

NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL FORM

PAGE 1

UPDATE

Field Code Nettle Creek School #1

SITS# 32ML 01032

Map Quad _____

Site Name _____

Map Quad _____

Site Name _____

LTL T. 144 N., R. 82 W., Sec. 14 QQQ 7 of the QQ 5 of the Q 7

LTL T. N., R. W., Sec. QQQ of the QQ of the Q

LTL T. N., R. W., Sec. QQQ of the QQ of the Q

LTL T. N., R. W., Sec. QQQ of the QQ of the Q

NAD _____ UTM _____ Zone _____

NAD _____ UTM _____

City: Washburn Nd 58577

Subsection
1 = N½
2 = E½
3 = S½
4 = W½
5 = NE¼
6 = SE¼
7 = SW¼
8 = NW¼

Street Number: _____

Street Name: Boat Ramp Road between 1st and 2nd Ave.

Urban Legal Description: _____

Total Number of Architectural Features: 1

Fieldwork Date: _____

Reconnaissance Survey

Intensive Survey

Project & Principal Investigator:

Country School House Project
Kathy Wilner
366 43rd Ave SE
Bowdon ND 58418

Contracting Firm or Agency Completing the Form: _____

Additional Information: _____

SHSND USE

Component _____ Study Unit _____ Verified Site _____ CR Type _____

Component _____

Component _____

Recorded By: Kathy Wilner Date Recorded: 9/1/2021

Form instructions: (1) Download; (2) Save A Copy; (3) Submit a paper copy of the form to the SHSND and upload the PDF version of the form and corresponding GIS shapefiles to the ND SHPO-run FTP site.

NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL FORM

PAGE 3 – Feature Data

UPDATE

Field Code Nettle Creek School #1

SITS# 32 ML 01032

Complete one Page 3 for each architectural feature at the site.

1. Feature Description, Integrity, Eligibility:

In the third paragraph there is information about school closure and ownership. The ownership is not Washburn City Park Board, it is McLean County Historical Society.

2. Owner's Contact Information:

McLean County Historical Society
PO Box 124
602 Main Ave.
Washburn ND 58577

Recorded By: Kathy Wilner **Date Recorded:** 9/1/2021

NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM
PAGE 1

UPDATE

SITS# 32 ML 1032

SITE IDENTIFICATION Nettle Creek School #1

Field Code Nettle Creek School #1 Site Name Nettle Creek School #1
Map Quad Washburn Map Quad

LTL TWP 144N R 82W SEC 14 QQQ 7 QQ 5 Q 7
LTL TWP R SEC QQQ QQ Q
LTL TWP R SEC QQQ QQ Q
LTL TWP R SEC QQQ QQ Q

UTM N ZONE UTM E NAD 1927 NAD 1983

City: Washburn ND 58577

Street Number:

Street Name: Boat Ramp Road between 1st and 2nd Avenues

Urban Legal Description:

Subsection:
1 = N 1/2
2 = E 1/2
3 = S 1/2
4 = W 1/2
5 = NE 1/4
6 = SE 1/4
7 = SW 1/4
8 = NW 1/4

SITE DATA

Total # Architectural Features: 1

Fieldwork Date: 3/22/2010

Reconnaissance Survey [checked] Intensive Survey

Project Title & Supervisor:

Country Schoolhouse Project

Report Title & Author(s):

Additional Information:

SHSND USE

Area of Significance 2
Area of Significance

Ecozone 19
Ecozone

CR Type 2
Verified Site
Non-Site

ECF
TF

Recorded By Kathy Wilner
(First Name & Last Name)

Date Recorded 4/30/2011
(mm/dd/year)

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**NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM
PAGE 2—Feature Data**

Field Code Nettle Creek School #1 SITS# 32 ML

Complete one Page 2 for each architectural feature at the site.

Architectural Feature # 1

Construction Date	1883	Feature Type	9	Condition	7
Feature Date	2	Context	7	Plan Shape	5
Structural System	26 12	Primary Exterior	26	Style	other style
Original Owner's Ethnicity		Secondary Exterior		Architect/Builder	

Other Information:

Foundation Concrete block and cement Stories 1

Roof/Cornice Gable

Window Double hung

Dating Method(s): McLean County History and school records

Feature Preservation Recommendation(s) (Check all that apply):

- Individual nomination
- Contributes to a potential district
- No nomination potential
- Will not contribute to a district
- Potential district—feature would be a contributing element if other properties constitute a district
- Thematic nomination potential
- Component of a historic site or landscape
- Moved (specify all applicable choices)—a) relocation occurred within a historic period; b) recreates original site, orientation, landscape, & spatial relationships; c) compatible in context with neighboring structures; d) relocation has damaged eligibility
- Historical associations require further investigation

