

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 920001040 **Date Listed:** 8/27/92

Central Schoolhouse (District No. 49)
Property Name

Spokane WA
County State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for *Antonieta A. Cee*
Signature of the Keeper

8/27/92
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Function or Use: Under Current Functions, the following replaces the stated documentation: Single dwelling/secondary structure and Meeting hall.

This information was confirmed with Leonard Garfield of the Washington State historic preservation office.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See Instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the Instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Central Schoolhouse (District #49)

other names/site number N.A.

2. Location

street & number N.W. Corner of Ritchey and Four Mound Roads not for publication

city, town Nine Mile Falls vicinity

state Washington code WA county Spokane code 063 zip code 99026

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	—	buildings
—	—	sites
—	—	structures
—	—	objects
<u>2</u>	—	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Rural Public Schools in WA State

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Mary M. Hampson
Signature of certifying official

6/30/92
Date

Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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.

Autumneth J. Lee

8/27/92

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

in Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education: school

Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Other: Gable front vernacular

foundation : stone
walls wood: weatherboard

roof wood: shingle
other N.A.

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Constructed in 1900, the simple schoolhouse erected for Central School District No. 49 has retained its integrity of appearance over the years. The area surrounding the school was covered with timber at the time of construction, and nearby sawmills produced the lumber for the building.

Designed as a one-story, single-room facility, the schoolhouse measures 24 feet by 36 feet. An 8-foot wide porch shelters the two entrances in the south gable end. According to school records, the original porch, dating from 1902, was constructed of wood. At a meeting of the School Board on June 24, 1916, the Board voted to replace the wooden porch floor with cement, and to pour a 4-foot wide sidewalk extending to the gate at Four Mound Road. Situated at the end of the walk was to be a gate with an arch above. Both the sidewalk and the gate have since been removed. In 1937 the cement porch was replaced with that presently in use.

Situated on a stone foundation, the schoolhouse is constructed of wood, and retains its original wood butt-edged weatherboarding. Simple cornerboards trim the edges of the building, while modest fascia boards line the end gables. The existing cedar shingle roof dates from 1935; it matched the original roof.

Three windows with two-over-two sash are found along the east and west elevations. At the south end, both entries had transoms above paneled doors; the westernmost door has four vertical panels, while its companion is comprised of five horizontal panels. A small triangular sign announcing "Central School District No. 49" graces the upper gable; the School Board voted to install the sign at their March 28, 1904 meeting. A flag pole stands at the peak of the gable on this main facade. Only a small brick chimney rising from the gabled roofline graces the north end of the building.

See Continuation Sheet X

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Although slightly altered over the years, the interior of the Central Schoolhouse also maintains a high degree of its original integrity. Constructed without partitions as an open rectangular space, the interior was first finished with ceiling lumber on the walls and ceiling. Although a wood stove provided some warmth during the cold winter months, wallboard was later added to the ceiling and down the walls to provide additional insulation. Approximately 3 1/2 feet of wooden wainscoting remains visible along the perimeter of the space. In addition, blackboards line the west, north, and east walls.

The floor was also covered at a later date with hardwood flooring to provide additional warmth. At the north end of the building, the floor level changes slightly, rising approximately 6" above the main floor to create the effect of a stage.

Of the early furnishings, which included desks and seats for the students, only a piano, six single-globe light fixtures, and a built-in cupboard/bookshelf in the northeast corner remain. The piano was purchased on October 3, 1932. Although the accompanying claw-foot piano stool was stolen several years ago, the piano itself has long been linked to Central School.

Initially, the school building had neither electricity or water. On November 30, 1920, the Board bought a double gas light for \$24.00; the hangar for it is still in the wall. This supplemented the kerosene lamps used to provide light. On September 1, 1945, a \$5 membership fee was paid to the Rural Electrification Association. The schoolhouse was then wired for electricity, and the fixtures currently in existence were hung. The first bill for a month's electricity came on October 27, 1945---the amount due was \$5.76.

