

**SOUTH DAKOTA HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY**

Historic Name WILSON PARK

Address/Location \_\_\_\_\_

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Function \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Context(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Construction \_\_\_\_\_

Photographer \_\_\_\_\_

Roll # \_\_\_\_\_ Frame #'s \_\_\_\_\_  
(Attach Photographs Below)

Site Number

PN  RC  RC  WB  532  
CTY TWP CIT NBH NUM

DBASE \_\_\_\_\_

U.S.G.S. Quad Map Name \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Description

Q1 Q2 SEC TWP RNG

Urban LOT \_\_\_\_\_ BLK \_\_\_\_\_  
Only ADD \_\_\_\_\_

Surveyors \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NR Eligible Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
Future NR Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Significance

HIST  ARCH  ARCE  
 NATL  STAT  LOCL

**SOUTH DAKOTA HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY**

**Historic Name** Wilson Park

**Address/Location** Mount Rushmore Road

**Common Name**

**Historic Function** City park

**Historic Context(s)** VI. The Great Depression

**Site Number**  
PN -RC -RC -WB -00532  
CTY TWP CIT NBH NUM

**DBASE** 0000000000

**U.S.G.S. Quad Map Name**

**Legal Description**  
0  
Q1 Q2 SEC TWP RNG  
Urban Only BLK 19  
LOT  
ADD West Boulevard

**Owner's Name** City of Rapid City, Parks Dept.

**Owner's Address** 2915 Canyon Lake Drive  
Rapid City, SD 57701

**Owner's Phone #** (605) 394-4175

**Date(s) of Construction** 1940

**Photographer** M. McCormick  
**Roll #** 14 **Frame #'s** 16-30  
(Attach Photographs Below)

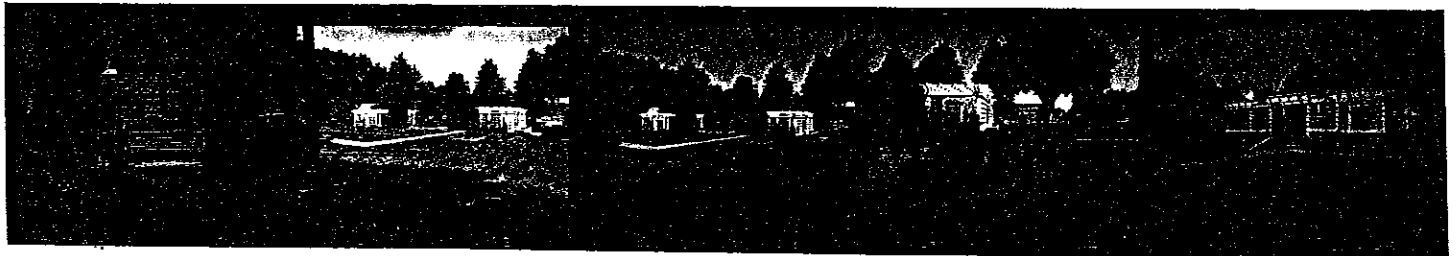
**Surveyors**  
M. McCormick/RTI

**Date** 07/08/1992

**NR Eligible** Y

**Future NR** Y

**Significance** HIST, ARCH  
LOCL



**Preservation Strengths of the Site**

- In Use and Not Threatened
- In Good Structural Condition
- Owners Protecting Site
- Appreciated by Public
- Valuable to Research

**Preservation Threats**

- Abandonment
- Deterioration Through Lack of Resources
- Vandalism or Looting
- Inappropriate Alterations
- Inappropriate or Poor Maintenance
- Fragile or Deteriorating Construction Materials
- Unsound Condition
- Lack of Support (Specify by Whom)

**Environmental Situations Effecting Site (Specify What: May Include Mining, Flooding, Erosion, Pollution, Acid Rain, Weather, Isolation, Development, Etc.)**

**Dates:**

**Founding of Institution or Settlement 1876**  
**Town and Addition Plated 1877 1886 Initial Construction of Structure 1940**

**Original Owners:**

**Name (Include Spouse if Known) City of Rapid City**  
**Place of Origin**  
**Date Arrived in S.D. 0000 In USA 0000**

**Occupation(s)**

**Religious Affiliation**  
**Social/Fraternal Affiliation**

**Other Previous Owners:**

**Names and Dates of Occupation**

**Structural History:**

**Architect's Name and**  
**Date of Commission**

**Builder's Name W.P.A. & City of Rapid City**  
**Pattern, Book and Number/Name**

**Historic Uses of the Site Park**

**Changes in Use**

**Statement of Historical Significance: (Including Relation to Historic Context Topics and Study Units)**

The Wilson Park has the potential to contribute to the West Boulevard Historic District. It is significant for its association with the development of the West Boulevard neighborhood in Rapid City from 1878 to 1942. Creation of the park occurred during the Great Depression, a time of economic uncertainty across the nation. Rapid City experienced limited construction in the early Depression years. In the mid 1930s, however, its construction industry revived largely because of the city's relatively healthy and diverse economy; many new homes were built in the West Boulevard neighborhood. The park's development in 1940 stands in testament to the growth and expansion of the neighborhood during this era. The park also derives historical significance for its association with the Federal government's New Deal programs that were designed to provide economic relief. The park was built under the auspice of the New Deal program, the Works Projects Administration (WPA), and the City of Rapid City. The park further gains engineering significance as a representative example of a New Deal construction project. This is best displayed by its stone-masonry work, most notably, the retaining walls. This labor-intensive construction method proved cost effective in situations where local materials and an inexpensive labor force were readily available and was often used projects works projects in the New Deal era to generate employment.