Recorded By Kathy Wilner
(First Name & Last Name)

Date Recorded 4/30/2011
(mm/dd/year)

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NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM
PAGE 3—Feature Data

Field Code

Nettle Creek School #1

SITS# 32 ML

1. Feature Description, Integrity, Eligibility:

Nettle Creek School was one of the first schools built in McLean County, Dakota Territory. A school board election took place in June 1883 and they selected the SE corner of Section 10-143-81 for the location of the school. The contract was let to build a log schoolhouse for about \$400. The first term of school began November 6, 1883.

As mentioned above the school was a log structure. It was later covered by 4" wide lap wood siding painted white. The roof, in keeping with the historical aspect, is covered with wood shingles. Each corner is trimmed with 1x4 boards. There is a new chimney at the south end of the school and a flagpole on the roof of the entry. There is a concrete pad at the entry of the school. There is an old 6-panel wood door at the entry. Another wood door opens from the entry into the main body of the school. The entry has one window to the east and that is boarded up, another smaller opening to the west is covered with a wood, hinged door and might have been used to unload coal into the fuel storage room. There are some bare walls in then entry.

Inside the main body of the school the walls are lath and plaster, painted a light blue. The floor is wood and is also painted a shade of blue. Just to the left as your enter the room there are coat hooks. There is a 1x4 inch trim board all around the bottom of the wall. The windows are boarded up to the west but uncovered to the east. They are double hung and the windowsills are quite deep as the logs are between the inner and outer walls. The windows are trimmed with white painted 1x4 inch boards. The school has a wood burning stove about 6 feet from the middle of the south wall and the stove pipe is connected to the chimney. The interior is furnished with desks, bookshelves and books, a teacher's desk, maps on the wall, an old piano and a blackboard on the west wall between the windows. It is in good shape.

The ceiling is a dropped with white ceiling tiles.

The school was closed in 1949 and it was moved to its present location July of 1968. The school was purchased at a cost of \$100 dollars and the move cost \$300. Refurbishing of the school was done at a cost of \$1368.79 dollars. According to a sign at the site the school was deeded to the Washburn City Park board for preservation as a State Historical Building.

Recorded By Kathy Wilner
(First Name & Last Name)

Date Recorded4/30/2011
(mm/dd/year)

**NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM
PAGE 4—SITE DESCRIPTION**

Field Code Nettle Creek School #1 **SITS# 32 ML**

Complete one Page 4 for the entire site.

2. Owner's Contact Information:

 Washburn City Park Board

 Washburn North Dakota 58577

3. Access (to rural areas):

4. Site Area (ft²):

5. Site Description:

Nettle Creek School sits in a pioneer park. There are pieces of farm equipment in the yard and there is walking trail on the south side. There is a wooded area south of the trail. The Highway 200 bridge that crosses the Missouri River is just to the west. There is open land to the east with houses beyond. Signs speak of the history of the school.

Recorded By Kathy Wilner
 (First Name & Last Name)

Date Recorded 4/30/2011
 (mm/dd/year)

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**NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM
PAGE 5—SITE DESCRIPTION**

Field Code

Nettle Creek School #1

SITS# 32

ML

6. Summary of ALL Site Features & Evaluation of Significance:

7. References/Comments:

Recorder contact information:

Kathy Wilner
366 43rd Ave SE
Bowdon ND 58418

Recorded By Kathy Wilner
(First Name & Last Name)

Date Recorded

4/30/2011
(mm/dd/year)

Instructions to complete a digital version of this form: (1) Download a copy to your hard drive; (2) Open the saved blank copy; (3) Fill out the form; (4) Use the Save As command to rename the form appropriately and save; (5) Print and submit to SHSND.



Nettie^{creek} School #1

3-22-2010

North Side

Kathy Wilner

ML



^{Creek}
Nettle School #1 3-22-2010 East Side Kathy Wilner ML



^{Creek}
Nettle School #1 3-22-2010

West side

Kathy Wilner

ML



^{CRICK}
Nettle School #1 3-22-2010 South Side Kathy Wilner ML



feature

Hettle Creek School 4/30/2011 Kathy Wilner ML

NDCRS SITE FORM
ARCHITECTURAL SITES
Page 1

SITS # 32 MLB 1,03,2

Field Code ERT-WBT-2 Site Name NETTLE CREEK SCHOOL
Field Code _____ Site Name _____

