

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Deadwood Historic District

AND/OR COMMON
Deadwood

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN	Deadwood	___ VICINITY OF	___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT	
STATE	South Dakota	CODE	2nd	CODE
		46	Lawrence	081

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME multiple (contact Hon. Lloyd Fox, Mayor)

STREET & NUMBER
City Hall, 3 Seiver Street

CITY, TOWN
Deadwood

STATE
South Dakota 57732

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Lawrence County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Deadwood

STATE
South Dakota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Historic Sites Survey

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Historic Sites Survey

CITY, TOWN
Washington

STATE
D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Deadwood was a boom town created in 1875 during the Black Hills gold rush. The district is situated in the central area of the town of Deadwood and lies in a steep and narrow valley. The plan is basically linear with the bulk of the commercial buildings fronting on main street and the residential area on the slope to the northwest of the commercial district.

The district underwent several severe impacts: A devastating fire in 1879, a flood in 1883, and the panic of 1893. As a result, few of the wooden-front style of the 1876-1883 period survive. More remains of the decade 1883-93 and an even greater number from the next decade. The styles are varied: Queen Anne, Victorian Romanesque revival, period commercial, Georgian revival and Gothic. A complete 1975 list of the buildings at Deadwood accompanies this form and describes each structure according to grade, style, facing, and alterations. The buildings that are blocked out in colors are those included in the district. Included in the district are the Mount Moriah Cemetery, "Boot Hill" where Calamity Jane and Wild Bill Hickok are buried and the so-called "Slime Plant," the last vestige of mining in Deadwood proper.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY Mining	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION Frontiers		

SPECIFIC DATES 1875-1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Deadwood is one of the most highly publicized mining towns of the Trans-Mississippi West. While Lead, several miles distant, has been one of the big gold producing areas of the world, Deadwood itself probably produced no more metal than a large number of other mining towns in the West. Much of its fame rests on such famous or infamous characters as Wild Bill Hickok Calamity Jane, Deadwood Dick, and Poker Alice. The legends concerning these picturesque characters have given a great degree of fame to Deadwood itself.

The Black Hills region of South Dakota was the last rich strike of precious metals on the mining frontier. The Black Hills had been set aside as part of a preserve for the Sioux Indians, but tales of gold deposits, substantiated by Custer's 1874 expedition, ended the government's last hope of maintaining the Black Hills for Indian use.

In 1875, the area was thrown open to those who were willing to risk attack by the Sioux. Deadwood emerged the following spring, catering to the uninhibited appetites of 7,000 miners. The most famous of the frequent gun duels and murders during this period was the killing of Wild Bill Hickok by Crooked Nose Jack McCall.

The first miners to come to the region were Frank Bryant, John B. Pearson, and a party of others who came to prospect in the region in August of 1875. Bryant found a little gold on the mouth of Whitewood Creek. He built a cabin at that location but when General George Crook's troops appeared in the Black Hills, he left barely escaping capture on the way out. In November, Bryant, accompanied by 2 others returned and staked his discovery claim east of his cabin.

The first men to discover gold dug above a mat of dead timber which filled the gulch and within a short time they had staked off all the accessible ground. Late arrivals to the vicinity were forced to clear the littered earth before they could work. To their surprise they uncovered very rich placers. A townsite called Deadwood was laid out on August 26, 1876, by J. J. Williams and others. Tents and log cabins immediately lined the stump-cleared trail that served as a street. The camp's first newspaper, The Black Hills Pioneer,

(CONTINUED)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Wolle, Muriel S., The Bonanza Trail: Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of the West, 1953.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

UTM REFERENCES

A	13	61001280	49142175	B	13	61000280	4916315
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
c	13	6102080	4915015	D	13	6101415	4913000
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Stephen Lissandrello, Historian & Benjamin Levy (map and boundary data)

ORGANIZATION	DATE
Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service	9/13/76
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
1100 L Street NW.	202-523-5464
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Washington	D.C. 20240

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

9/17/85

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Deadwood

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

appeared on June 8, 1876. Six weeks later this newspaper announced that the community contained about 2,000 people. During July of 1876, 3,000 pounds of quartz were taken from the Inter-Ocean mine near Deadwood and shipped to Omaha. In the fall of that year a mill was established for reducing the quartz. A second mill was established in the following year.