In order to secure water, two of the older children would hike to a nearby spring. Each child held the end of a pole, with the water bucket hanging in between. In 1924, a well was finally drilled for the school. The total cost was \$208.21, and visitors can still use a hand pump to draw water from the well.

Only one outbuilding remains in the schoolyard--a small toilet of wood construction situated behind the school. Originally, there were two toilets on the property; a wood shed measuring 12 feet by 8 feet was also located northwest of the school.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

 nationally statewide locallyApplicable National Register Criteria A B C DCriteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Education

1900-1942

1900, 1956

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

NA

NA

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

A focal point for both educational and social activities since the turn of the century, the schoolhouse constructed in 1900 for Central School District No. 49 is today one of the few one-room school buildings remaining in the northwest portion of Spokane County. At the time of its completion, there were 18 one-room schools in the immediate vicinity; with the exception of Central School, all have been demolished or moved to other locations to use for other purposes. In constant use as a school from 1900 until 1956, the schoolhouse looks much the same as it did when it first opened on September 3, 1900.

The original Central School, sometimes known as Baldwin School, was situated east of the present building across Ritchey Road. At its June 1899 meeting, the School Board decided to poll its voters concerning the location of a new school; seventeen votes were cast in favor of the current site.

With funding provided by bonds totaling \$600.00, School District No. 49 commenced work on the new school. The two acres of land on which the school is situated were purchased for \$5.00 from Ludwig and Theobald Jurgens. The Jurgens Brothers also supplied the lumber for the building at a cost of \$174.43; R.C. Tapley and J.M. Starkey built the schoolhouse. Records for the School District indicate the following expenditures:

Tapley worked 32 days and was paid \$80.00 on July 31, 1900.

Starkey worked 32 1/2 days at \$2.75 per day; paid \$89.35 on July 31, 1900.

Lemon Lynch was paid \$5.00 to clear the school grounds.

See Continuation Sheet X

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

J.N. Frazier was paid \$62.00 to construct a flue and a rock foundation.

The first furnace was purchased at Reardan and hauled to school for \$1.00. A new furnace purchased June 1925 was \$195.00.

Fifty-two children were enrolled for the first year (1900 - 1901) at Central School. Although the school served grades one through eight, only one teacher was available to provide instruction. Miss Lillian Scott, the first teacher there, received \$40.00 per month for her efforts. Not surprisingly, the turnover rate for teachers was quite high. Between 1900 and 1956, the Clerk's Record Books indicate that 46 teachers served the School District at this location.

With class sizes dwindling dramatically, the decision was made to consolidate Central School with Reardan in 1956. During the last year of classes at Central, there were only seven students, with three graduating from the eighth grade.

In 1958 the Coulee Township acquired the schoolhouse from Rearden Consolidated Schools District 219/412, using it as a meeting site until the demise of the township system. The township supervisors then deeded the property to West Greenwood Cemetery District #2 in 1973. Since that time, it has provided a site for meetings of the Cemetery District, the Home Economics Club, and various social events in the community.

Today, Central Schoolhouse remains a visible symbol of the important role it played in the educational and social lives of local residents. Not only did this simple one-room structure provide the setting for lessons in grades one through eight, but it was also a focal point for community activity. Box socials were held here to raise money for school projects; 4H meetings, square dances, club meetings, parties and other special events all took place here as well. Under the auspices of the Cemetery District, the Central School remains available for community use today.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Central School District #49 Records and Annual Reports

See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property two

UTM References

A	11	446630	5292830
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

SE corner of SE quarter of Section 35, Township 27 Range 40 From the SE corner running west 20 rods, then north 16 rods, then east 20 rods, then south 16 rods to point of beginning.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the school yard historically associated with Central Shoolhouse District #49.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title	Alice Lynch, Secretary (Edited by Kit Garrett, Spokane Historic Preservation Office)
organization	West Greenwood Cemetery
street & number w.	21510 Four Mound Road
city or town	Nine Mile Falls
date	June 4, 1991
telephone	
state	WA
zip code	99026