

NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM

PAGE 1

Field Code HDR 30541

SITS# 32 SH 272

SITE IDENTIFICATION

Map Quad Pelican Lake SE Site Name Prophets Township Schoolhouse
Map Quad _____ Site Name _____

LTL	TWP	<u>147</u>	R	<u>78</u>	SEC	<u>13</u>	QQQ	<u>7</u>	QQ	<u>7</u>	Q	<u>7</u>
LTL	TWP	_____	R	_____	SEC	_____	QQQ	_____	QQ	_____	Q	_____
LTL	TWP	_____	R	_____	SEC	_____	QQQ	_____	QQ	_____	Q	_____
LTL	TWP	_____	R	_____	SEC	_____	QQQ	_____	QQ	_____	Q	_____

UTM 382180 N ZONE 14N
UTM 5266979 E NAD 1927 _____ NAD 1983

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

City: _____

Street Number: _____

Street Name: 9th St. NW

Urban Legal Description: _____

SITE DATA

Total # Architectural Features: 1

Fieldwork Date: 4/19/2011

Reconnaissance Survey _____ Intensive Survey

Project Title & Supervisor:

345 kV Electrical Transmission Line from Center to Grand Forks, North Dakota

Report Title & Author(s):

Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation of the Proposed Route of a 345 kV Electrical Transmission Line from Center to Grand Forks in North Dakota. Kevin (Lex) Palmer.

Additional Information: _____

SHSND USE			
Area of Significance <u>2</u>	Ecozone <u>19</u>	Verified Site <u>1</u>	CR Type <u>2</u>
Area of Significance _____	Ecozone _____	Non-Site _____	
Area of Significance _____	Ecozone _____		

Recorded By Kevin (Lex) Palmer Date Recorded 4/19/2011
(First Name & Last Name) (mm/dd/year)

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NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM PAGE 2—Feature Data

Field Code HDR 30541 SITS# 32 SH 272
Complete one Page 2 for each architectural feature at the site.

Architectural Feature # 1

Construction Date _____ Feature Type 9 Condition 6
Feature Date 3 Context 7 Plan Shape 5
Structural System 25 Primary Exterior 26 Style Other Style
Original Owner's Ethnicity 12 Secondary Exterior _____ Architect/Builder _____

Other Information:

Foundation Field stone Stories 1
Window Most original windows and openings intact
Roof/Cornice Gable
Dating Method(s): 1914 Prophets Township atlas, 1920 Federal census, 1892 GLO map

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

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PAGE 3—Feature Data

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1. Feature Description, Integrity, Eligibility:

The schoolhouse foundation is a combination of local field stone and concrete. The south facade has a window bank with six 2/2 light double-hung wood windows with historic vintage wood storm windows over them. The west elevation has a side-gabled mud room with a lower elevation. A set of two concrete steps with a metal pipe handrail provides access to the mud room which has a wood five-panel door with original metal hardware that has fallen in. The mudroom west and north elevations have 2/2 light wood fixed windows with missing muntins. The upper wall of the west elevation mudroom has an attic opening with the window missing. The north and east elevations have no wall openings. The steep-pitched shingle-clad roof has a wide boxed eave, and a brick chimney is present on the east end in the south roof exposure. The interior is in poor condition, and is clad with lathe and plaster. A broken blackboard is present on the north wall, and a fuel oil stove is located in the east portion of the room.

The building is present on the 1914 Sheridan County atlas on land owned by Addison.G. Dimmick. The 1920 North Dakota State Census for the Prophets Township indicate that Dimmick was born circa 1858 in Ohio. He resided on the property with four other members of the family. He lost the property in the 1920s.

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**NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM
PAGE 4—SITE DESCRIPTION**Field Code HDR 30541SITS# 32 SH 272**Complete one Page 4 for the entire site.**

2. Owner's Contact Information:

Unknown.

3. Access (to rural areas):

From McClusky drive west on North Dakota Highway 200W 4.8 miles. Turn right on Center Avenue North and drive 4.9 miles. Turn left on 9th Street NW and drive 1 mile to the schoolhouse, which stands by itself on the north side of the road.

4. Site Area (ft²): 1,000

5. Site Description:

The schoolhouse is located in a treeless area on a gradual east-west trending slope adjacent to plowed agricultural fields. There is no historic vegetation associated with the building and no artifacts were obvious on the surface.