Map Quad WASHBURN
Map Quad _____

- 1. N½
- 2. E½
- 3. S½
- 4. W½
- 5. NE¼
- 6. SE¼
- 7. SW¼
- 8. NW¼
- 9. C

LTL	Twp	<u>144</u>	R	<u>82</u>	Sec	<u>14</u>	QQQ	<u>18</u>	QQ	<u>7</u>	Q	<u>5</u>
LTL	Twp	_____	R	_____	Sec	_____	QQQ	_____	QQ	_____	Q	_____
LTL	Twp	_____	R	_____	Sec	_____	QQQ	_____	QQ	_____	Q	_____
LTL	Twp	_____	R	_____	Sec	_____	QQQ	_____	QQ	_____	Q	_____
LTL	Twp	_____	R	_____	Sec	_____	QQQ	_____	QQ	_____	Q	_____
LTL	Twp	_____	R	_____	Sec	_____	QQQ	_____	QQ	_____	Q	_____

City WASHBURN

Street # _____ Street # _____

Street Name _____ Street Name _____

BOAT RAMP ROAD

of Features 2

SITE DATA

FEATURE DATA

<u>1</u> Feature #	<u>9</u> Feature Type	<u>6</u> Condition
<u>1.0.8.3</u> Construction Date	<u>9</u> Context *	
<u>2</u> Feature Date		<u>5</u> Plan Shape *
<u>2.5</u> Structural System **	<u>2.6</u> Primary Exterior *	_____ Secondary Exterior
<u>0</u> Ethnic	<u>2.8</u> Style *	
<u>1.1.0.1.04</u> Fieldwork Date		_____ Architect/Builder
		_____ Other Information

SHSND USE

_____ Soil Association	<u>19</u> Ecozone	<u>2</u> Area Signf	_____ MS Number
_____ Soil Association	_____ Ecozone	_____ Area Signf	_____ MS Number
<u>2</u> CR Type	<u>1</u> Verified Site	<u>0</u> Non-Site	<u>2</u> E C F <u>2</u> T F
<u>4</u> State Registry		<u>4</u> National Register	

Coder John G. Morrison and Derek M. Swedeland

Date Coded 1/16/05

Reconnaissance Survey _____

Intensive Survey X

Manuscript/Report Title: WASHBURN TRAIL EXPANSION: A CLASS III Cultural Resource Inventory

Author(s): John G. Morrison

NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM

Page 1a

Field Code ERT-WBT-2

Feature Number 1

SITS# 32ML

DESCRIPTIVE SECTION

FOUNDATION STORIES ^{CONCRETE BLOCK} One story on cinderblock foundation	^{Stories} <u>1</u>	ROOF TYPE/CORNICE Gabled cedar shingled roof
---	--------------------------------	---

WINDOW CONDITION Most original windows replaced, openings altered	DATING METHOD Newspaper articles and local history documents
--	---

PRESERVATION RECOMMENDATION (check all that apply):

- 1) Individual Nomination
- 2) Contributes to a potential district
- 3) No nomination potential
- 4) Will not contribute to district
- 5) Potential district not known at this time: feature would be a contributing element if neighboring properties constitute a district
- 6) Thematic nomination potential
- 7) Component of historic site/landscape
- 8) Feature has an important physical, spatial, functional, historic, or architectural relationship to the site/complex/farmstead
- 9) Moved: A) relocation occurred within historic period. B) recreates original site, orientation, landscape and spatial relationships. C) compatible in context with neighboring structures. D) relocation has damaged eligibility.
- 10) Request comparative study of neighboring properties
- 11) Historical associations require further investigation

DESCRIPTION/INTEGRITY/ELIGIBILITY:

The structure is the Nettle Creek School. Also present on the property are an associated machinery shed (primarily a roof) and miscellaneous examples of farm machinery (approximately six to ten). The structure was locked at the time of the inventory and attempts to photograph the interior of the school through the windows were not successful. The following discussion of the structure, therefore, is limited to observations of the outside of the building, and to observations of the interior space as could be viewed through the windows. It is known that the building was moved to its current location in 1949. Because the building was moved to the location, no deeds search was conducted.

The School building consists of a single story rectangular structure with a smaller attached mudroom or coatroom on the northern wall. The main structure is approximately 26' by 20'. The smaller element measures approximately 14' x 10'. Gable roofs covered with cedar shingles top both structures. A chimney is present at the peak of the roof on the southern end of the main structure, while a flag pole is present on the peak of the coatroom at the northern end. Two 2/2 double hung windows are present on the east and west sides of the school and one window (boarded over) is present on either side of the coatroom structure. The window openings on the eastern side of the main structure were uncovered, while those on the west were boarded over. Given the history of the building, as originally being a log structure, the window opening present today are unlikely to be those of the original structure.

