private residences and later in the town hall. In 1849, the town elected the first school superintendent and organized a school district. Dodgeville's renewed prosperity and increased school enrollment signaled a need for construction of more adequate facilities. In 1853, after the community was divided into two separate school districts, the first permanent schoolhouses were erected. The Old Rock School and the Grove School (a frame schoolhouse demolished in 1882) existed independently, serving a total of 226 children of school age.²

Through the middle of the nineteenth century, Dodgeville's economic base experienced a transition from mining to agriculture as richer accessible ore was exhausted and the price of lead became unstable. The concomitant growth of the village brought about the addition of a high school department to the school system. In 1864, through an action by the Town Board, the two school districts were united. The Rock and Grove schools housed the primary and intermediate levels and space for a high school was rented in the town hall. In less than 20 years, enrollments doubled and

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.57

QUADRANGLE NAME Dodgeville, Wisconsin

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,5 73,38,2,0 4,7,6,1,1,2,0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Part of east half of the N.E. 1/4 of Section 28, T6N, R3E, as follows: stake 500 feet north and 30 feet west of the S.E. corners of the said 80-acre tract, thence west 274 feet thence north 90 feet, thence east 274 feet, thence south 90 feet to place of beginning.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

C. F. and J. M. Baime

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Owners

June 1, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

5614 Winnequah Road

608/222-2920

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Madison

Wisconsin 53716

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

Richard Murray

TITLE

Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

10/20/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

12-18-78

ATTEST:

Charles H. Franklin
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

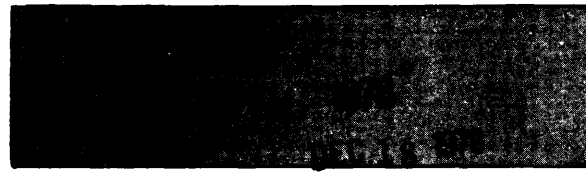
DATE

12-12-78

Kathy B. Franklin
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

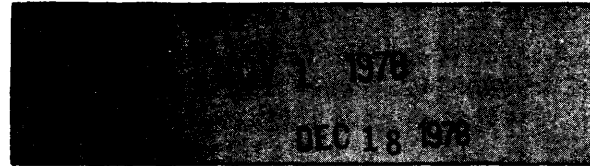
further school expansion became imminent. The Old Rock School, in use until the winter of 1881-82, was sold at public auction to defray costs of construction for the new facility.

After the sale in 1882, the Old Rock School functioned as a private residence for 88 years. In 1970, its present owners began the laborious task of restoring the school. The layer of exterior paint and the interior alterations had disguised the schoolhouse. As the cement bonding paint was peeled off and the limestone masonry became visible, local residents regained an awareness of the village's original rock school. The interest generated by the school's restoration was exemplified by the Iowa County Historical Society's decision to rent the building. Although the Old Rock School ceased to perform any educational function after 1882, it will once again serve as an educational resource not only for Dodgeville but for the entire county.

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1. History of Iowa County, Chicago, Western Historical Company, 1881. p. 884.
 2. "History of the Dodgeville School," John Quincy Emery Papers, 1898. p. 2.

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See
CONTINUATION SHEET . . . ITEM NUMBER below PAGE

Item 9: MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Dodgeville Chronicle. Dodgeville, Wisconsin, September 29, 1864; February 10, 1882;
February 17, 1882.

Dodgeville Sun. Dodgeville, Wisconsin, March 2, 1882.

History of Iowa County, Wisconsin. Chicago, 1881.

"History of the Old Dodgeville School," John Quincy Emery Papers, 1898.
WIS-MSS-NQ. State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Manuscripts Division.

Iowa County Bicentennial Education Committee. Schools of Iowa County.
Blanchardville, Wisconsin, 1976.

Item 11: FORM PREPARED BY, continued:

Andrea J. Lazarski, Preservation Assistant
State Historical Society of Wisconsin
816 State Street
Madison

July 7, 1978
608/262-8904
Wisconsin 53706