

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name South Round Valley School  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Location

street & number 1925 E. Round Valley Road  not for publication  
city or town Morgan  vicinity  
state Utah code UT county Morgan code 029 zip code 84050

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:  
\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Utah Division of State History/State Historic Preservation Office

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official Date  
Utah Division of State History/Utah  
State Historic Preservation Office  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

South Round Valley School  
Name of Property

Morgan County, Utah  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1		<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION / school

VACANT / NOT IN USE

RELIGION / religious facility

AGRICULTURE / agricultural outbuilding

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Classical

foundation: STONE

walls: STONE

roof: METAL: aluminum

other: \_\_\_\_\_

South Round Valley School  
Name of Property

Morgan County, Utah  
County and State

---

### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

### **Summary Paragraph**

The South Round Valley School is a single-story, stone, one-room school building with a rectangular plan, and gable roof. It was built c. 1873<sup>1</sup> in the vernacular Classical styling common to many Utah nineteenth-century public buildings, constructed of locally available materials. The foundation and walls are built of fieldstone and the roof is a modern standing-seam metal roof that replaced the original wood-shingle covering. The school is located on the current grounds of the Round Valley Golf Club, near the clubhouse, on a slight slope down towards the north which has a closely cropped lawn with some deciduous trees to the west. Nearby buildings include a farmstead with associated agricultural buildings to the east and north of the school. An open golf shed is the closest structure, to the northwest, with the golf clubhouse to the southwest. The open setting of the golf course is similar to the agrarian landscape in which the school was situated.

---

### **Narrative Description**

The South Round Valley School has a rectangular footprint, twenty-one feet wide and thirty-three feet deep. Its medium pitched gabled roof, regularly placed windows on the side walls, smooth wall surfaces and lack of ornamentation are characteristics of vernacular Classical styling, popular in nineteenth-century Utah in the decades after the first settlers arrived. The primary facade is the north elevation gable end with a modern concrete pad/porch serving as a step at the entrance door. Above the door is a framed, squared opening. The east elevation has three evenly spaced window openings. There are no openings on the south elevation gable end. The west elevation also has three evenly spaced window openings. Window and door openings have thick weathered wooden lintels and narrow wooden sills. Original weathered wooden window casings remain in the six windows. There are no intact window sashes although a few fragments remain in some window openings. Some of the windows are covered with wooden planks or plywood sheets. The window openings are splayed six inches wider on the interior walls than on the exterior to maximize natural light.

The foundation and walls are coursed rubble fieldstone with original flush pink-toned mortar. The walls are twenty-four inches deep at the foundation level and narrow to roughly eighteen inches deep in a narrow shelf. The floor is dirt but most likely floorboards and joists were removed at some point. The open, single-room interior has its lathe-and-plaster wall coverings relatively intact, with shadows of the original blackboards visible on the painted pale blue walls, particularly on the south wall, opposite the door. The ceiling and floor are gone and no trim is left around openings nor are there any baseboards.

There have been some alterations to the building since its construction. When it began use as an agricultural outbuilding for hay storage after 1917, an opening was made above the door for hay loading.<sup>21</sup> In 1998 efforts were made to stabilize the building. At that time three metal tie rods, prefabricated scissor trusses and the standing seam metal roof were installed. The opening over the door was framed into a square opening and the rock surrounding it was replaced. Most likely at that time several spots in the walls were patched with modern grey mortar.

The land on which the South Round Valley School is located is now a golf course. Landscaping includes flowers planted close to the foundation and several deciduous trees on the west side of the building. The open setting is reminiscent of the original landscape: open fields and lawns with scattered trees, rocky outcroppings and mountains in the distance

---

<sup>1</sup> The 1873 date is used on the metal sign outside the structure. The source of the date is not known. Historic sources found only state that Henry Olpin built it before his death in 1879.

<sup>2</sup> The opening was squared and framed with unpainted wood in 1998 as part of a stabilizing effort to preserve the structure.