A typical door opening on the north side of the School leads to the small coat room or entryway and provides the only point of access to the structure. The entryway is located in the center of the north wall and is situated above a small cement slab. Windows are present on either side of this structure but are boarded over leaving no means to determine the types of windows underneath. They appear, however, to be deadlights given their size, shape, and position high on the wall. The opening on the eastern wall of the entryway displays a cutout section below the window opening which is similar in size and shape to the 2/2 double hung windows in the main building.

The entire structure, the school and the entryway, sits on a foundation of modern concrete blocks. This appears to be a recent update to the structure. EARTHWORKS was unable to determine the date of this work.

Urban Legal Description: _____

CONTINUATION SHEET

Inside the structure is an example of a typical rural one room schoolhouse including period student desks and chairs with a large teacher's desk at the front. A large chalkboard is mounted to the southern wall of the classroom. The school is currently unused but Ms. Vivian Merkel of the McLean County Historical Society noted that local schoolchildren often take field trips to the Nettle Creek School (personal communication 2004).

Historical documents note there were two Nettle Creek Schools (Barnes 1936; Robinson 1978; No Author 1982). The first school was constructed of log in July 1883 and opened in December of the same year in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 10, T 144 N., R. 83 W. Two years later, in 1885, this school was moved one mile east to the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 10 and was thereafter referred to as the Wing School No. 1. Three years later, another school was built in the Nettle Creek Township and opened August 4th, 1888, in section 28, T. 143 N., R. 81 W., and was named District No. 2 School. It is unclear which of these two schools was moved to the western edge of the town of Washburn in 1949. It is most likely the first of the two. This conclusion is drawn from two sources: in the document *McLean County Heritage* (1978: 40), there is a picture of the Nettle Creek School at its current location, with a caption noting that the logs had been covered with siding. In a 1982 Washburn Leader newspaper article, titled *Nettle Creek Was First School Erected In County*, reference is made to moving the log structure in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 10 to Washburn in 1949. The original log school was donated to the McLean County Historical Society by Mr. Oscar Doepke, whose children attended the school until its closing in 1946.

Local historian Ms. Mary Ann Barnes Williams was instrumental in organizing and obtaining the funding to move the school from its location in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 10 to Washburn to commemorate the school. Mary Ann Barnes Williams is a person of local prominence who wrote a number of published manuscripts dealing with history of the region surrounding Washburn.

The physical and spatial integrity of the structure has been compromised by the movement of the school from its original setting and by the addition of the concrete foundation, new windows, and siding. Because of these additions, the structure lacks significant aspects of integrity.

While this is understood to be one of the first schools built to serve McLean County, it fails to meet National Register criteria under Criterion A because it has been moved from its original location in Section 10, T. 143 R., 81 W., to its present spot on the western side of Washburn.

There is no known association of the Nettle Creek School with persons who have a recognized local, state, or regional importance during the period of operation of the school (Criterion B).

The school fails to meet the requirements to be considered under Criterion C because the physical structure and setting of the school have been significantly altered, by the addition of a foundation, windows, and siding coupled with its movement to a new location.

The school is being recommended as *not eligible* for the National Register of Historic Places as it lacks integrity and fails to meet the requirements of Criteria A, B, and C.

NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM

page 2

Field Code ERT-WBT-Z

SITS # 32

FEATURE DATA

<u>2</u> Feature #	<u>4.5</u> Feature Type	<u>6</u> Condition
<u> </u> Construction Date	<u>9</u> Context *	<u> </u> Plan Shape *
<u>6</u> Feature Date	<u> </u> Primary Exterior *	<u> </u> Secondary Exterior
<u>1.2</u> Structural System **	<u>35</u> Style *	<u> </u> Architect/Builder
<u> </u> Ethnic		<u> </u> Other Information
<u>11101104</u> Fieldwork Date	<u>P.O.L.E. BARN / MACH. SHED</u>	

FOUNDATION TYPE NONE STORIES 1 ROOF TYPE/CORNICE CORRUGATED METAL

WINDOW CONDITION NO WINDOWS / NOT APPLICABLE DATING METHOD(S) PROFESSIONAL OPINION

PRESERVATION RECOMMENDATION (check all that apply):

