

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

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

For NPS use only

received **OCT 29 1985**

date entered **DEC 2 1980**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Old Main, Augustana Academy

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number Lawler Street at Second Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Canton

N/A vicinity of

state South Dakota

code 46

county Lincoln

code 083

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Old Main Preservation, Inc.

street & number 103 East 5th Street

city, town Canton

N/A vicinity of

state South Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Lincoln County Courthouse

street & number 200 East Fifth Street

city, town Canton

state South Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Sites of Canton Survey

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date July 1980

N/A
 federal state county local

depository for survey records State Historical Preservation Center

city, town Vermillion

state South Dakota

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Old Main, which is located on the grounds of the old Augustana Academy campus in Canton, is a highly visible landmark in an area surrounded by small frame dwellings. Characterized by its massive scale, rough cut stone and arched openings, the four-story rectangular building with a raised basement exemplifies Richardson Romanesque architecture. Other buildings on the campus not included in the nomination are: a gymnasium built in 1923; a women's dormitory built in the 1940's; and Carlson Hall (men's dormitory) built during the late 1960's.

The building is constructed of granite quarried in Jasper, Minnesota. Its foundation is laid in a coursed ashler pattern while the upper stories are laid in a random ashler pattern. Belt courses visually separate the floors. A central four-story tower on the principal (west) facade rises to an open belfry which is topped by an octagonal roof and a flag mast. The base of the tower is a one-and-one-half story recessed entry, supported by columns of polished granite set on rough cut granite pedestals. Three steps with stone treads rise to the front entrance - a set of double doors crowned by an arched six light transom.

The building has an irregular roofline with projecting gables and dormers. The top of the roof is flat with steep concave sides. Two gables are located on the west and east facades (four total) and fourteen dormers project from the slope of the fourth floor roof (two on the west, five on the east, three on the south, three on the north, and two on the tower). The dormers are sided with wood shingles. Devoid of ornamentation, the soffits are constructed of plywood (originally adorned with decorative brackets and dentils). The symmetrically placed windows have wood sashes set in wood jambs and brick mold. All windows are one-over-one, except two; two-over-two windows on the east facade.

The interior structural system is comprised of wood floors, ceilings and partitions secured to masonry bearing walls. The ground and first floors were designed for classrooms and offices. The large chapel/recitation hall on the second floor is open to the third level. A balcony across the rear of this room has an oak railing with turned balusters, arching and rosette designs. The fourth floor was designed for dormitory use. Interior features include oak paneled doors with transoms, 4" oak trim and crownmold, 12" baseboards, wood floors and plaster walls.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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 1901-1903 **Builder/Architect** Omeyer and Thori

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

As an excellent and intact example of Richardson Romanesque architecture, Old Main at Augustana Academy in Canton, is significant in the area of architecture. The building is also important in the area of education for it served the educational needs of the Lutheran Church in South Dakota and the surrounding region for almost 70 years. Old Main represents one of the few remaining classic institutional structures in the State and is a reminder of the strong commitment to education and the Lutheran Church.

A visible landmark, Old Main embodies Richardson Romanesque architecture with its massive scale, rough cut granite, and arched openings. Many original exterior and interior features have been retained including fenestration, overall plan and interior details such as oak paneled doors with transoms, oak trim and crownmold, 12" baseboards, wood floors and plaster walls. A large chapel/recitation hall on the second floor is open to the third, with an oak balcony across the rear. The railing of the balcony has turned balusters, arching and rosette designs.

Constructed from 1901-1903 at a cost of around \$70,000, Old Main was designed by Omeyer and Thori of St. Paul, Minnesota. Their architectural firm also designed the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, Minnesota, and several buildings on the campuses of Augsburg College in Minneapolis, and College of St. Olaf in Northfield, Minnesota.

Augustana Academy originally was established in 1860 in Chicago, Illinois, as Augustana Seminary. Its purpose was to prepare young men for the ministry in the Lutheran Church as well as to education school teachers. Over the next few years, the Academy moved to various locations across the Midwest. In 1884, the college moved to Canton, South Dakota, while the seminary remained in Beloit, Iowa. The Academy continued to grow which prompted the construction of Old Main.

Dedicated on October 9, 1903, the building contained classrooms, sleeping and eating quarters and a chapel that would seat about 500 people. The school continued to grow, and, at one time, had an enrollment as high as 330 students. In 1917, action was taken to merge Augustana Academy, and the Lutheran Normal School into one college in Sioux Falls. The merger was delayed but in 1932, Augustana College and Augustana Academy began operating as separate institutions. The Academy continued to operate until 1972 when the school was closed and sold to the Keystone Treatment Center. Recently, the building has been sold to the Old Main Preservation, Inc., with plans to restore Old Main and adapt it to a new use.