South Round Valley School  
Name of Property

Morgan County, Utah  
County and State

surrounding the high valley. A farmstead with its scattered associated agricultural buildings lies to the east and north of the school. The closest structure is a large open golf shed to the northwest: a late-twentieth-century golf clubhouse lies beyond, to the southwest. A pioneer cemetery is nearby on the hillside to the south. The Weber River meanders through the valley to the north. Also to the north in the valley bottom is Interstate 84 and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks. In spite of some changes over time, the building still retains its basic, historical appearance, being a very simple building to begin with, and is a contributing historic resource in Morgan County, Utah.

South Round Valley School  
Name of Property

Morgan County, Utah  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

RELIGION

**Period of Significance**

c. 1873-1917

**Significant Dates**

c. 1873

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Henry Olpin, mason

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance runs from the time the structure was built c. 1873 until it was sold to a nearby farmer in 1917 and used for agricultural storage (hay).

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

The building is being nominated under Criteria Consideration A because it was partially used as a place of worship.

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

South Round Valley School  
Name of Property

Morgan County, Utah  
County and State

The South Round Valley School, built c. 1873, is a local landmark in Morgan County. It is historically significant under Criterion A (and Criteria Consideration A, for a religious-use building) for its role in the broad patterns of history in Round Valley, reflecting the determination of the early Mormon<sup>3</sup> settlers to establish communities for their members and provide permanent buildings in which educate their children and practice their faith. Education was important to the early settlers, and it was often combined with religious instruction, so combining both uses in a single building was common in most of Utah's early cities and towns. In most early settlements, the first building constructed was the school/meetinghouse, and was often expediently built of logs or adobe brick. The South Round Valley School was more substantially constructed of stone, which, although not unheard of, was not that common during the earliest settlement of Utah. As a one-room schoolhouse/meetinghouse for the Mormon settlers in South Round Valley, after the arrival of the transcontinental railroad through the valley in 1868-69, the building is historically significant for its role in both education and religion in South Round Valley. Morgan County was never densely populated, and consequently, never had many public buildings. There are few extant examples of early architecture in the community of South Round Valley, and the school is the only remaining nineteenth-century public building in Morgan County, and one of the few extant one-room schools in the entire state.<sup>4</sup> The building retains its historical integrity and is a contributing historical property in the South Round Valley of Morgan County, Utah.

---

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

History of South Round Valley

South Round Valley is located in Morgan County in northeastern Utah. The county is high altitude land with meadows and mountains and an average elevation of 4,500 feet above sea level. It is sparsely settled with a total population of 2,635 in the 2000 U.S. Population Census. Round Valley is located two miles to the east of Morgan City, the only incorporated town in the county. The Weber River, Interstate I-84 and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks follow the canyon bottom cut by the Weber River through Morgan County and divide round Valley into two communities, South Round Valley and North Round Valley.

Within twenty years of the arrival of the first Mormon settlers in Salt Lake City in 1847, over two hundred colonies were founded in the West to establish the Kingdom of God in Zion. During this initial period of colonial settlement directed by the Mormon Church, the community of South Round Valley in Morgan County was established in 1860. The early settlers in South Round Valley were converts who had joined the Mormon Church in their native England and came to the Utah Territory to join the community of Saints in the 1850s.

Early settler families in South Round Valley include those of John Gibby who received the original United States patent for the land used for the school, and Henry Olpin, John Gibby's father-in-law, the rock mason who built the Round Valley School House. John Gibby came to Utah with his brother via New Orleans and arrived in Salt Lake City in 1856. He married Ellen Olpin and moved to Round Valley where they farmed and had orchards and gardens. He later also married Dorcas Olpin, Ellen's sister, as a plural wife.<sup>5</sup> Henry Olpin traveled to Utah pulling handcarts across the plains from Florence, Nebraska, to Salt Lake City with his wife and children in 1859. After his first wife's death in Salt Lake City, Henry Olpin married Fanny Clayton, a widow from Yorkshire with two children. Henry and Fanny Olpin moved to South Round Valley in the 1860s where he built a two-story house for the family before contracting to construct the South Round Valley School.

---

<sup>3</sup> LDS or the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

<sup>4</sup> According to the Utah Historic Sites Database, there are only five other known extant single-room schools built before 1880 in the state.

<sup>5</sup> Polygamy or, more properly, polygyny, was practiced at the time by members of the Mormon Church.

