**1 NAME**

**HISTORIC**

Recreation Hall

**AND/OR COMMON**

---

**2 LOCATION**

**STREET & NUMBER**

Missouri Avenue

**CITY. TOWN**

Fort Peck

**STATE**

Montana

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

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**OWNERSHIP**

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**STATUS**

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**PRESENT USE**

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**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District

**STREET & NUMBER**

6014 U.S. Post Office & Courthouse

**CITY. TOWN**

Omaha

**STATE**

Nebraska

---

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**

Recorder's Office

**STREET & NUMBER**

Valley County Courthouse

**CITY. TOWN**

Glasgow

**STATE**

Montana

---

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

**TITLE**

Cultural Resource Survey, Government Townsites Study

**DATE**

1 May 1980

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District

**CITY. TOWN**

Omaha

**STATE**

Nebraska
**DESCRIPTION**

The Recreation Hall was built in the Swiss Chalet style during the construction camp era. It is a one-story building, constructed in a rectangular plan. The Recreation Hall houses a gymnasium and stage and has a gabled roof. The structure has a wood frame, wood horizontal siding, and composition roofing. The building has a painted finish. The Swiss Chalet buildings at Fort Peck were stained either brown or gray. The trim, in each case, was slightly darker. The doors, sash, storm sash, screens, and shutters were painted blue, green, red or maroon, according to predetermined color schemes. It is presently used for recreation purposes such as basketball and handball.

Many of the windows and doors at the Recreation Hall are boarded up, most likely to conserve heat in the winter. This building and the Fort Peck Theatre have large signs which say "Recreation Hall" and "Fort Peck Theatre", respectively. The Recreation Hall construction echos some of the herringbone pattern that is more common on the theatre.
The Recreation Hall is significant in terms of its contribution to the town of Fort Peck. It meets Criteria A and C. Criterion A applies to exceptionally significant properties "that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history." The significant event, in this case, is the construction of Fort Peck Dam. Fort Peck had 50,000 workers living in the town at various points during the construction camp era. Being somewhat remote, it was important to provide creative outlets for the workers. The Recreation Hall provided a place for the workers to exercise, relax, and work off tensions and frustrations.

Criterion C applies to the exceptionally significant properties "that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction . . ." The Swiss Chalet style was popularized by the National Park Service between 1900 and 1920. This rustic style of architecture is well-suited to the Montana countryside.

This building is now 51 years old and it appears to qualify for the National Register on the basis of its scarcity. There is very little government architecture in Montana from the 1930's. This is a good example of WPA-era architecture, and, as such, should be preserved.


**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY** less than 1 acre

**UTM REFERENCES**

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<tr>
<td>D</td>
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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Begin at the intersection of Missouri Avenue and Niobrara Street. Proceed southeast along Niobrara Street for approximately 50 feet. Proceed southwest for approximately 50 feet (point of beginning). Proceed southeast for approximately 150 feet. Proceed southwest for approximately 75 feet, back to the point of beginning.

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

**NAME / TITLE**

Rebecca J. Otto Archeologist

**ORGANIZATION**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**DATE**

August 1985

**STREET & NUMBER**

6014 U.S. Post Office & Courthouse

**TELEPHONE**

402-221-3070 FTS 864-3070

**CITY OR TOWN**

Omaha

**STATE**

Nebraska

**12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION**

**STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

YES ✓ NO ___ NONE ___

**FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE**

LTC Kit J. Valentine

**TITLE**

Chief, Office of Environmental Overview

**DATE**

15 April 1986

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

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

DIRECTOR OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER