



NOMINATION FOR LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION

DICKINSON, NORTH DAKOTA

Historic Name of Property (if applicable): Historic Elks Building

Address of Property: 103 1st Avenue West

Historic Address of Property (if different from above): _____

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Property Owner(s) Name and Address:

Name: Dickinson Elks, LLC

Address: P.O. Box 1096

City or town Tacoma State WA Zip Code 98401

Phone number 253-572-1730

2. Nomination Prepared By (if different from above):

Name: Danielle Stuckle, Museum Director, Dickinson Museum Center

Address: 188 Museum Drive East

City or town Dickinson State ND Zip Code 58601

Phone number (H) _____ (W) 701-456-6225

Date Prepared January 14, 2009

Signature _____

3. Successive Nominations: Has all or any part of the property been the subject of another nomination for a Local Landmark designation of the city of Dickinson within the last five years?

X No _____ Yes

If yes, state the date of the formal hearing; the reason, if known, of the unsuccessful nomination; and a statement explaining the reasons why the city of Dickinson should reconsider the nomination at this time.



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II. CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION

Check the space before each condition that is met by the building, structure or site for which landmark designation is sought. Briefly explain in the space provided below how the landmark meets each condition that is checked. Attach any relevant documentation, evidence, or any supplemental explanation if necessary.

1. Historic Significance:

The proposed landmark...

has a strong association with a historic person, organization, business, or a notable historic event.

The historic Dickinson Elks building is a significant commercial building in downtown Dickinson. It has an imposing size, and interesting history. It has housed the Elks fraternity as well as several department stores and retail businesses, and was the first home of the Dickinson Normal School, now Dickinson State University.

_____ is associated with an *antiquated use* due to technological or social advances.

_____ is *a monument to, or cemetery of*, a historic person or persons.

2. Architectural Significance:

The proposed landmark...

_____ is identified as the work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose work has been influential.

_____ exemplifies elements of design, detail, material, or craftsmanship of exceptional quality, and has had little or no alteration to its original construction.

_____ is an established or familiar visual feature of Dickinson due to its unique location or its singular physical characteristics.



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III. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

1. Describe the proposed Local Landmark: In the space provide below (use additional sheets if needed), provide a description of the property that indicates the historic use and the current use of the structure.

Constructed in 1912, the Elks building was designed by Edward Starck of the Madison Wisconsin architectural firm of Claude & Starck. Starck had previously designed six other Elks Lodges. The first floor was retail space, the second floor consisted of meeting rooms, and the third floor was a ballroom. From 1918 to 1923 the Dickinson Normal School (Dickinson State University) was housed on the second floor. In 1924, a tornado reportedly removed the roof of the building. In 1979 the Elks Lodge was relocated to a new facility north of Interstate 94. The old building downtown was sold, and eventually left to deteriorate. In 2001 it was returned to the city of Dickinson for back taxes. The city obtained a series of Brownfields grants through the EPA to clean up the building. In 2005 it was sold to Beaver Brinkman for renovation into retail, office, and condo space. In 2007 a fire gutted the building. Brinkman continues to renovate and restore the building in line with a summer 2009 deadline as per his contract with the city of Dickinson.

2. Architectural Classification and Materials

Describe the architectural style, if known; the architect or contractor for the original construction. Include information about whether the building was ever relocated, and if there have been any major renovations; to either the interior or the exterior. Include the dates of any major renovations.

This Classical Revival inspired building housed a variety of retailers on the first floor including F.C. Roquette's dry goods store and Montgomery Wards. The second floor meeting rooms were furnished with oak doors, wainscoting, and trim; and the room on the west end of the building had a domed ceiling. From 1918 to 1923 the second floor housed the Dickinson Normal School (Dickinson State University), and from 1923 to 1933 the space was converted to apartments. In 1933 the second floor was converted back to lodge meeting rooms. The third floor ballroom/auditorium was complete with a stage, overhead drops and flies for theatrical productions, dimmers for overhead and foot lights, and a roll curtain that featured a rural country scene.

While the Elks Building has virtually no interior integrity left, the exterior integrity remains largely intact. The imposing building remains significant to the downtown business district, and is one of the largest buildings in the city. It has never been moved or relocated.

3. Boundary Description

Describe (briefly) the property, including all man-made and natural resources to be included in designation. Attach a map that specifies the boundary of the property and the locations of all contributing and non-contributing features.

See attached survey map.

IV. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cite any books, articles, or other sources used in preparing this form. Continue on additional sheets if necessary.

Cole, Janell Cole, Ed., *Centennial Roundup: A History of Dickinson, North Dakota*. Richardton, ND: Assumption Abbey Press, 1982.