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OMB No. 1024-0018

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions 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 (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

OCT 28 1994
INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Japanese Gardens Dance Pavilion

Other names/site number: _____

2. Location

Street & number: City Park not for publication

City or town: Flandreau vicinity

State: South Dakota Code: SD County: Moody Code: 101 Zip code: 57028

3. 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature and title of certifying official: [Signature] Date: 10/19/94
State or Federal agency and bureau: SHR South Dakota

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of the Keeper: _____ Date of Action: _____
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.
- other, (explain): _____

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Edson H. Beall 12.1.94

Entered in the
National Register

Japanese Gardens Dance Pavilion
Name of Property

Moody, SD
County and 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 include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2		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

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/ Dance Pavilion

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/ Dance Pavilion

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY
AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: bungalow/
craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation poured concrete
walls vertical wood siding
roof asphalt shingle
other _____

Narrative Description

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

Japanese Gardens Dance Pavilion
Name of Property

Moody, SD
County and 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)

Entertainment/Recreation

Period of Significance

1919 - 1944

Significant Dates

1919

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

W.L. Rolfe, W.H. Davis, G.A. Hales, and Ben Olson

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Japanese Gardens Dance Pavilion
Name of Property

Moody, SD
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 114 | 16945710 | 1488109710 2 | |
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

3 | | 4 | |
 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: Minnie Locke and Eudora Zellers w/ tech assistance by M. Dirr, shpo staff
Organization: _____ Date: September 1994
Street & Number: 208 First Avenue East Telephone: (605)997-2255
City or Town: Flandreau State: South Dakota Zip code: 57028

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: City of Flandreau
Street & Number: City Hall Telephone: _____
City or Town: Flandreau State: South Dakota Zip code: 57028

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

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Narrative Description:

The Japanese Gardens Dance Pavilion is a one-story wood frame building located in the City Park of Flandreau, South Dakota. Completed in 1919, the building continues to serve as a public dance hall and social center for the residents of Flandreau and the surrounding region. This important community building remains a rare example of this building type once common throughout the region. With the exception of the maple floor that had to be replaced in 1969 due to flooding, the building has gone through few alterations and maintains a high degree of integrity.

The hall is rectangular in plan except for three small rectangular projections, two on the north side and one on the east. It measures approximately 60 feet by 100 feet and maintains the original poured concrete foundation. Vertical wood siding covers the wood frame. Simple wood frame windows are band together in threes. A low-pitch asphalt shingle hip roof with exposed rafter ends covers the majority of the building with the exception of the west side where an original shed roof extension with a front gable projection in the center of the facade is present.

The interior of the hall is open. The wood dance floor is approximately 47 feet by 84 feet, comprising the majority of the interior space. Narrow gauge tongue and groove wainscoting cover the perimeter of the walls with painted historic wood panelling covering the remaining portion of the walls. Along the panelling, large hinged wood panel shutters cover each set of banded windows and can be opened around the entire perimeter of the building. Light fixtures are simple sockets with no globes. A historic homemade rotating mirrored ball hangs in the center of the ceiling.

Built-in historic wood benches span the east wall with the exception of the center where a raised twenty foot stage is located. A food booth is situated at the southwest corner of the building. Twenty-eight historic wood booths run along the length of the west wall. Two restrooms are located on the north wall.

Constructed around the same time as the dance hall, a small 16 foot by 30 foot rectangular concession stand sits fifty feet to the east. It is rectangular in plan and wood frame in construction. Covering the

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frame is wood clapboard siding. Horizontally oriented long rectangular window openings in which a single fixed four-light window is located. These window openings are covered in the inside with large wood panels and can be opened along the entire perimeter of the building much like the dance hall windows. A low-pitch asphalt roof with exposed rafter ends caps the building.

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Narrative Statement of Significance:

The Japanese Garden Dance Pavilion in Flandreau, South Dakota is locally significant under criterion A for the property's contribution to the social development and civic pride of the community. Since its completion in 1919, it has served as a community dance pavilion. A good example of a rare building type that once dotted the countryside, it has become a symbol of recreational and social life of Flandreau and surrounding region.