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NDCRS ARCHITECTURAL SITE FORM
PAGE 5—SITE DESCRIPTION

Field Code HDR 30541SITS# 32 SH 272**6. Summary of All Site Features & Evaluation of Site Significance:**

The significance of this school building is in that it illustrates the early one-room county schoolhouse trend during the early 1900s in North Dakota associated with the immigration boom. The building is potentially eligible under National Register Criterion A at the local level for its association with early twentieth century rural public schools in North Dakota. This would only be as part of a thematic National Register nomination of one-room school houses, or for North Dakota educational properties, and not as an individual basis.

Archival background research did not uncover any linkages with individuals important in local, state, or national history and therefore the property is not eligible under National Register Criterion B.

It is recommend that the building be considered as eligible to the National Register under Criterion C as a good example of a wood one-room school house dating to the early 1900s. This would be as part of a thematic nomination, and the building is not eligible under this criterion on an individual basis. While abandoned, the building still retains a high degree of integrity and has not been altered since its establishment in the 1910s. These school houses reflected the permanence sought by new residents and were used in part to draw in new settlers.

The school house retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The exterior maintains its original appearance and the interior design and materials are consistent with the original construction and include a slate chalkboard.

7. References/Comments:

1914 Prophets Township Map; 1920 North Dakota Federal Census, Prophets Township.
Henke, Warren A. and Everett C. Albers. 1997. The Legacy of North Dakota's County Schools.
Bismarck: North Dakota Humanities Council. 1945 USGS Pelican Lake quadrangle map.

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NDCRS SITE FORM ATTACHMENTS SECTION

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Pelican Lake SE 1981 T 147N R 77W SW ¼, SW ¼, SW ¼, Section 13

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**NDCRS SITE FORM
ATTACHMENTS SECTION****Field Code HDR 30541****SITS# 32SH272**

The 1892 General Land Office plat map does not depict any features at this site. Deed research conducted at the Sheridan County Courthouse indicates that the land was originally owned by Addison Dimmick. Dimmick received a patent from the Department of the Interior on October 26, 1911. He apparently could not satisfy the mortgage and the property went into foreclosure. A Sheriff's Deed was made and Sheriff Ernst Siegele gave the property to Sheridan County on November 30, 1923. On January 3, 1940 the State of North Dakota made a tax deed sale giving the property to John Beck. A warranty for joint tenancy was made between Anna Beck (wife), Andrew (son) and Marie Beck, and Albert (son) and Marie Beck. They gave the property to Francis O. (son) and Marian Beck on October 3, 1945. In John's final deed, the property goes to Francis on February 27, 1946. On June 17, 1949 Francis and Marian give the property to John Beck. John held on to the deed for the entire the entire southwest quarter of the southwest quarter until January 8, 2010 when he sold the property to Gregory and Michelss Parker. The piece of land that the school house sits on appears to have been in part owned by Sheridan County. On November 22, 1966 Sheridan County was the grantor on a quit claim deed with McClusky Public School District #19. A second quit claim deed was done on March 12, 1975 again with Sheridan as the grantor and McClusky as the grantee.

The 1920 US Federal Census, Prophets, Sheridan, North Dakota (Roll T625_1340 Page 1B Enumeration District 218) lists Gotlieb J Kresman as a boarder staying with the John Blanchard. Kresman is listed as a teacher working at a public school. According to the 1914 Prophets township map, John Blanchard owned the southeast quarter of section 12, approximately a mile north of the school. This suggests that Mr. Kresman was a teacher at the rural one-room school house on Addison Dimmick's property in section 13. Kresman was German-Russian, which was the predominant ethnicity in Sheridan County at that time, according to Warren Henke and Everett Albers in *The Legacy of North Dakota's County Schools* (1998).