Miscellaneous Historical Information:

Bibliography:

Oral Interview (Name, Date & Relationship to Site)

Atlas (Date & Publisher)

County History (Title & Pages)

Deed Abstract

Tax Records

Sanborn-Ferris Maps (Dates)  
No coverage

Census Records

Historical Photos (Description & Date)

Manuscripts (Name & Date)

Directories (Type & Date)

Other Sources

General Information:

Building # 1

Site No. PN-RC -RC-WB-00532 Date of Construction 1940 Photos 19, 25+

Function Pergola	Plan Form Rectangular	Height (Stories) 1
Style	Method of Construction	Overall Condition E

Additions & Alterations (Types & Dates)

Evaluation of Specific Elements:

Foundation: Materials Concrete footings Condition E

Walls: Cladding Wooden lattice Condition E

Windows: General/ Type	Glazing	Condition	Location
Unique	Pattern		

Doors: Type	Glazing Pattern	Condition	Location
Open walls			Center

Roof: Form Flat girders & cross Materials Wood Condition E

Dormer: Type	Condition
Location(s)	

Chimneys/Ventilators: Materials	Condition
Location(s)	

Porches: Materials	Condition	Height (Stories)	Roof Configuration	Location
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Bays/Towers: Form	Condition	Height (Stories)	Location(s)
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**Significant Exterior Details:**

Vertical supports: square wooden columns on concrete footings.

Roof: girders & cross-rafters have tail-cut ends

Metal plaque (on outer northeast column): reads, " Wilson Park--Built by City of Rapid City and Works Projects Administration--W.P.A. Project Number 3846, Nineteen Forty"

Wilson Park is landscaped with numerous mature conifer and deciduous trees, and has several large beds of roses and other flowers.

**Significant Interior Details:**

**ARCHITECTURAL EVALUATION/ANCILLARY STRUCTURES**

Site No. PN-RC -RC-WB-00532

Blgd#	Date	C/NC	Function	Photo#	Construction Method	Height
2	1940	C	Pergola	19,21		1

Individual Element Cond.

Overall Condition E Foundation: Materials- Concrete footings at columns E  
 Walls: Cladding- Wooden lattice E  
 Windows: Type & Glazing Pattern-  
 Doors: Type & Glazing Pattern- Open walls at center  
 Roof: Form & Materials- Flat girders & cross-rafters E  
 Chimney/Vent: Material & Location-

**Significant Exterior Details**

Vertical supports are square wood columns. The roof girders & cross-rafters have tail-cut ends

**Significant Interior Details**

**Alterations & Dates**

**Change in Use**

Blgd#	Date	C/NC	Function	Photo#	Construction Method	Height
3	1940	C	Flower bed	22		

Individual Element Cond.

Overall Condition E Foundation: Materials-  
 Walls: Cladding-  
 Windows: Type & Glazing Pattern-  
 Doors: Type & Glazing Pattern-  
 Roof: Form & Materials-  
 Chimney/Vent: Material & Location-

**Significant Exterior Details**

This flower bed is outlined by a stone masonry rock line in the shape of elongated oval

**Significant Interior Details**

**Alterations & Dates**

**Change in Use**



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**ARCHITECTURAL EVALUATION/ANCILLARY STRUCTURES**

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Site No. PN-RC -RC-WB-00532

Blgd#	Date	C/NC	Function	Photo#	Construction Method	Height
4	1940	C	Retaining walls	19, 2	Flagstone masonry	

Individual Element Cond.

Overall Condition E Foundation: Materials-  
Walls: Cladding-  
Windows: Type & Glazing Pattern-  
Doors: Type & Glazing Pattern-  
Roof: Form & Materials-  
Chimney/Vent: Material & Location-

**Significant Exterior Details**

This stone masonry work includes a long, L-shaped flagstone retaining wall running east and north of the pergola, and having a stone stairs at the corner; a set of stone stairs located between pergolas and skating rink

**Significant Interior Details****Alterations & Dates****Change in Use**

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Blgd#	Date	C/NC	Function	Photo#	Construction Method	Height
5	1940	C	Fireplace		Flagstone masonry	

Individual Element Cond.

Overall Condition Foundation: Materials-  
Walls: Cladding-  
Windows: Type & Glazing Pattern-  
Doors: Type & Glazing Pattern-  
Roof: Form & Materials-  
Chimney/Vent: Material & Location-

**Significant Exterior Details****Significant Interior Details****Alterations & Dates****Change in Use**

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Blgd#	Date	C/NC	Function	Photo#	Construction Method	Height
8		Modern	NC Rest rooms	16	Concrete	1

Individual Element Cond.

