United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



OMB No. 1024-0018

827

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* In 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 for 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 Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site |
| Other names/site number |
| Name of related multiple property listing N/A (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing) |
| 2. Location |
| Street & number2835 Davenport St. |
| City or town Sturgis State SD County Meade |
| Not for publication x Vicinity |
| 3. State/Federal Agency Certification |
| As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, |
| I hereby certify that this <u>x</u> _nomination <u></u> 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 <u>x</u> meets <u>does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant as the following level(s) of significance: nationalstatewidelocal</u> |
| Application National Register Criteria <u>x A x B</u> C D |
| Signature of certifying official/Title Date |
| State or Federal agency/bureau of Tribal Government |
| In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. |
| Signature of commenting official Date |
| Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government |

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| Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site Name of Property | Meade, South Dakota County and State | |
|--|--|--|
| 4. National Park Service Certification | | |
| I hereby certify that this property is: | | |
| entered in the National Register | | |
| determined eligible for the Nationa | al Register | |
| determined not eligible for the National Register | | |
| removed from the National Registe | er | |
| other (explain) Nt. Boall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action | | |
| 5. Classification | | |
| Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) Category of Property (Check only one box) | Number of Resources within Property (Do no include previously listed resources in the count) | |
| private building(s) public – Local district public – State site public – Federal structure object Number of contributing resources previously | Contributing Noncontributing 6 | |
| 6. Function or Use | | |
| Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/Dwelling DOMESTIC/Secondary structures | Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/Camp (seasonal residence) OTHER/Storage | |
| DOMESTIC/Gecondary structures DOMESTIC/Camp (seasonal residence) INDUSTRY/Manufacturing (mill) | OTHER/Storage OTHER/Ruins VACANT/NOT IN USE | |
| 7. Description | | |
| Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) | Materials (Enter categories from instructions) | |
| Other | foundation <u>Stone, concrete</u> walls <u>Wood</u> | |
| | roof Asphalt shingle other | |

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site, also known as the Davenport Family Summer Home, is a collection of resources that is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as a district. The nominated property is approximately ten acres in size and is located in a rural area in the Black Hills of South Dakota south of the town of Sturgis. The resources of the district date from 1892 to 1953 and include dwellings, structures, objects, and a small site associated with the development on the property.

The property retains a high degree of historic integrity; the alterations in the 1980s served to preserve the property rather than diminish the integrity. The resources generally are in good condition. All are considered contributing resources.

Narrative Description

The Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site is located in a narrow gulch in the northern Black Hills of South Dakota. Located approximately two miles south of downtown Sturgis, the property is accessed via a gated and unmaintained road, known as Davenport Street, off Vanocker Canyon Road. The road increases in elevation by several hundred feet between Sturgis and the nominated property. Alkali Creek passes through the property. The surrounding area is densely forested, primarily with ponderosa pine, other evergreens, and hardwood trees. Most of the resources are located adjacent to a small open, grassy field; the summer cabin is located on the hillside above the field to the southeast.

The Supply Works Site was developed at this location because of its proximity to where the dams and reservoirs of the Sturgis Water Works system were being developed. The Supply Works Site served as a "field camp" of sorts, providing services to the workers and a staging area for supplies and equipment for the project. The water works project originally occupied 600 acres along a linear stretch from the dams to the water lines, pumps, and hydrants in Sturgis and at nearby Fort Meade. The property was owned by the Davenport family, but in 1978 they sold the water works system to the City of Sturgis and retained only twenty acres, approximately ten of which are included in this nomination.

There are six buildings, three structures, two objects, and a small site located on the twenty-acre parcel. A description of each follows.

BUILDINGS

The Cookhouse

The cookhouse is one of the oldest structures on the property and is believed to have been built as early as 1892. It is a one-and-a-half story, wood-framed building that sits on a concrete foundation. Its side-gabled roof is currently clad with asphalt shingles. Its exterior walls are clad with peeled, half-round logs applied horizontally; vertical peeled logs serve as cornerboards. Traditional chinking is non-existent; instead small beads of a "filler" has been inserted between some of the logs. The main entry is located on the front (southeast) side of the building; a pair of windows is located to the left of the doorway. A secondary entry is located on the rear of the building; a small window is located beside this doorway. There is also a window located on the northeast elevation; there are no openings on the southwest elevation. A small, shed roof extension on the north corner of the building was used as a storage pantry and icebox. A brick chimney pierces the roof at the ridgeline at the south end of the building.