- 1) Individual Nomination
- 2) Contributes to a potential district
- 3) X No nomination potential
- 4) Will not contribute to district
- 5) Potential district not known at this time: feature would be a contributing element if neighboring properties constitute a district
- 6) Thematic nomination potential
- 7) Component of historic site/landscape
- *****
- 8) Feature has an important physical, spatial, functional, historic or architectural relationship to the site/complex/farmstead
- 9) Moved: A) relocation occurred within historic period. B) recreates original site, orientation, landscape and spatial relationships. C) compatible in context with neighboring structures. D) relocation has damaged integrity.
- 10) Request comparative study of neighboring properties
- 11) Historical associations require further investigation

DESCRIPTION/ INTEGRITY/ ELIGIBILITY _____

DESCRIPTIVE SECTION

This feature consists of a machinery shed (primarily a roof) protecting a large piece of farm machinery. The foot print of the structure is approximately 20' by 20'. The structure is comprised of eight telephone poles supporting a corrugated metal roof. The machinery shed is being recommended as *not eligible* for the National Register of Historic Places while it retains essential aspects of physical and spatial integrity, it fails to meet the requirements of Criterion A through C.

Urban Legal Description _____

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM

Page 3

Field Code ERT-WBT-2

SITS# 32ML

OWNER'S NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE #: McLean County

PROJECT TITLE: Washburn Trail Extension

REPORT TITLE: Washburn Trail Extension: A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory, McLean County, North Dakota

SITE AREA: approximately 28,000 ft² (in square feet)

ACCESS: Traveling northwest on US Highway 83 through Washburn, turn right and head south-southwest on County Highway 200 for one half mile. Turn left on Main Avenue and drive one quarter mile until you come to the Boat Ramp Road intersection. Turn right and follow Boat Ramp Road across the railroad tracks. The site is located on the southwest side of the four way intersection.

DESCRIPTION:

The site is comprised of the Nettle Creek School, one machinery shed, and miscellaneous farm machinery near the intersection of two roads.

SUMMARY OF SITE FEATURES & SIGNIFICANCE:

The main feature of the site is the Nettle Creek School which was the first school in the Washburn area, and believed to be the first school building erected in McLean County. The school was moved from its original location approximately eight miles to the south, to its current setting on the western side of Washburn in 1949. The physical and spatial integrity of the structure has been compromised by the movement of the school from its original setting and by the addition of the foundation, windows, and siding. The school lacks significant aspects of integrity.

While this is the first school built to serve McLean County, it fails to meet National Register eligibility requirements under Criterion A because it has been moved from its original location in Section 10, T. 143 R., 81 W. There is no know association of the Nettle Creek School with persons that have a recognized local, state, or regional importance during the time period of operation of the school (Criterion B). The school fails to meet the requirements to be considered under Criterion C because the physical structure and setting of the school have been significantly altered, by the addition of foundation, windows, and siding coupled with its relocation. The school is being recommended as *not eligible* for the National Register of Historic Places because it lacks integrity and fails to meet the requirements of Criteria A through C.

The machinery shed is being recommended as *not eligible* for the National Register of Historic Places. While it retains essential aspects of physical and spatial integrity, it fails to meet the requirements of Criterion A through C.

COMMENTS/REFERENCES:

Barnes-Williams, Mary Ann

1936 Pioneer Days of Washburn North Dakota and Vicinity Books One and Two. Reprinted by the McLean County Historical Society in 1995 by BHG, Inc.

No Author

1982 Nettle Creek Was First School Erected In County. *The Washburn Leader* June 30, 1982 page F-2:. Washburn, North Dakota

Robinson, Sheila (editor)

1978 *McLean County Heritage*. Taylor Publishing Company, Dallas, Texas.

NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM

Page 6

Field Code ERT-WBT-2

Map/Photo Pages

SITS# 32ML



Figure 3: Overview of Nettle Creek School and associated features, from northwest of the school, view to the south-southeast.



Figure 4: Overview of Nettle Creek School and associated features, from northeast, view to the southwest. The embankment of Highway 200 is in the background.

NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM



Figure 5: Overview of farm machinery, from northeast, view to the west-southwest.



Figure 6: Close up of the northwest side of the Nettle Creek School House, view to the south-southwest.

NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM

Page 8

Field Code ERT-WBT-2

Map/Photo Pages

SITS# 32ML



Figure 7: Overview of the northeastern corner of the Nettle Creek School, view to the southwest.



Figure 8: Overview of the southeastern corner of the Nettle Creek School, view to the northwest.



Figure 9: Overview of the southwestern corner of the Nettle Creek School, view to the northeast.



Figure 10: Overview of the eastern side of the coat room of the Nettle Creek School, view to the west.



Figure 11: Overview of the northeastern corner of the machinery shed, view to the southwest.



Figure 12: Overview of the southeastern corner of the machinery shed, view to the northwest.