South Round Valley School  
Name of Property

Morgan County, Utah  
County and State

The progress of the transcontinental railroad through what is now Morgan County in 1868-69 provided a much-needed economic stimulus to the Round Valley community and the entire county. Brigham Young, the president of the Mormon Church at the time, contracted with the Union Pacific Railroad to provide church workers to prepare the roadbed through the mountain canyons between Evanston, Wyoming, and Ogden, Utah. There was to be no work on Sundays and church members were to pay tithing to the church on their earnings.<sup>6</sup> Mormon workers from Morgan County graded, excavated, and furnished railroad ties from local forests, as well as providing dairy, meat and vegetables to the other railroad workers. In addition to wages during construction of the tracks, the railroad provided future access to other markets for the agricultural products and timber from the valley. Round Valley was a prosperous community during the years of the construction of the railroad through the valley and the construction of this rock school building reflected that prosperity.

#### School/Meetinghouse History

The first school in Round Valley was built of logs in 1870.<sup>7</sup> Use of the initial log school building was discontinued when the new stone structure, the South Round Valley School, was built c. 1873. The single large room of the school held all community activities for the valley. Curtains were used to divide the interior space if needed for several groups at once. As in many settlements in Utah, it was also used as a church/meetinghouse, and the LDS Sunday school and sacrament meetings for South Round Valley were held here. By the late nineteenth century the population in the county was no longer entirely Mormon, and school records of the time kept track of whether or not the students were Mormon. According to the records of 1891, all of the teachers in the county school system were Mormon and the students were of mixed religious backgrounds; 69 had non-Mormon parents and 542 had Mormon parents.<sup>8</sup>

The building housed school for the children of the area until 1905 when they were sent to the new 2 ½ story schoolhouse in nearby Morgan City. In 1908 all of the community school districts in Morgan County were consolidated into the Morgan County School District after a public vote on the issue. All school properties in the various communities in the county were transferred to the new entity, including the South Round Valley School. The building was became unused and vacant before its sale in 1917, which is the end of the period of significance.

#### Later Agricultural Utilization

Charles W. Tonks, Jr., acquired the property containing the school building in 1917 near the Tonks family farm and ranch. He used the Round Valley School as a place to store hay for the animals, cutting a hole in the north wall over the door for access to the hay. The Tonks were Mormon immigrants from England who came to Round Valley in 1872. Charles, Jr., Lewis, and Franklin Smith Tonks were descendents and Morgan County natives. The Tonks brothers continued farming the surrounding area and raised cattle and sheep on the family land. Tonks Canyon, named for the family, lies directly to the west of the schoolhouse. The Tonks brothers sold the land containing the school building for the Round Valley Resort/Golf Course in 1971.

The building has only had two types of usage since its construction c. 1873, a Mormon meetinghouse and school for the South Round Valley community, and after 1917, an agricultural outbuilding for hay storage. It has been vacant since 1971 and is no longer used for storage.

Because of its association with early education and religion in Utah, the South Round Valley School is a contributing historic resource in the community. It is the only nineteenth century public building in Morgan County and one of a handful of one-room schools in Utah. The school reflects the patterns of settlement and religious and educational traditions in Round Valley. It is locally significant as a visible reminder of the flourishing Round Valley community during and after the transcontinental railroad construction in the late 1860s.

---

<sup>6</sup> Morgan Utah North Stake, *Morgan Stake 1877-1981: An Ecclesiastical History of Morgan County from the inception of the Morgan Stake in 1877 to its division in 1981*, p. 5.

<sup>7</sup> It was demolished at an unknown date.

<sup>8</sup> *Mountains Conquered*, p. 84.

South Round Valley School  
Name of Property

Morgan County, Utah  
County and State

## Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

### Early Education in Utah

The early Mormon communities were unusual in the West because of their planned settlement patterns and central direction from Mormon Church officials in Salt Lake City. Their bishops<sup>9</sup> provided the civic and religious leadership for the communities. Communal efforts of the early settlers under the leadership of the bishops built canals to irrigate fields, roads, schools, and churches. Frequently, the church/school was the first public building constructed in a community. In the early years, the church and school shared the same building and it was the center of public life. It served as the gathering place for any community activity including dances. The physical buildings of the churches/schools bound the communities together in remote locations. The buildings were visible reminders of the establishment and permanence of the community.