Overall Condition	E	Foundation: Materials-	Concrete			E
		Walls: Cladding-	Concrete			E
Windows:		Type & Glazing Pattern-	None			E
Doors:		Type & Glazing Pattern-	Metal; none			E
Roof:		Form & Materials-	Flat; wood			E
Chimney/Vent:		Material & Location-	None			E

Significant Exterior Details

Significant Interior Details  
Not accessed

Alterations & Dates

Change in Use

Blgd#	Date	C/NC	Function	Photo#	Construction Method	Height
9	c.1984	NC	Drinking Fountain		Stone masonry	

Individual Element Cond.

Overall Condition	E	Foundation: Materials-				
		Walls: Cladding-				
Windows:		Type & Glazing Pattern-				
Doors:		Type & Glazing Pattern-				
Roof:		Form & Materials-				
Chimney/Vent:		Material & Location-				

Significant Exterior Details

Metal plaque reading, "in memory of Erwin A. Noyes, 1904-1984"

Significant Interior Details

Alterations & Dates

Change in Use

Site Plan: Indicate all door and window openings, roof shapes, and landscape features.

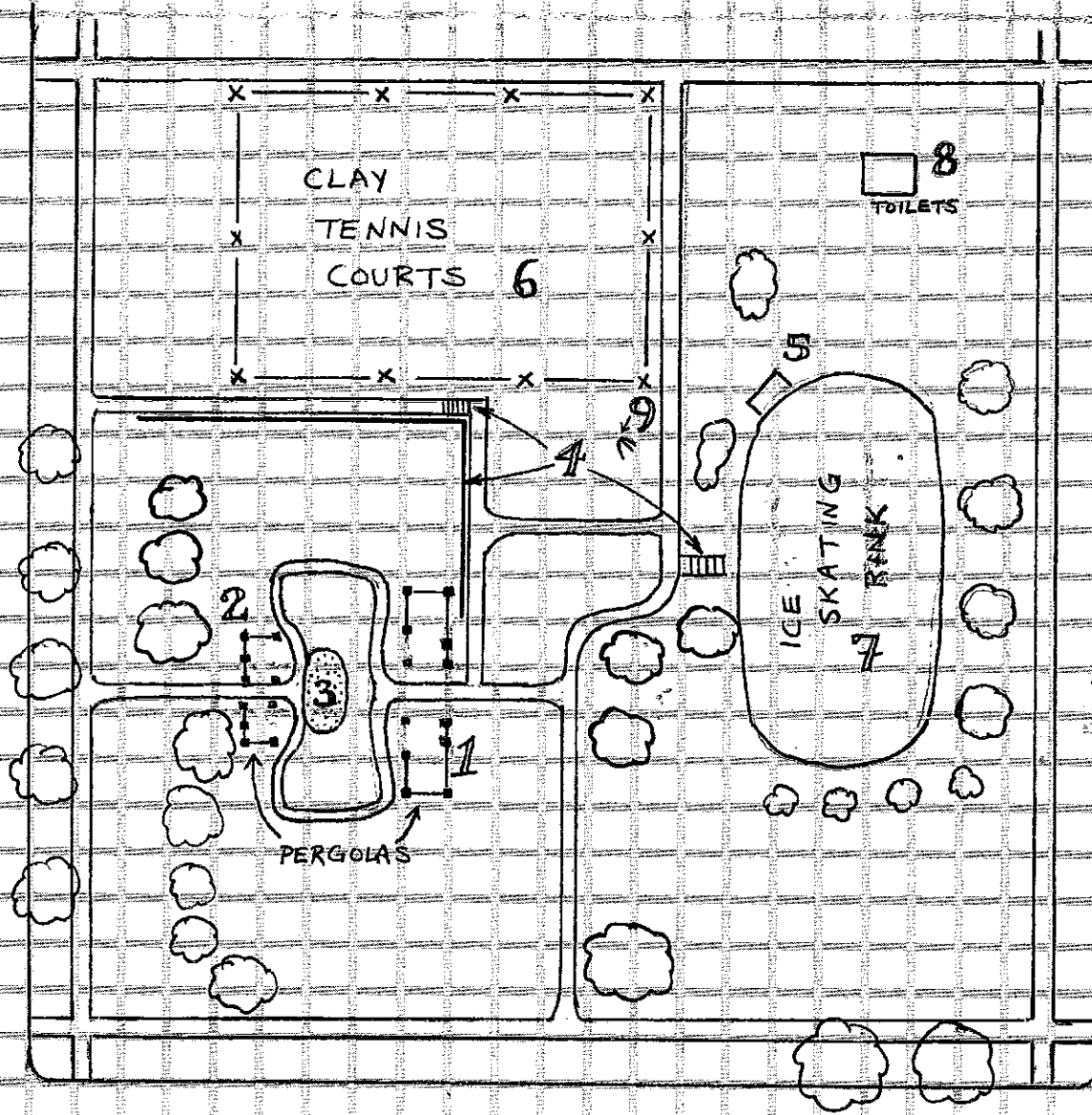


Indicate North

ST. CHARLES ST.

9TH ST.

MT RUSHMORE ROAD



ST. ANDREW ST.