By 1879 the town had outgrown the narrow canyon and was pushing up the sides of Deadwood and Whitewood Gulches. In that year fire broke out and short time later it had destroyed the entire business section of Deadwood. The town rebuilt substantially after the big fire but was again crippled by May 1883, when floods destroyed 150 buildings and took 3 lives. The city slowly recovered from this disaster and even boomed in 1887 when a silver strike was made in the nearby camps of Carbonate and Galena, which started a rush to the district.

Before 1890, most of the bullion recovered from the mines was obtained from free-milling ore which yielded to stamping and amalgamation processes of reducing refractory rich ore combined with refractory minerals allowed to remain in the mines or discarded on the dumps, since no profitable method of treating such ore was known. When the invention of the chlorination and the cyanidation processes for operating on low grade ore deposits was developed, a new era of mining was begun. Two mines which had erected plants at the edge of town in 1887 and 1888, respectively, ran with a combined capacity of 300 tons of ore a day. Another plant which operated largely on custom ore was burned in 1898, but was immediately rebuilt and continued for some time to produce 2 million dollars a year in gold. The silver depression of 1893 hit the city another staggering blow and its population dropped suddenly from 25,000, to 1,000. The town held its own largely as a result of the reduction works. By 1909, only one big mine was operating. Today the city's mining income comes from the Homestake property at Lead, 3 miles distant.

Deadwood still retains very much the atmosphere of an old mining town. Many of the old buildings have survived. One structure worth noting is the Number 10 Saloon, the place that takes credit as the spot where Wild Bill Hickok was killed in 1876 by Crooked Nose Jack McCall. At the Mount Moriah Cemetery nearby may be found the grave of Preacher Smith, who was killed by the Indians in 1876, and the graves of Wild Bill and Calamity Jane who were buried side by side.

The Chamber of Commerce has been very active at Deadwood in publicizing that old mining town. Each year during "Deadwood Days" the re-enactment is given of the killing of Wild Bill by Jack McCall, and the subsequent trail of the killer.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Deaewood Historic District National Historic Landmark

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Verbal Boundary Description

The city limits, as delineated on the enclosed map, form the boundary of the district. Lot lines and scale given on enclosed map.

Justification for Boundaries

The city of Deadwood was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for its significance as a mining town. Unlike other towns in settlement areas, which grow slowly from a central, platted core, the community of Deadwood was platted as a whole and has not grown beyond its city limits. Of additional historic significance is the phenomena that Deadwood grew to its approximate present size within a few years of its founding. Deadwood is a rare example in South Dakota of a town which grew so quickly that a majority of what is seen today dates from the early days of settlement. Although there is twentieth century infill, the core of the city dates from after the 1879 fire and before the panic of 1893.

The residential areas of Deadwood also contain house types rarely found in other parts of the state. Both the rapid influx of residents from other parts of the country and the quick prosperity allowed for the building of these structures.

The basic Y shape of the community has remained intact as the rugged topography has allowed for little new growth. These more recent structures are clustered at the edges of the town, along the narrow, valley streets. The central business district is concentrated on Main Street, which has an exceptional collection of Victorian era commercial buildings. Businesses are also found on the side streets of Lee and Deadwood and along the one prong of the Y, Sherman Street. Residential neighborhoods are built up the hillsides. The most visually distinct of these is along Williams Street. However, many landmark dwellings are also found in the "presidential" neighborhood, along Van Buren, Madison, Jefferson, Washington, Lincoln, and Monroe Streets. More modest historic housing is found along Denver Avenue and in the Burnham-Highland Avenue neighborhood. This less prestigious neighborhood also contains the old Catholic cemetery, St. Ambrose. Industrial activities are found on the hillside at the fork of the Y and along Main Street, on Whitewood creek, at the opposite end. These two structures create visual brackets for the community and remind the visitor of Deadwood's historic foundation.