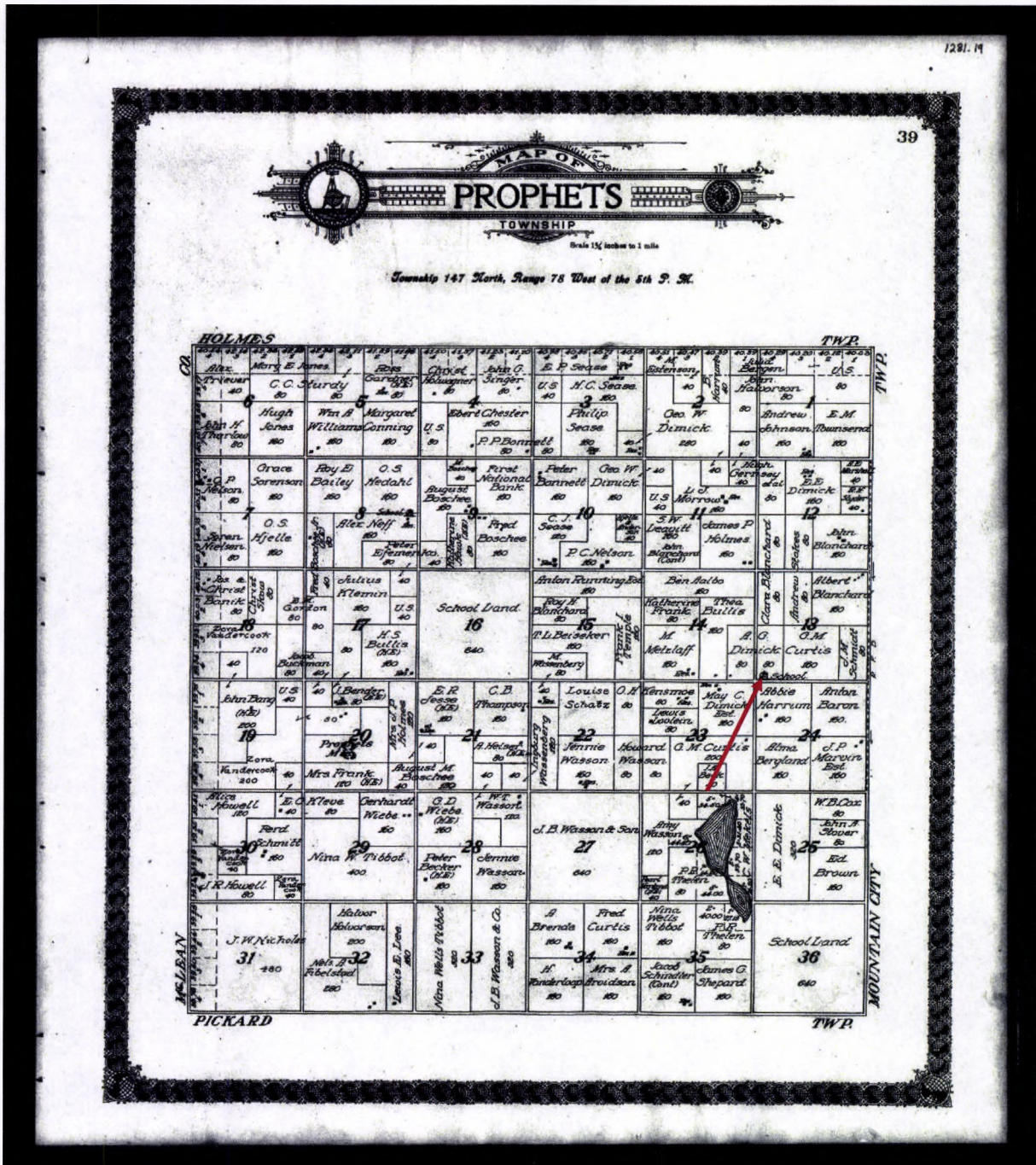
This research suggests that the schoolhouse was established between 1893 and 1913, with the schoolhouse being present on the 1914 Prophets township map. Early North Dakota schools utilized various building materials, however the bulk of them were of wood construction and painted white, like this school house (Henke and Albers, 1998:iv). The Prophets Township one-room school house mirrors North Dakota school house establishment and abandonment trends. One-room school houses became more prevalent during the early 1900s as immigration increased. Predictably, the number fell with the 1930s Great Depression. One source notes that many one-room schoolhouses closed due to economic hardships (Henke and Albers, 1998:63). This trend continued due to subsequent economic recessions and the twentieth century trend of Americans moving away from rural areas to urban centers. From 1935 to 1960, North Dakota one-room school houses declined in number, and during the 1960s this type of school building closed to the point that only two percent of North Dakota student attended school in them (Henke and Albers, 1998:v).

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1914 Prophets Township Map showing school house.

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April 19, 2011 view to northeast of south and west elevations.



April 19, 2011 view to southwest of north and east elevations.

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