9. Major Bibliographical References

South Dakota Historical Urban Survey Form, Goering and Goering, 1980.
A History of Augustana College by Emil Erpstad, 1955.
A History of Augustana College at Canton, South Dakota, by Richard Hanson.
History of Augustana Academy by Rev. M. O. Ensber, 1934.

10. Geographical Data

Personal papers of Rev. Olaf Lysness and James O. Berdahl.

Acree of nominated property 1.209 acres

Quadrangle name Canton

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

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4	7	9	7	1	8	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries of Augustana Academy are contained within the legal description: Lot 1, Old Main Addition to the City of Canton, South Dakota.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michelle L. Hotzler (technical editing) Melanie A. Betz, Center, Vermillion, SD) State Historical Pres.

organization Hotzler Renovation

date July 15, 1985

street & number 193 Mackubin Street

telephone 612/227-3609

city or town Saint Paul

state Minnesota

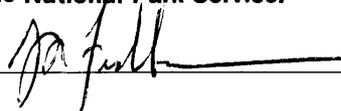
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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



title Director, Office of History

date 10/21/85

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date

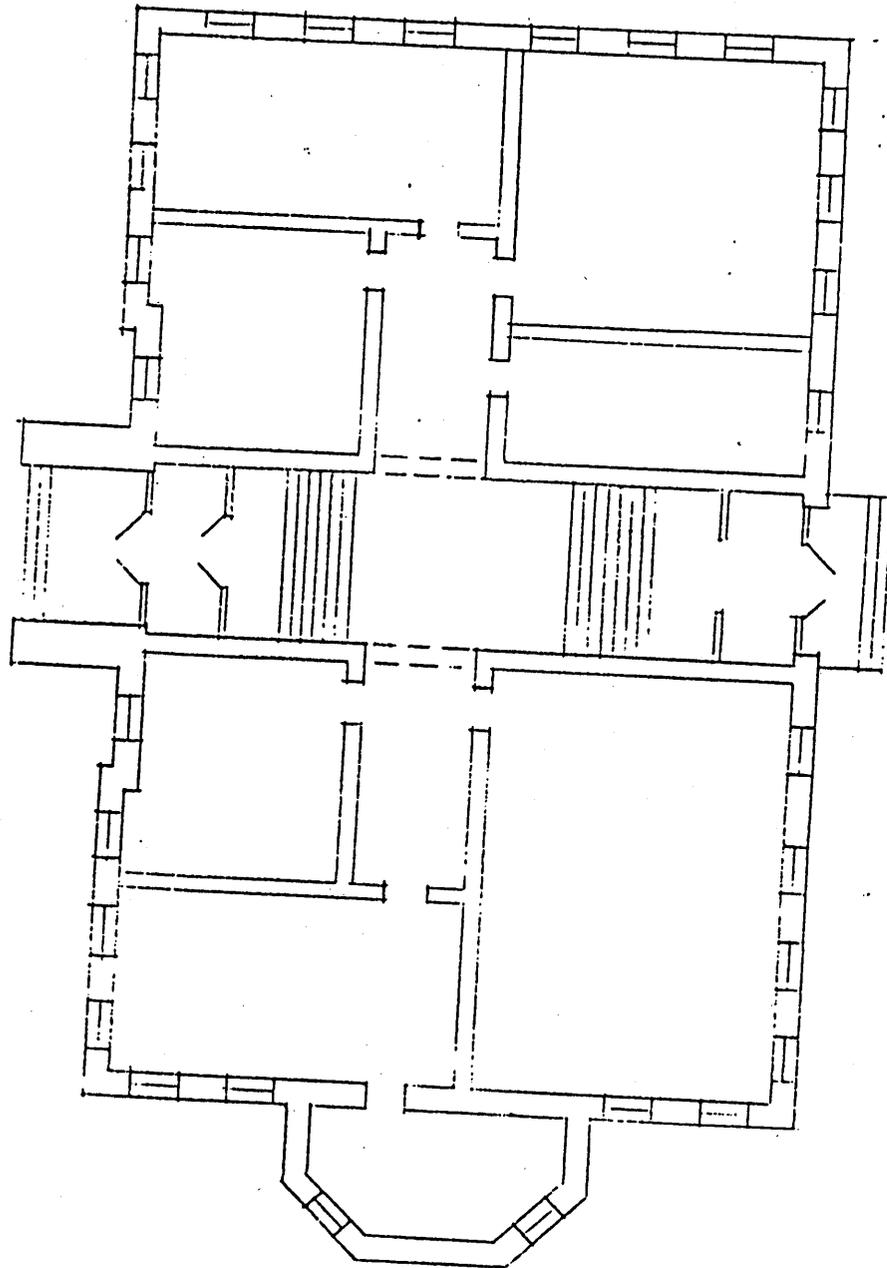
12/2/85

for Melores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



FIRST FLOOR
SCALE $1/16" = 1'-0"$

AUGUSTANA ACADEMY OLD MAIN
Lawler Street at Second Street
Canton, South Dakota