The earlier suggested boundary dating from the 1976 Lissandrello-Levy nomination concentrated on the commercial district of the city and excluded both its mining-related structures and fine residential architecture. The city did not grow outward over time and therefore, structures at the edges of the community are as integral a part of its early history as the centrally placed structures.

A final consideration for placing the boundaries at the city limit concerns the history

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Deadwood Historic District

National Historic Landmark

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

of the district itself. Community and local officials, as well as the State Historic Preservation Office had assumed, on the basis of the first designation and the Scott Gerloff survey, that the boundaries were as originally described, the city limits. All preservation activities have been based on that assumption. Many technical, and perhaps, legal questions may arise, were the boundaries to be changed.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 20 1988

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number _____ Page 1 Deadwood Historic District Amendment

DEADWOOD HISTORIC DISTRICT

AMENDMENT TO NOMINATION: CHANGE IN PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE
ADDITION TO AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE

It has become apparent to the South Dakota SHPO that the period of significance and areas of significance in the original nomination for the Deadwood Historic District, a designated National Historic Landmark, fall short of encompassing the true historical character and significance of the resources contained within its boundaries. Therefore, this document proposes extending the period of significance and adding areas of significance. The new proposed period of significance extends from 1875, the beginning date of settlement in Deadwood, to 1939, the established 50-year cut-off date for the National Register. Proposed areas of significance, in addition to industry as indicated in the original nomination, include: architecture, commerce, entertainment/recreation, and transportation. This document has been prepared in compliance with procedures set forth in "National Register Bulletin 8: Use of Nomination Documentation in the Part 1 Certification Process," (09-24-81, rev. 04-84) and in "National Register Bulletin 16: Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms," (09-30-86) and its supplement (05-14-87). Much of the work here is based on an historic sites survey of the commercial core of the city conducted by the Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission (certified local government) in the summer of 1988 and on a citywide reconnaissance survey for planning purposes conducted jointly by the commission and the State Historical Preservation Center. The following description and statement of significance are extensions of the original nomination. All other items of the original document should remain unchanged.

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: Deadwood Historic District (Reference No. 66000716).
2. LOCATION: Deadwood, Lawrence County (SD 081), South Dakota (SD).
7. DESCRIPTION:

As is discussed in the original nomination form, Deadwood is a sprawling linear community laid out in several gulches, between peaks of the northern Black Hills formation. Founded in 1875 and 1876, it grew very rapidly in response to the mass insurgence of gold seekers and their followers. Although not a large city by any means, its population and relative prosperity has remained fairly constant since its infancy. As other towns around it grew into ranching or mining camps, Deadwood took on more urban airs. Famous as a raucous mining town primarily due to a self-determined image, its physical resources are more that of a commercial service community. A wide variety of cultural resources are found within the city's borders. Its historic building stock ranges from that of the mid-19th Century to the late 1930s.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 20

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number _____ Page 2 Deadwood Historic District Amendment

SOME PRINCIPAL BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT: The following properties are only a few of the many contributing resources from the late 19th and early 20th centuries in the Deadwood Historic District. They have been selected for description in this document to illustrate samples of the various kinds of properties and themes discussed in the amended statement of significance.

Adams House: Built in 1892 for W. E. Adams, prominent businessman and six-term mayor, the house is one of the best surviving examples of Queen Anne domestic styling in the state. Now used as a popular bed-and-breakfast establishment, the house was unoccupied, yet left furnished, from 1936 to 1987; thus, it offers an excellent picture of period appointments. The exterior features include typical asymmetrical fenestration, fishscale shingles, and a huge 2-1/2 story tower with a conical roof.

Central Main Street Commercial Buildings: The commercial core is a cohesive collection of 19th Century and 20th Century brick or brick-faced buildings ranging in style from Italianate, Queen Anne, and Commercial to a few modern intrusions. Much of the building stock is in need of repair due to years of overuse and neglect.

