

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97000500

Date Listed: 6/3/97

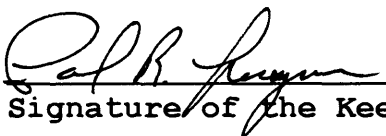
Lincoln School
Property Name

Missoula
County

MT
State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

6/3/97
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Significance:

The property meets Criteria Consideration A as a resource owned and used by a religious organization that derives its primary significance from architectural and historical importance in an area other than religious history.

Geographical Information:

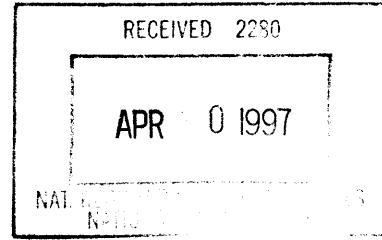
The correct U. T. M. Coordinates are: 12 274038 5196382.
[The coordinates shown on the USGS map (correct) do not match those provided on the NR form.]

This information was confirmed with Chere Jiusto of the MT SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Lincoln School

other name/site number: Imagination School

2. Location

street & number: 1209 Lolo Street

not for publication: n/a
vicinity: n/a

city/town: Missoula

state: Montana

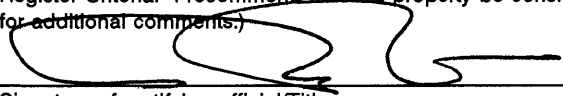
code: MT

county: Missoula code: ~~030~~ ⁰⁶³

zip code: 59801

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally X statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 _____
Signature of certifying official/Title

4-21-97
Date

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

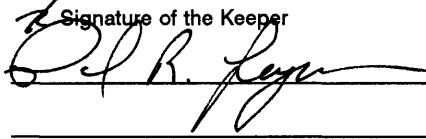
Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

<u>X</u> entered in the National Register <u> </u> see continuation sheet		Date of Action <u>6/3/97</u>
<u> </u> determined eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<u> </u> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<u> </u> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<u> </u> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<u> </u> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<u> </u> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<u> </u> other (explain): _____	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: private

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing Noncontributing

Category of Property: building

 1 building(s)

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register: 0

 sites

 structures

 objects

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a

 1 TOTAL

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

Current Functions:

Educational facility: School

Vacant/Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Materials:

Late 19th and Early 20th Century

foundation: stone

American Movements: Craftsman

walls: brick

roof: wood

other: n/a

Narrative Description

The Lincoln School is a one and a half story, five-room brick and stone building. The half-basement is constructed of coursed rubble stone with the top used as a water table intersecting the windows in the basement at the base of the semi-circular arch. The entrance on the front has a battered stone base supporting the walls, arch, and roof of that entrance.

The pitched-gable, asphalt shingled roof has an intersecting pitched-gable dormer and a hipped roof cupola on the top of the intersection of the roof and dormer. The roof has exposed rafters and the gable ends are supported by wood brackets. The end rafters at the corners or at the gable ends extend farther than the rest and have a decorative end cut into them. The gable ends are stucco.

The walls of the main story are a common bond, yellow-brown brick. A darker reddish brown brick was used to accent the semicircular arches and sills of the windows, the arched entrance, and as a decorative panel in the walls on the front of the building.

The front entrance to the school is arched with a pitched-gable asphalt shingle roof, exposed rafters and wood brackets supporting the gable end. The entrance doors are wood three panel with a light above and there are wood windows on either side. There are 6/6 double hung windows on the upper floor and 3/3 metal double hung windows on the lower floor. There is a wood exit stair from the upper floor on the back of the building.

As you enter the building there is a wood staircase that allows you to go up or down into the classrooms. This area opens up into the intersecting dormer. The interim consists of four large classrooms and office space. The walls and ceiling are

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plaster and the floors are wood with the main circulation spaces covered with vinyl tile. The wood doors are three paneled with a glass light and a glass transom above. The wood around the doors and windows has been painted. The stair balusters and rails are left stained.

The building appears to be in very good condition and has been maintained well since the closing of the school in 1982. Since the school closure, the use first as an art school, and more recently a church, have been most compatible with the original design, intent and function of the building. As a result, very little has been altered in this building, and the level of integrity in all respects is excellent.

Streets border the property on all sides; adjacent blocks contain residential single-family housing. The site is surrounded by a grass playground. There are several large maple trees in the front school yard, and a small asphalt parking lot behind the southwest corner of the building.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C Areas of Significance: Architecture, Education
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): n/a Period(s) of Significance: 1914-1945
Significant Person(s): n/a Significant Dates: 1914
Cultural Affiliation: n/a Architect/Builder: Ole Bakke/E.S.P. Newton

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Lincoln School was built in 1914, in the Rattlesnake Valley north of Missoula. The school is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A, for its association with educational expansion during the first decade of the 20th Century -- a major period of economic growth of Montana's western city. It gains significance according to Criterion C, representing the work of prominent local architect Ole Bakke, and statewide as a rare example of an Arts and Crafts movement school building design.

The decade prior to the construction of the Lincoln School marked the emergence of Missoula as a major western Montana industrial and transportation center. The Northern Pacific Railroad completed construction of its new passenger depot in 1899 and, in addition to the urbanization of the city occasioned by the expansion of transportation services, Missoula's manufacturing and lumbering industries also grew rapidly during these years. Residential additions to the townsite of Missoula in the Rattlesnake Valley occurred primarily after the turn-of-the-century.