Located in eastern South Dakota, the city of Flandreau serves as the county seat of Moody county. First settled in 1857, Flandreau was an early trading post of the Dakota Territory. However, this first settlement was quickly abandoned due to poor relations between the Indians and whites. Subsequent settlement occurred in 1859 when 25 Sioux Indian families homesteaded the area. A decade later, white families settled in the area. Named for in honor of Judge Flandreau of St. Paul, Minnesota, a former senator, the town was officially founded in 1872. It was not until the arrival of the railroad in 1880, however, that an influx of settlement actually occurred. By World War I the town was well established as a commercial center with economic and social ambitions held in common with most towns in the region.

Organized social activities, including dancing, were popular in this region after World War I. Evidence of this is presented through the growing number of dance halls in the surrounding region. Subsequently, a number of dance pavilions were built in the area and surrounding states. As the popularity of dancing grew, so did the number of dance pavilions. On Friday and Saturday nights, these halls were filled with dance enthusiasts. Soon, these dance halls became the recreational and social centers in many of the communities in which they were located.

In response to dancing's growing popularity and the desire for a planned community area, local builders in Flandreau constructed a dance pavilion. In August of 1919, the building was completed. By 1923, the city assumed ownership of the hall. The city felt it needed a gimmick for its hall to compete with those nearby. It decided to name the hall "Japanese Gardens" and decorate it with Japanese ornaments and lanterns which were easy to find at the time.

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Besides the Japanese ornamentation, the interior of the dance pavilion boasted another interesting decoration, an historic homemade rotating mirrored ball. Two Flandreau residents traveled to Lake Okoboji to look for dance bands to play at the pavilion, they noticed a lighted, mirrored ball on the ceiling of the Okoboji club. They admired it greatly, however, they did not have the money to buy a ball like it, so they built one out of plaster of paris, inserted the mirrors, and used an electric fan motor to turn the ball. The rotating mirror ball is still in use in the dance hall and dates from the period of the hall's construction.

During the early forties, roller skating was held at the pavilion besides the regular dances. The forties also brought a change in name to the pavilion. Because of the war with Japan, the name of the pavilion was changed to "Flandreau Park". In 1950, the name of the pavilion was changed again to "Riverview Gardens". Finally, just before Flandreau's Centennial celebration, it was changed back to "Japanese Gardens".

With the advent of television and the growing popularity of movies, dancing as a form of entertainment began to fall out of public favor. Consequently, fewer and fewer dances were held at the pavilion and others like it. Many of the buildings were consequently razed or adapted to a new use, however, due to the efforts of local dance enthusiasts in Flandreau, this was not the fate of the Japanese Gardens Dance Pavilion. Although dances were not held with the same frequency as before, they continued. Today, besides being used for meetings, family reunions, and other social gathering, the pavilion continues to house dances every other week during the summer months. It continues to attract avid dancers and to serve as the social and recreational meeting place for people throughout the region.

Overall, the Japanese Gardens Dance Pavilion serves as an excellent example of a vanishing property type once popular throughout the region, and represents the social interests which prompted its construction. It maintains a high degree of integrity and continues to make a significant contribution to the recreational and social life of the residents of Flandreau and surrounding region. It is locally significant under criterion A for its contribution to these socially minded traits.

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Bibliography:

Cecil, Chuck. "Dancing the old fashioned way," The Moody County Enterprise,

Deed Record No. 36. Moody County Courthouse

Blilie, Katharina. Some Recollections of Moody County History,
Twentieth Century Club, Flandreau, SD, 1961.

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Continuation Sheet**

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Verbal Boundary Description:

The Japanese Garden Dance Pavilion and Concession stand building are located within the Flandreau City Park, and are encompassed by the following legal boundary description: Tract A of the southwest 1/4 of section 23 in Township 107, North of range 48, West 5th p.m. The park encompasses 22.62 acres.

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries of this nomination include the property on which the Dance Pavilion and concession stand resides and no other surrounding property.