Old Freemont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad Depot (CNWRR Depot): Used as City Hall since the 1950s, this one-story brick depot is fairly typical of the style and form commonly used by the Chicago and North Western Railroad and its affiliates for their depots. Built between 1892 and 1903, it is a long rectangular building featuring several broad half-timbered gables.

Franklin Hotel: Built in 1903, this four-story building of rusticated stone and tan brick construction has a long history of hotel service to the city and surrounding region. Situated near the end of Deadwood's commercial row not far from the old CNWRR depot, it is truly a local landmark. In good to excellent condition, the Franklin features Renaissance Revival design elements. The building has witnessed very few changes to either its exterior or interior since its construction. A noteworthy item is its projecting canopy/balcony supported by Doric columns and wrapped by a balustrade.

Deadwood Carnegie Public Library: Built in circa 1905 with a Carnegie donation, the small Neo-Classical Revival building still serves the city as a library. Featuring a simple pediment supported by heavy Doric columns and a small cupola, the building is in excellent condition.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 20 1999

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page 3 Deadwood Historic District Amendment

Old Lawrence County Courthouse: One of scores of Neo-Classical and Renaissance Revival courthouses erected throughout the state after the turn of the century, this massive stone building was designed in 1908 by the Minneapolis firm of Bell and Detweiler. It features a copper dome and classical columns. No longer open to the public, it has suffered severe neglect for many years and is now in need of considerable repair. A county-sponsored restoration project of this building is currently in progress. It remains a good example of its architectural style and a representative of the city's post-1900 expansion.

Adams Memorial Museum: W. E. Adams bequeathed the initial funding for this museum devoted to regional history. It houses many rare items from Deadwood's past and has always been a popular tourist stop. Built in 1930 of light brown brick it is very eclectic in stylistic treatment, but it includes some stylized references to the 20th Century Classical Revival movements.

Franklin Garage: Of the automobile era, this sprawling dark brown brick building, located across from the Franklin Hotel, was an early automobile dealership facility for both sales and service. Its design is based on Mission Revival influences popular at the time of its construction in 1932.

Sinclair Stations: At least two good period examples of early gas stations are extant in the city. Dating from the late twenties or early thirties, these concrete block buildings are faced with stucco and feature large plate glass windows, typical oil company color motifs of white with a green band, and Streamline or International design influences.

Homestake Slime Plant: This large wood frame building was constructed in 1935 by the Homestake Mining Company for use as an ore processing plant. It is now owned by Lawrence County and used for equipment storage. It is in need of considerable repair.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 20 1988

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number _____ Page 4 Deadwood Historic District Amendment**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

Under Criteria A and C of the National Register Criteria, the Deadwood Historic District is significant in the areas of commerce, entertainment/recreation, transportation, and architecture. Since its founding in 1875 and 1876 into the present day it has served as a vital commercial hub for the region. Until the 1950s, it was also a major rail transportation center serving both passenger and freight customers. During the early 20th Century, the city became a prominent Black Hills tourist stop, another role it continues today. Because of the dynamic nature of its growth, the city also exhibits good specimens of a vast variety of architectural styles, ranging from those of the mid-19th Century to trends popular into the late 1930s. Predominant styles and stylistic influences include Queen Anne, Eastlake, Stick Style, Italianate, modified Second Empire, English Vernacular Revival, vernacular one-and-two-story cube shaped houses from both centuries, various versions of the Commercial Style, Neo-Classical Revival, Mission Revival, Colonial Revival, Craftsman, Art Deco, Moderne, and International.