Simplicity and symmetry are characteristic of the typical Mormon meetinghouse/school in the first decades in Utah. Like the South Round Valley School, the buildings were frequently one room, one story, with a simple gabled roof and a rectangular plan. Window and door openings were rectangular with wooden sills and lintels. The buildings housed both church and school functions for the community. The earliest examples were log or adobe, followed by stone.

In the 1860s and 1870s, the local wards of the Mormon Church controlled education in Utah, as well as most civic and religious functions. Religion and education were intertwined. School classes were held in the church/school building during the week and the members of the Mormon ward met there for services and meetings on the weekends, a typical practice in the early Mormon towns in Utah. Schools were “quasi-public Mormon schools”<sup>10</sup> and their curriculum reflected Mormon community values (reading, mathematics and religion). The schools were supported by tuition and some tax monies, although taxes were not uniformly collected.

In order to achieve desired statehood, Mormon and federal government leaders agreed in 1890 that the practice of polygamy would be discontinued and a system of free public education established in the Utah territory. As a result of this agreement, the Territorial Legislature passed the Free Public School Act of 1890. It consolidated school districts at the county level, made attendance compulsory, created a state educational curriculum and collected taxes for the schools, ending the formal Mormon church control of education in Utah.

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Arrington, Leonard J. *Great Basin Kingdom: Economic History of the Latter-Day Saints, 1830-1900*. Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 1958.

Buchanan, Frederick S. “Education in Utah” in *Utah History Encyclopedia*.  
[www.media.utah.edu/UHE/e/EDUCATION.html](http://www.media.utah.edu/UHE/e/EDUCATION.html)

---

<sup>9</sup> Mormon bishops are the ecclesiastical leaders of the local wards or congregations; and, because the early local populations in Utah were almost entirely LDS, they also acted as civic leaders.

<sup>10</sup> Buchanan, “Education in Utah” in *Utah History Encyclopedia*.

South Round Valley School  
Name of Property

Morgan County, Utah  
County and State

Campbell, Eugene E. "Early Colonization Patterns" in *Utah's History*. Richard D. Poll, general editor. Logan, Utah: Utah State University Press, 1989.

Carter & Goss Carter, Thomas and Goss, Peter. *Utah's Historic Architecture, 1847-1940: A Guide*. Salt Lake City, Utah: Graduate School of Architecture, University of Utah, and Utah State Historical Society, 1991.

Daughters of Utah Pioneers. *Pioneer Pathways*, Vol. 1. Salt Lake City, UT: International Society Daughters of Utah Pioneers, 1998.

Fine Arts Study Group, comp. *Mountains conquered: The Story of Morgan with Biographies*. Morgan, UT: Morgan County News, 1959.

Moffit, John Clinton. *The History of Public Education in Utah*. Provo, Utah: n.p., 1944.

Morgan County Historical Society. *Morgan County School Buildings: An Illustrated History*. Morgan, UT: Morgan County Historical Society, 1989.

Morgan County Recorder's Office. Plat maps, title abstract records, and deed records.

Morgan Utah North Stake. *Morgan Stake 1877-1981: An Ecclesiastical History of Morgan County from the inception of the Morgan Stake in 1877 to its division in 1981*. Salt Lake City, UT: Publishers Press, 1988.

Richins, Hazel. "Henry Olpin and Sarah White." Unpublished family history. N.d. Available at the Morgan County Historical Society.

Roberts, Allen D. *A Survey of L.D.S. Architecture in Utah, 1847-1930*. Salt Lake City, UT: n.p., 1974.

