



**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 any 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 (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Lake Preston High School
other names/site number Lake Preston School District 38-003

2. Location

street & number 300 1st Street, N.E. not for publication
city or town Lake Preston vicinity _____
state South Dakota code SD county Kingsbury code 077 zip code 57249

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.)

Jay D. Voigt 09-05-2003
Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

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 of the Keeper: Edward H. Beall Date of Action: 10/24/03

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Historic Schools in South Dakota

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Education Sub: School

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Education Sub: School

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Art Deco

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

roof Wood

Rubber

walls Brick & clay tiles

other _____

Narrative Description

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

See Continuation Sheets

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)

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a 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.)

See Continuation Sheets

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education

Architecture

Period of Significance

1925

Significant Dates

1925

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hugill & Blatherwick, architects

James Robertson, builder

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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

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

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	1 4	6 2 9 6 2 8	4 9 1 3 3 0 3	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			
					<input type="checkbox"/>	See continuation sheet	

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Monica D. Hayden
 organization SD State Historical Society date _____
 street & number 900 Governors Drive telephone 605-773-6001
 city or town Pierre state SD zip code 57501

Lake Preston High School
Name of Property

Kingsbury County, South Dakota
County and State

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name Lake Preston School District 38-003

street & number 300 1st Street N.E. telephone 605-847-4455

city or town Lake Preston state SD zip code 57249

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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Narrative Description

Lake Preston High School is located in the town of Lake Preston on State Highway 14. The school is located on the main highway and occupies an entire city block. It has Fremont Street to the west, Spring Street to the east, US Hwy 14 to the south, and 2nd Street to the north. There is a motel across the street to the west, a convenience store to the east, and private residences surrounding the rest of the campus area. The entire school complex includes the high school, an elementary school, two gymnasiums, and a playground. Only the high school portion is the subject of this nomination. The other buildings, namely an auditorium built in 1956, a kindergarten building added in 1966, the elementary school built in 1982, a 1988 one-story addition at the northwest corner providing access to the elementary school, and a new multi-purpose center added in 1999, were later additions and are attached to the main building in a way that has not compromised the integrity of the original.

The building is designed in the Art Deco style. The exterior walls consist of a multi-wythe brick and clay tile walls. The brickwork has a running bond pattern. There is a lintel course of vertical stack bond brickwork above the windows. The façade has a polychromatic surface with several projections and indentations of brickwork on the wall surface, and decorative details in cast stone. All window sills are made of this cast stone material as well. A stringcourse runs along the bottom of the first story windows in the same cast stone material. There is a wide horizontal band at the base of the building on the south, east and west elevations, made of the same material. All classroom windows and outside doors were replaced during the energy crisis of the 1970s. These non-historic windows consist of a top panel which is stationary and sliding panels at the bottom. The doors are bi-paneled with glass on the top and painted metal on the bottom, capped with a transom light above. All frames and muntins are made of stainless steel and fit the historic opening. The remaining windows were covered with storm windows during the 1970s as well, but the historic wood framing still remains on the interior, particularly in hallways and interior walls.

The façade of the building has a central two-story projection where the main entry is located. The doorway has a slightly rusticated segmental recessed arch, made of cast stone. The door surround is similarly recessed and continues the rustication all the way to the ground. A decorative banner above the door, also in cast stone, bears the school name. The original entry door was replaced in the 1970s for energy efficiency. The new main entrance double door is similar to the other outer doors in the building, in style as well as materials. Between the entry arch and the second floor window is a decorative stacked bond brickwork panel. The second floor window has a stone sill and a soldier course brick header. Above the window is a decorative stacked bond brickwork panel. The projection is capped with a decorative band along the cornice of this projection, bearing the words "HIGH SCHOOL," made of cast stone. The soldier course brick pattern is repeated along the cornice of the entire building. Two pairs of decorative buttresses that extend to the middle of the second floor flank each side of the central projection, as well as all the corners of the building.

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Description (continued)

There are five windows on both the first and second floors on either side of the central projecting entry. At each end of the façade is a projection that features the same decorative buttresses as the central projection. The projections at the corners have no window openings.

The west and east elevations are identical. The first and second floors each have ten non-historic windows and the buttress arrangement described above at the corners at each elevation. There is a horizontal band at the bottom made of cast stone.

