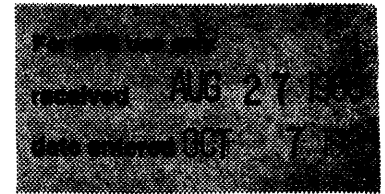NPS Form 10-900-a
(3-82)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places
# Inventory—Nomination Form

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NAME: Carlott Funseth Round Barn

LOCATION: Vicinity of Kempton, North Dakota 38, Grand Forks County 035

CLASSIFICATION: Status Occupied; Present Use Agricultural

OWNER OF PROPERTY: Carlott Funseth, Northwood, North Dakota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Register of Deeds Office, Grand Forks County Courthouse, Grand Forks, North Dakota

DESCRIPTION: The Funseth Barn was built in 1909 in response to the destruction of the 87' octagonal barn which previously occupied the site. Svend and son Ole Olson had built the original octagonal barn and were responsible for the round barn.

The round barn is 46' in diameter, two stories in height, and capped by a conical roof. The roof is covered with wood shingles and punctured by hay dormers on its east and west sides. The barn is painted a cream color matching that of surrounding historic buildings on site. A wide brown board encircles the barn at the mow level indicating the barn's interior spatial divisions. The main entry is on the west side and stock can enter/exit through the east into the feedlot. Foundation remnants in the form of rocks from the original barn exist, particularly on the rear (east) side of the present barn. Simple fixed pane two-over-two windows extend throughout the barn's circumference.

The structure of the barn is provided by 2"x 4" lumber running from the mow floor up to the plate level, a distance of about 12'. At the plate there are doubled 2" x 8" into which the rafters are attached. The hay dormers are lit by double hung windows which provides light to the mow area. The roof is in excellent repair and the hay loft floor does not exhibit any signs of weakness. The barn is structurally in excellent functional condition and is currently used for young dairy cattle arranged in pie shaped stalls on the ground floor. The stalls congregate around the open central space. There is no central silo in the barn.

Double 2"x 8" lumber provides much of the support at the first floor level. Also in the interior is a track inside the wall from which is suspended a manure carrier. This track exits through the back (east side) door and extends approximately 50' behind the barn, suspended by wooden cantilevered braces.
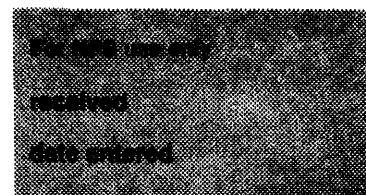
SIGNIFICANCE: Date: 1909
        Builders: Sven and Ole Olson.
        Architect: Unknown
The Funseth Barn is a significant example of round barn construction. It is one of the few which enjoy present use and continuous maintenance. The barn assumes an unusually vertical profile because of its relatively narrow diameter in relation to its height. The decision by the Olsons to replace their original octagonal structure with a similar

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one of round shape suggests that the form had served their needs well enough to outweigh considerations which would have led to the erection of a conventional rectangular barn.

This is one of four round barns within a fifteen mile radius, marking the state's greatest concentration. Nearby Gordon and Heskin barns are completely destroyed, and only one half of the Ohnsager Barn's poured concrete foundation and 10' wall remains. There is room to speculate that the owners of these barns were influenced by those nearby in the decision to build and subsequent designs. The Funseth barn represents this unusual concentration in the state's round barn building tradition.


GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:
Acreage of nominated property: Less than one acre
Quadrangle name: Kempton 1963
UTM:        Zone: 14
            Easting: 604960
            Northing: 5292525
Verbal Boundary Description: The nominated property is found in the North half of the Southwest quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 29, Township 150 North, Range 54 West and includes the land the round barn is situated on and a zone of protection fifteen feet surrounding the property.