Smith, Linda H. *A History of Morgan County*. Utah Centennial County History Series. Utah State Historical Society and the Morgan County Commission. Salt Lake City, UT: 1999.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: Morgan County Historical Society

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_



South Round Valley School  
Name of Property

Morgan County, Utah  
County and State

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: South Round Valley School

City or Vicinity: Morgan

County: Morgan State: UT

Photographer: Beatrice Lufkin

Date Photographed: November 2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 - North elevation, camera facing south.
- 2 - South and east elevations, camera facing northwest.
- 3 - North and West elevations, camera facing west.
- 4 - Interior, south wall, camera facing south.
- 5 - Interior window detail, camera facing east.
- 6 - Interior, north wall, camera facing north.
- 7 - Site view, facing north, camera facing north.
- 8 - Detail of school building when used as barn, camera facing southeast. Detail of an undated painting attributed to Lionel Gibby, local artist.

---

**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Morgan Valley Partners LC  
street & number 9980 S. 300 W #310 telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Sandy state UT zip code 84070

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

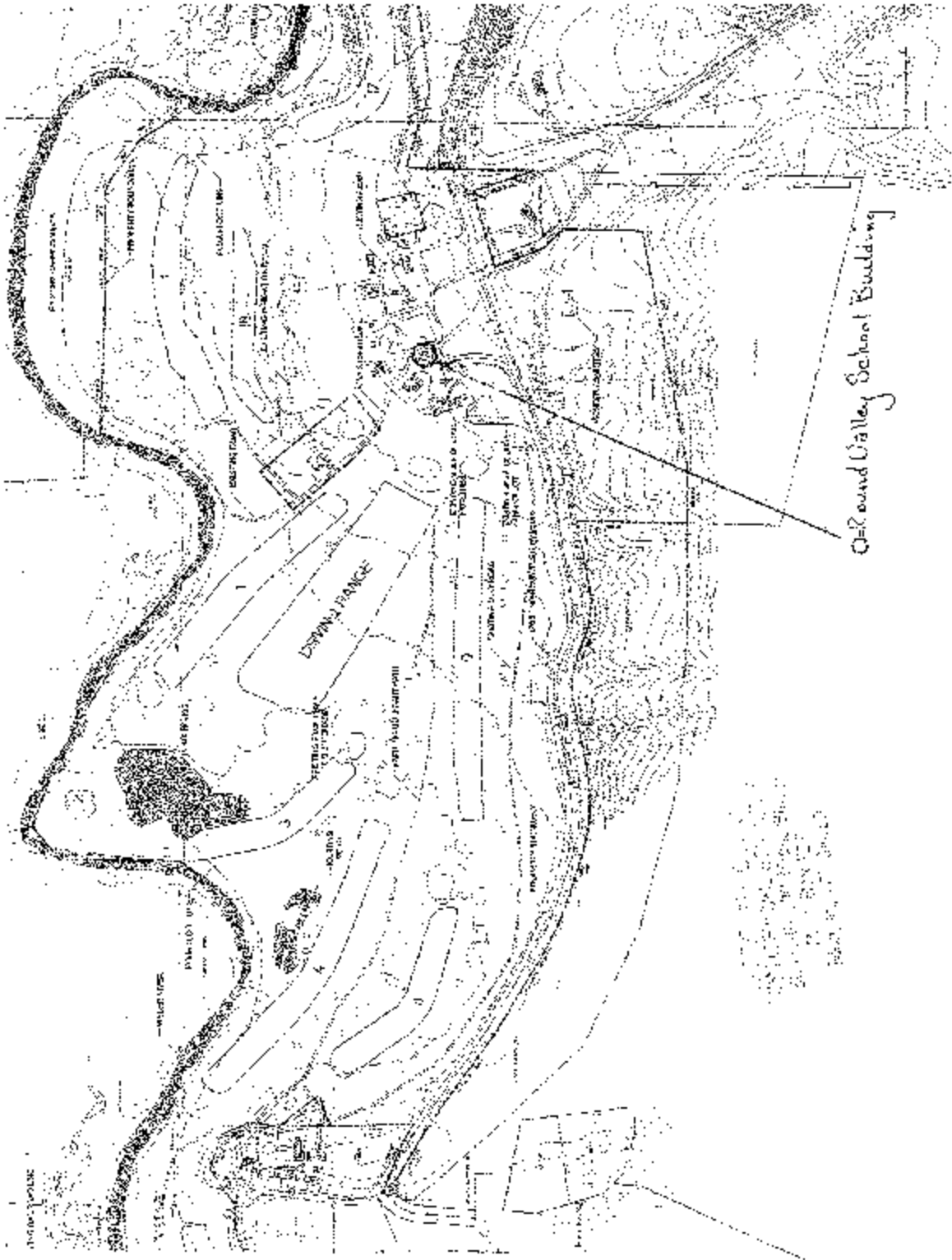
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 10 Page 1