While Deadwood does retain some of its old mining boom town atmosphere as the original nomination purports, the city's historical ambiance derives principally from its role as a support community for regional hardrock mining activity outside of the city. The great gold rush mania ended quickly when the early placers in the northern Black Hills gave out by the late 1870s. They were soon replaced by serious hardrock mining ventures, which required considerable capital in order to finance the extensive milling facilities needed in the minerals extraction process. Thus, East and West Coast investors generally took over the business in the region. In 1876, pioneer prospectors Moses and Fred Manuel discovered the famous Homestake lode at the town of Lead, to the west and south of Deadwood. They promptly sold this rich vein of low-grade gold ore to George Hearst of San Francisco. Under his control the Homestake Mine became the largest, most productive gold mining operation in the Western Hemisphere. Lead became distinctively a company town, which it remains today. Many other smaller operations proliferated throughout the northern Hills area, almost all surrounded by little company towns of their own, all devoted solely to the interests of the employer. In contrast, Deadwood became the cosmopolitan service town for the region. Although a few extraction mills were located in Deadwood, it was primarily reserved as a city of auxiliary services, ranging from restaurants, hotels, and saloons to clothing stores, law offices, and entertainment facilities.

Just as the initial gold rush was ending, and many of Deadwood's buildings were standing empty, a devastating fire swept through the downtown commercial core destroying most of the original building stock. But, the community's merchants had already firmly established themselves from the early boom town trade and rapidly rebuilt their stores to take advantage of new commerce from

JUN 20

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number _____ Page 5 Deadwood Historic District Amendment

the burgeoning hardrock mining movement. By that time, the city's character was evolving from that of a mining camp to a small but very urban commercial center, evidenced by the early arrival of a street car line that provided passenger service along the gold belt, a modern expansive commercial district, an extensive telephone system, electric lighting, and several community and self-improvement organizations. With these luxuries, it soon became the premier city of the northern Black Hills.

In 1890, the Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad, a subsidiary of the Chicago and North Western [CNWRR], connected the city to outside supply centers bringing an end to the stagecoach era. From then until the 1950s, Deadwood served as a major rail center for the surrounding region serving both mining and cattle ranching industries. Even Rapid City, at the east-central foothills of the Black Hills formation and which eventually became the second largest city in the state, was not served by direct rail connections until as late as 1907. Indeed, for many years the bulk of freight coming in and going out of the region came through Deadwood. At the close of the century the railroad had erected a fine one-story brick depot, signaling its faith in Deadwood's future. Except for Lead, no other northern Black Hills town had as great a capacity to serve rail customers.

However, in the 1950s, the CNWRR instituted a streamlining program closing hundreds of depots in favor of larger regional centers. Thus, in 1952, the Deadwood depot was sold to the city and now serves as City Hall. Due to heavy demand by mining customers, a huge rail yard was once located in the midst of the city. Some remnants from this facility are still visible. Other artifacts from the railroad days include wood frame warehouses, some trackage, and railbeds.

Also, unlike the mining company towns, the city's ethnic makeup was mostly of old-American migrant stock. Except for a substantial Chinese enclave, and a small but noticeable Jewish population, there were no particular pockets of immigrants like those found in Lead. Although often labeled as laundrymen, the Chinese also ran a sizable number of stores and restaurants. Often a distrusted and oppressed group, much of their history in Deadwood is shrouded by mystery. It is widely believed among local circles that tunnels beneath the streets were used for secret rituals including the use of opium. A great deal more research, including historical archaeology, is needed in this area to discern myth from fact.

From the late 1880s to the early 1890s, mining in the region suffered a decline due to the inability of technology to keep pace with the needs of the industry. Specifically, many ores were not free milling and required better processes to make extraction affordable. By the mid-1890s, however, regional mining engineers introduced and developed the use of cyanide to extract gold,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number _____ Page 6 Deadwood Historic District Amendment

which revived the industry. The advent of this new process caused a new boom era to descend upon the region, as it witnessed a period of lavish capital investment. In response, Deadwood's commercial district doubled in size and continued to grow into the next century. Expansion of the mining industry and therefore commercial advancement in Deadwood peaked just before the beginning of World War One. Indeed, the bulk of the present city was built by 1914. Some of the landmark public buildings erected just after 1900 include the old Lawrence County Courthouse, the Deadwood Carnegie Library, and the Franklin Hotel.

