

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet Fruitdale School Item number BU-6F Page 1

SITE BU-6F

NAME Fruitdale School

LOCATION On the east end of High Street on the eastern edge of Fruitdale, Butte County, South Dakota

OWNER James D. Martindale

CLASSIFICATION Building, private, NA acquisition, occupied, restricted access, private residence, agriculture

DESCRIPTION Excellent, unaltered, moved date unknown

Located on the northeastern edge of the town of Fruitdale (population 88, 1983), the Fruitdale school is an imposing wood-frame, rectangular pen. The front elevation is centered by a projecting, pedimented entry with a graceful, arched, open doorway. A set of five wooden steps the width of the portico lead to the entry which is flanked by a pair of six, double-hung windows on both sides with a simple, recessed wooden door at both ends. The windowed sections of the front elevation are topped by projecting hipped roofs with short squatty dormers, each having a set of small, paired windows. Two red pressed brick chimneys rise through the moderately pitched gable roof that is covered in corrugated metal. There are no openings on either the east or west elevations. The north elevation has four small windows beneath the roofline which have been boarded over. The school has a poured concrete foundation.

A small clapboard covered, wood-frame outbuilding with a shed roof which is painted white is located southeast of the school. Bee hives are situated in the northeast corner of the school yard.

SIGNIFICANCE 1900-Present, Architecture, Education, c. 1920

DATE c. 1920

BUILDER Unknown

The Fruitdale School is significant in both the areas of architecture and education because of its unusual style and exceptional state of preservation, and as the only school in the history of the town of Fruitdale. In addition, the school is architecturally, the most imposing structure in the community with its simple classic detailing it reaches a level of style not found in most rural schools. When the school was built the population of Fruitdale exceeded

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Continuation sheet Fruitdale School Item number BU-6F Page 2

Fruitdale School

BU-6F

2

150 and was a prosperous town on the Chicago and North Western Railway.

After 1926, the Fruitdale School was moved from its original location on Artesan Street as shown on a Sanborn Insurance Map (1926). Neither informant interviews nor historical research could document the exact date the structure was moved to its present location.

QUADRANGLE NAME Fruitdale, South Dakota UTM REFERENCE 14/603730/4946980

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000 ACREAGE Less than one acre

PHOTO REFERENCE NUMBER

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The site boundaries are formed by an imaginary lines which lie fifteen feet from the exterior walls of the school in all directions that bound the site on the south, east, and north and west sides. The site is located in the NE quarter of the SE quarter of Section 12 Township 8 North Range 3 East in Butte County.

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Item number BU-6F

Page 3