The north elevation, rear of the building, is devoid of ornamentation. A one-story projection extends out from the northwest corner elevation. It has a pair of windows on the north elevation, and a single window on the east elevation. The roof of this extension terminates on a parapet at the end where it joins with the rest of the building. The two-story portion of this elevation has a pair of non-historic doors, one on the first, and one on the second story at the northwest corner. An original fire escape ladder made of cast iron extends from the second story door to the ground. The roof on this section is a stepped parapet that terminates on a chimney on the east corner of the roof. This chimney is no longer being used and has been deemed unsafe in a structural evaluation performed in January of this year, and is slated for removal.

Interior:

The ceiling and floors are constructed of wood. The building has a poured concrete foundation and a partial basement with a boiler room which houses the school heating system. The original boiler is still in working order, and has been adapted to natural gas heating. The original radiators still remain in the classrooms and are fully functional.

The main building is a two-story classroom building. There are 12 classrooms, six office/conference rooms, and two bathrooms. There is a band-room which was converted as such in 1955 from an old gymnasium. The front door opens into a small foyer with stairs running alongside the west wall to the upper story. A wide hallway continues into the back of the building, leading into another hallway that runs perpendicularly to it.

The interior woodwork such as interior doors, baseboards and trim is original. The original hardwood floor is still visible through openings such as closets. It has been covered by carpeting in classrooms and offices, and by linoleum in the hallways. Although the interior has seen several alterations through the years, such as partitioning walls and dropped ceilings, the original fabric of the building still remains.

Lake Preston High School
Name of Property

Kingsbury County, South Dakota
County and State

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Also on the site just west of the front of the building is an arch with the original school bell from a school which was built in 1902. That building was razed in 1982.

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Narrative Statement of Significance

This school is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A for its contribution to educational development in the community, and under criterion C for architectural significance, as it possesses unique qualities in design that render it significant in the Art Deco style.

Historical background and significance:

Lake Preston was named by General Fremont of the U.S. Army for Senator Preston of South Carolina. The Dakota Central Railway passed through the village; the depot, side tracks and business district were completed by September of 1881. About that time the railroad company donated a tract of land 100 ft. by 165 ft. to be used for the construction of a school house, and the school board was to purchase a tract of land in equal size adjoining it. Thus the first school was erected in 1882. It was a two-story structure, consisting of four rooms, two stairways and a large entry hall. The initial enrollment was 30 pupils. The original building was moved to another corner of the lot once the railroad established right-of-way through the school yard. This building later became a hotel.

As the town population increased, the original school building could not accommodate all the students. A new brick building was built in 1902. When the new high school was built in 1925, the 1902 building was used to house the elementary grades. In 1982 the 1902 building was demolished once the new elementary school was built.

Education reform in South Dakota had its origins in the late nineteenth century with the advent of Progressivism. This movement had a great impact in the design of new school construction. By the end of the first decade of the 20th century, there was a general belief that poor school facilities directly affected the ability to educate students, particularly in rural schools. Legislation to provide for state aid to standard rural and consolidated schools was passed in 1919, at which time less than 1% of the schools in the state could be approved as "standard." This state aid helped standardize schools in subsequent years, by insuring proper construction of school buildings to meet state requirements. Progressive curricula reforms were implemented at the state level, through state curricula standards. The reformers' efforts in implementing progressive changes to curricula have determined to a great extent the development of education in South Dakota, and with such reforms the schoolhouse evolved as well.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

South Dakota's statewide standardization efforts received official sponsorship through legislation that accorded the State Superintendent of Public Instruction power of approval over new school construction plans. The legislature, in 1907, adopted specific standards for schoolhouse construction. In 1923, the South Dakota Department of Public Instruction published the Standards and Laws for State Standard Rural and State Consolidated Schools of South Dakota as a guide to provide better educational facilities in rural communities. It called for the installation of suitable heating and ventilating plants, indoor toilets, school furniture, equipment and apparatus in new buildings. It also established the proper ceiling height and square footage in classrooms, position and size of windows, standards for blackboards, color of walls, and quality of interior woodwork. In sum, it required that a consolidated district should have a suitable modern school building, properly lighted, heated and ventilated, and also comply with the sanitation specifications required by the Schools' Superintendent.

Additional guidelines for high schools in particular regulated the amount of acreage needed for playgrounds and other outdoor activities, location of buildings, building plans and specifications, classroom capacity, fire alarms and escapes, minimum number of certified teachers, number of years of accredited high school courses, and minimum curriculum requirements.