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

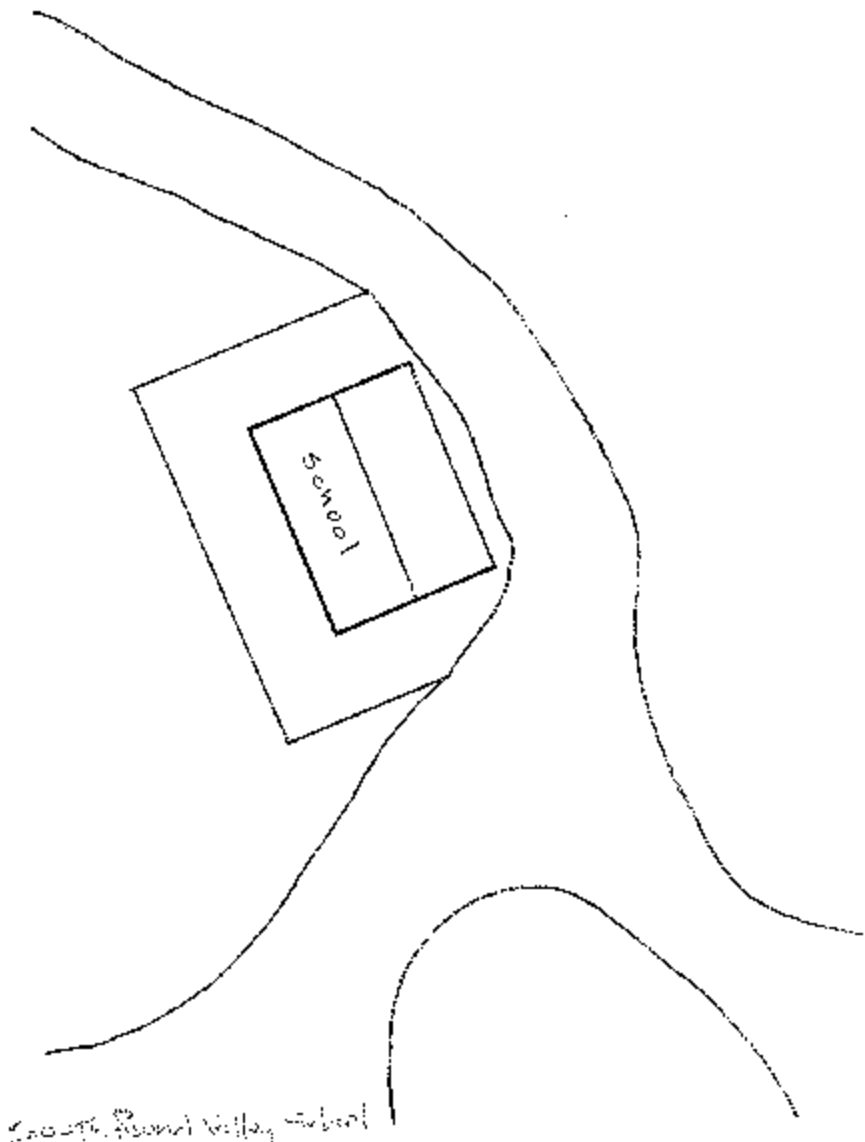
**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

..... Name of Property
..... County and State
..... Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 10 Page 2

South Round Valley School  
Morgan County, Utah

NA



South Round Valley School  
Site plan  
NTS

12/10

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

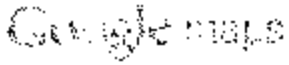
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

..... Name of Property
..... County and State
..... Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 10 Page 3

10/26/2010 11:45:00 AM

11/11/2010 11:20:00 AM



Get Directions My Maps

Print Search Link



To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.

Photo Arcades  
South Mountain Valley School  
Morgan County, GA