After the war, demand for gold dropped dramatically, and the mining industry once more went into a slump, but again the downturn was only very temporary. In the 1920s and 1930s, mining was a thriving business. Even when the rest of South Dakota suffered the economic chaos of the Great Depression, the mining industry, especially Homestake, remained stable. Interest in strategic minerals such as tin, mica, and feldspar also developed. In Deadwood, however, things were fairly quiet in terms of new construction. The few ore processing plants that had operated within its boundaries closed, and the city came to rely more upon a fainting commercial trade.

Yet, new hope sprang out of a budding tourist industry. Although intrigue for the natural beauty and recreational potential of the Black Hills goes back to the early 1890s, it was not until widespread use of the automobile and development of a reliable road system three decades later that tourists came to the area in great enough numbers to create a new regional industry. In 1916, both the federal and state governments launched a massive road and bridge construction campaign. Eventually, an interstate network of paved trunk roads connected major communities, with state and local roads branching out to smaller settlements. Across the nation, many roadside service stations, motels, and diners were established along these new routes to service the needs of business and vacation travelers. Combined with a general interest in tourism in the 1920s, these improved travel facilities made a tourist industry in the Black Hills possible. Creation of state and national parks along with the carving of the Mount Rushmore Memorial (in the central Hills) provided even greater impetus. The Black Hills tourist industry continues with considerable force into the present day. Merchants in Deadwood have lured this new clientele to their city by taking advantage of its pioneer history. Many have projected an Old Wild West image to sell to the tourists.

Several attractions in the city were and still are based on its days as a rowdy mining camp in a somewhat fictitious facade. Yet, several authentic local landmarks including tourist homes, motels, and gas stations as well as the ever-popular Adams Museum date from the early days of tourism development. Boosted by the tourist trade and by the relatively stable mining industry, Deadwood continued to thrive in the thirties despite worldwide depression.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 20 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number _____ Page 7 Deadwood Historic District Amendment

In fact, only one building in the city is known to have been commissioned by the Works Progress Administration in contrast to the state's agricultural areas where government assistance programs were the mainstay of the economy. Year-round tourism remains the principal industry in the city today.

In summary, for the most part, the extant physical remains of the historic city date from between 1880 to 1914, with notable additions in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Its building stock reveals the history of its commercial enterprises, including hotels, business blocks, etc. Most of its industrial, transportation, and Chinese ethnic heritage lies buried beneath the streets as strata of historical archaeology. Deadwood retains its urban feel with a dense concentration of commercial buildings and an extraordinary catalog of architectural styles found throughout the city.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Cole, Diane M. "A preservation Planning Proposal." Ms. 1989. (Housed at the State Historical Preservation Center, Vermillion, SD).

Clow, Richmond L. Untitled Draft Ms. on Black Hills Milling. n.d. (Prepared for and housed at the State Historical Preservation Center, Vermillion, SD).

Deed Records. City of Deadwood.

Historic Sites Survey Files. State Historical Preservation Center, Vermillion, SD.

"Map of Deadwood, Lawrence County, South Dakota." New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1885, 1891, 1897, 1903, 1909, 1915, 1923.

Parker, Watson. Deadwood: The Golden Years. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1981. *passim*.

Selentic, Joe. Deadwood Gulch: The Last Chinatown. Deadwood, SD: Deadwood Gulch Art Gallery, 1975. *passim*.

Some History of Lawrence County. Deadwood, SD: Lawrence County Historical Society, 1981. *passim*.

Torma, Carolyn. "History of the Development of Deadwood." Draft Ms., 1989. (Prepared for and housed at the State Historical Preservation Center, Vermillion, SD).

JUN 20 1989

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page 8 Deadwood Historic District Amendment

11. FORM PREPARED BY:

John E. Rau, National Register Coordinator
South Dakota State Historical Preservation Center
P. O. Box 417, Vermillion, SD, 57069
phone: 605-677-5314.

April 6, 1989.

4. 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria See continuation sheet.

 _____ 6/16/89 _____
Signature of certifying official Date

South Dakota SHPO _____
State or Federal agency or bureau