The construction of the new Lake Preston high school was a result of the passing of a bond issue which raised \$60,000 in 1925. The architectural firm of Hugill & Blatherwick from Sioux Falls, SD, and builder James Robertson from Madison, SD, were hired to undertake the project. Total cost of the building was \$55,454. Hugill and Blatherwick were well known for designing several public buildings in South Dakota during the 1920s, '30s and '40s, including the School of Education for the South Dakota State University, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial in Pierre, the Clark County Courthouse and Yankton's second City Hall, among others.

The 1925 building incorporated the standardized designs and facilities recommended for consolidated high schools in 1919. The school is a brick fireproof structure with a symmetrical plan and spacious classrooms located at either side of a central corridor. The school also contained two science labs on the second floor, with modern equipment for physics and chemistry, a home economics lab, a manual training room, a library, and a spacious, acoustically efficient auditorium/-gymnasium with capacity for 700 people. It also featured modern heating and ventilation systems, classrooms illuminated by a wall of windows, twelve-foot ceilings, standardized blackboards and standard wooden doors. The corridors were spacious and well lit.

Lake Preston High School had its beginning in 1882, at a time when high school education in South Dakota was not common. During those days, the school was divided into two sections, the primary and the intermediate. In keeping with the tradition of regarding the public school as the main center

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for community and cultural activities, the school was used in many ways. Literary society meetings were held there as well as debates, dances and other musical exercises. By 1926, its curriculum offerings included Biology, General Science, Physics, Chemistry, Latin, Algebra, Geometry, Mechanical Drawing, Domestic Science, English, and History, among others. In 1927 it boasted the highest enrollment of any school in the county. Lake Preston High School was one of the first accredited schools in the state in 1929. By 1932, it had added agriculture classes, Plane Geometry, Advanced Algebra and Solid Geometry to its curriculum, as well as Physical Education. It also offered glee club and band, as well as a wide variety of sports activities. Lake Preston was the first school in the county to become a member of the North Central Association in 1936.

Statement of Significance (continued)

The building is designed in the Art Deco style, in fashion from the 1920s to the 1940s, identified by a smooth wall surface, geometric motifs on the façade and vertical projections. It is also representative of the standardized construction for schools of that era, of which a few examples still exist, namely Alpena School District 36-1 in Alpena, South Dakota, built in 1916; Yankton High School in Yankton, South Dakota, built in 1917; Waverly Consolidated School in Waverly, South Dakota, built in 1921.

The school graduated its first high school class of four graduates—1 boy and 3 girls—in 1905. Since then, the high school has maintained its high record for percentage of graduates that have gone to college. In fact, in 1999, a summary of SAT scores placed Lake Preston High School 11th out of 168 schools in South Dakota. The Northeast Educational Coop is presently using the Lake Preston SEEK program for gifted and talented students as an example for other schools.

Lake Preston High School is eligible for National Register of Historic Places under criterion A for its contribution to educational development in the community. It represents a genuine example of a type of school established during consolidation and educational reform in South Dakota, spanning the period 1900-1930. It incorporated all the curriculum innovations and standards of education mandated by new legislation.

It is also eligible for National Register nomination under criterion C for embodying the distinctive characteristics of the method of construction utilized for Consolidated schools of this period, exemplified by spacious and well ventilated classrooms with a ribbon of windows along one wall, wide hallways, and a variety of activity-specific facilities such as gymnasiums, auditoriums, laboratories, and libraries. It is also representative of the Art Deco style of architecture, characterized by a smooth façade and the simplicity of forms, incorporating contrasts in color and materials, often featuring geometric shapes and vertical elements.

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Merrill Zeeck and Stacia Sneesby, interview by Monica D. Hayden, 4 June 2003, Lake Preston High School, Lake Preston, SD

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Lake Preston High School

Name of Property

Kingsbury County, South Dakota

County and State

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(8-86)

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Verbal boundary description

Within Western Town Lot Co. 2nd Edition, the boundary is an imaginary line encompassing only the main building. Starting at a point on the southwest corner of the building, 120' east and 40' north from the southwest corner of the lot, the line runs 133'2" to the east, and from that point, it turns north and runs for 83'1". Then it travels to the west another 133'2" and then southward for 83'1".

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the main high school building that has maintained its historic integrity.