Founding of Lincoln School

On July 31, 1902, the citizens of the Rattlesnake area petitioned the Board of Trustees of School District #1 to build a schoolhouse in the Valley. A one room, frame building, measuring 26' x 30', was erected on a one-acre lot purchased from the County Poor Farm in 1902. Constructed by G.R. Grover for \$658, the school was initially called the Poor Farm School, until September 4, 1902, when it was renamed Lincoln School. On April 16, 1910, the citizens again petitioned the School District, requesting a new school building that would accommodate those students living in the "Park Addition, East Missoula, Townsite Company's Addition, and Parkside, besides much land not yet platted but already thickly settled." At the time, all children above the fourth grade had to cross Rattlesnake Creek, the Northern Pacific Railroad siding, and the street car tracks to arrive at the Central School. The Board of Trustees in 1911, purchased the land upon which the present Lincoln School is located from R. M. Cobban, for the sum of \$3,151. The original frame schoolhouse was moved to this new location in August of that year. In 1914, the need for a larger facility was recognized and the Board of Trustees requested bids for the construction of "a modern, 4 room brick and stone building with basement and assembly room, properly equipped for teaching grades up to and including the 8th." The cost of this building, which was completed for the school year 1914-1915, was \$10,852. E. S. Newton was the contractor and Ole Bakke was the architect. When the new Lincoln School was completed, the older frame school building was removed from the site.

Architectural Significance

Ole Bakke was an architect for a new century, who rose to prominence in Missoula following his arrival there in 1900. Norwegian born, Bakke enlisted as a draftsman and trained with Missoula's preeminent architect, A.J. Gibson. Bakke became the "successor to A.J. Gibson" following Gibson's retirement in 1912-13. In 1920, he took on H.E. Kirkemo as a draftsman, and in the same way, passed on the business to Kirkemo when he returned to Norway in 1921.

During his career, Bakke designed a number of prominent buildings in Missoula, notably the Forestry Building at the University of Montana, the Smead-Simon block downtown. He also designed the Alberton and Franklin elementary schools. By comparison with the Lincoln School, the Alberton School dates to 1919, and is a larger, more institutional building. It is a building of less definable style, composed of brick. The Franklin School, also built in the 1910s, is an eclectic design reflecting late Victorian stylistic influences.

The design of the Alberton School by Ole Bakke clearly exhibits the features of the Arts and Crafts movement in its stone and brick detailing, its roof line with supporting brackets and exposed eaves, and its overall massing. For a school building,

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the design and materials used are quite unusual for the period in the state of Montana. Virtually unaltered since the historic period, the building has retained excellent historic architectural integrity.

School History

When school opened at the newly completed Lincoln School in the fall of 1915, there were two teachers on staff for grades 1 - 8. In 1926, a principal was added, who was charged with school supervision and a full teaching load. In 1939, students in grades 7 and 8 were moved out of Lincoln School to Central School. During the late 1950s, a growing school population convinced school trustees to purchase an additional remaining 5 acre parcel from the County, for construction of a new school.

With a projected enrollment in 1961 of 160, the new Rattlesnake School opened, and the Lincoln School became vacant. Students moved to the new school, and the State Forester leased the building for the next three years. However, with school enrollments on the rise, Lincoln School was reopened in 1964 to house classes for students of various primary grades spilling over from the Rattlesnake facility. It continued to serve the district in this capacity until the doors were closed for good in June 1982.

The following year it was leased as a Children's Art Center. And recently, in 1993, the building was purchased by a small church, the Lincoln School Baptist Church, which conducts services and church school here.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Architect Files Ole Bakke File, Montana SHPO, Helena, MT

Keobel, Lenora, Missoula the Way It Was: Missoula, MT.: Gateway Printing, 1972

School District #1 Records, 1899-present, compiled by PTA of Missoula, MT

Rattlesnake Valley PTA Rattlesnake Valley Schools 1891-1983 Rattlesnake Valley PTA, Missoula, MT 1983: see esp. Flanagan, Bonnie "History of Lincoln School", pp. 65 - 83.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other -- Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: approximately two acres

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
	12	274138	5196382

Legal Location (Township, Range & Section(s)): Located in the NE ¼, NE ¼, SW ¼ of Section 14, T13N, R19W.

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This is the property associated with the Lincoln School since its construction in 1914.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: James R. McDonald
organization: James R. McDonald, architects date: June 1983
street & number: PO Box 8163 telephone: (406) 721-5643
city or town: Missoula state: MT zip code: 59801

Property Owner

name/title: Lincoln School Baptist Church
street & number: 1209 Lolo Street telephone: (406) 543-5384
city or town: Missoula state: MT zip code: 59801

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Lincoln School
Legal Description

That certain tract or parcel of land, described as follows, to wit: Beginning at a point one hundred and twenty-six and 10/12 feet West of the Northeast corner of Lot numbered Twelve, in Block numbered Forty-two, of the Park Addition, Missoula County, Montana, and running three and 8/12 feet, more or less, to the Northwest corner of Lot numbered Thirteen, in Block numbered Thirty-one of the Park Addition, aforesaid, running thence, South, along the East side of Gilbert Avenue, one hundred and eighty feet, to the Southwest corner of Lot numbered Eighteen, of said Block numbered Thirty-one; running thence East two hundred and fifty-three and 8/12 feet, more or less, to a point one hundred and twenty-six and 10/12 feet West of the East side line of Block numbered Forty-two; thence, North one hundred and eighty feet, to place of beginning, the intention being to convey Lots numbered Seven to Eighteen, inclusive, in Block numbered Thirty-one of the Park Addition, together with the alley lying between said lots, and that portion of what was formerly Park Avenue, heretofore vacated by the County Commissioners of Missoula County, Montana, and contained within the boundaries of the description hereinbefore mentioned.