

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

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

For NPS use only

received **DEC 29 1982**
date entered

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

1. Name

historic North Mankato Public School

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 442 Belgrade Avenue

N/A not for publication

city, town North Mankato N/A vicinity of

state Minnesota code 22 county Nicollet code 103

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Ray N. & Loretta P. Eckes

street & number 425 Wheeler Avenue

city, town North Mankato N/A vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registrar of Deeds - Nicollet County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town St. Peter state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Minnesota Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1982 federal state county local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- Fort Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

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 checked="" 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

The North Mankato Public School was originally constructed in 1890 as a simple Queen Anne two story, four room brick and stone structure two and one half stories in height. It was set upon a high basement of coursed rusticated ashlar, a material which was employed as decorative treatment for window sills and lintels, gable copings, and the arched entrance. Entry was gained through an off-set square tower which was crowned by an open belfry and pyramidal room, and which was integrated at the upper level into the slope of the truncated hip roof.

In 1904 the original structure was doubled in size with an addition identical in architectural detailing and proportions to the original. The tower was retained and as such assumed a prominent central position in the principal facade of the buiding. This facade became symmetrical as a result, conveying a unified appearance of the two sections as a single building.

The school complex also includes a two story brick addition to the north (rear), completed in 1920.

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 checked="" 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 1890 & 1904

Builder/Architect 1904: George Pass, Architect

O.M. Hagwell, Builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The North Mankato Public School is significant as the most locally distinctive public building in the city and as a good representative example of a local adaptation of a Queen Anne style school building.

North Mankato, platted in 1857, developed slowly. Its location between St. Peter, Nicollet County's county seat, and Mankato, Blue Earth County's county seat, its geographical isolation on the west bank of the Minnesota River, and its lack of rail service hampered sustained development.

However, by 1880 a bridge spanning the Minnesota River connected Mankato and North Mankato, and a period of marked growth began in the city. A lower tax base in North Mankato attracted home owners who commuted to work in Mankato. A substantial brick industry added further economic impetus to the city. These boom years in industry and population resulted in the need for a new public school and in 1890 a two-story four room school was constructed in the heart of the downtown area at a cost of \$4,000. Increased enrollment by 1904 necessitated the construction of an addition to the east end of the school. George Pass of Mankato and O.M. Hagwell of North Mankato were selected as architect and contractor respectively. (Although records do not exist, it is probable that Pass designed the original school building as well, since the 1904 addition is virtually identical to the original in form and use of materials.) The 1904 addition, which cost \$5,380, doubled the number of classrooms. By 1920, the population had doubled and a seven room addition was constructed on the north side of the building. With this final addition, the school operated until 1959 when it was sold for office and commercial space. Current plans call for the total restoration and rehabilitation of the building for use as rental apartments.

The prominent location of the North Mankato Public School in the heart of the city's central business district makes it an important representative of the growth and development of North Mankato and a focal point of the community which served its educational needs for 70 years.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet - page 1

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Mankato West

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UTM References

A

1	5	4	1	9	0	4	0	4	8	9	1	0	9	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 15, 16 & 17 and part of vacated alley, Block 3, Original Town Plat of North Mankato, all in Nicollet County.

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan Roth, Research Historian and Charles Nelson, Historical Architect

organization Minnesota Historical Society date 15 November 1982

street & number Fort Snelling History Center telephone 612-726-1171

city or town St. Paul state Minnesota 55111

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 Russell W. Fridley

title Russell W. Fridley date 12/22/82
State Historic Preservation Officer

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 1/27/83

J. Delous Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
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North Mankato Public School, North Mankato, MN; Nicollet Co.

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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

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Bibliography:

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1958.

_____, North Mankato Public School - District 60. Personal Manuscript: 1982.