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The interior space is one open room. The walls are lath with plaster, as is the ceiling. The floors are medium-width wood plank. There are several built-in wood cabinets in the room along two of the walls. A large, cast iron cookstove occupies space in the south end of the room; the stovepipe exhausts up the brick chimney. Located at the north end of the room is a root cellar beneath the floor; a "trap door" in the floor opens to a ladder to the area. Access to the sleeping loft above the main room is through a hatch in the ceiling in the southwest corner of the main room.

The Barn

The barn also dates to c.1892. It is a small barn with a main floor and small hayloft. There is no visible foundation; it appears that the lower portions of the walls sit directly on the ground. The front-gabled roof is currently clad with asphalt shingles. The wood-framed building is clad with peeled, half-round logs applied horizontally; vertical peeled logs serve as cornerboards. The rafter tails are exposed beneath overhanging eaves. There are four small, horizontal windows along the southeast side of the lower level. The wood door to the hay loft is intact; the ridge beam extended over that door and at one time had equipment used to lift hay to this upper level. The original barn door, located on the northeast end, has been removed. In its place is a multipanel pedestrian door with a number of small, fixed-pane windows. The property owner thinks this change occurred in the 1950s.

The interior consists of one stall, a small tack room and open space, currently used for storage. A ladder to the loft is located in the southeast corner of the building. The floor is dirt.

The Summer Cabin

The building farthest to the south of the complex is the summer cabin, occasionally referred to in company reports as the "Operator's Cottage." Reports indicate that this cabin was constructed in 1926. It was expanded first in 1953; the sunroom on the south end was added in the 1980s. The cabin's foundation is not visible, but is assumed to be concrete. The hipped roof is clad with asphalt shingles. The wood-framed structure has peeled half-round logs applied horizontally on the original portion of the building and lapped board siding on the 1953 addition. The lower walls of the sunroom are concrete; the upper portions are large windows, several with screens. The original eight-over-eight and six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows in the original cabin are intact, most have screens. Large, fixed-pane picture windows are located on the west and north elevations of the 1953 addition; two additional large picture windows were installed in the original south wall of the building either when the addition was added in 1953 or when the sunroom was added in the 1980s. Two small, multi-pane windows flank the stone fireplace. The chimney (replaced in c.1983) to this fireplace is brick and pierces the roof at the east edge of the building; a second brick chimney (also c.1983) pierces the center point of the hipped roof. A dormer that was located on the south slope of the roof has been removed. Entrances to the building are located on the west elevation (into the original portion of the building), the north elevation (into the 1953 addition), and from the patio area into the sunroom from the west side. A doorway from the living room, between the large windows, also accesses the sunroom.

The interior of the cabin includes a living room with a large stone fireplace (with wood stove insert); the fireplace is flanked by built-in shelves and cabinets. The walls of this room are covered with vertically applied knotty pine. A "hatch" to what was at one time a sleeping loft beneath the south dormer (removed in 2006) is located in the living room. North of the living room, on the west side of the building is the kitchen and dining area. There are several built-in cabinets and cupboards in the kitchen; there is also a small pantry behind the kitchen. A small bathroom was located in the northeast corner of the addition. Also north of the living room, on the east side of the building is a bedroom. The walls in the kitchen and bedroom areas are painted vertical paneling; the ceilings appear to be painted board of some type. The floors in the original cabin were wood;

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the living room and bedrooms are now covered with various tile. The wood is exposed only in the kitchen area. The floors in the 1953 addition appear to be concrete, as are the floors in the sunroom.

A stone terrace and patio, with a large stone fireplace and chimney, are located on the west side of the cabin. A set of stone and concrete steps, with a metal railing, provides access from the grassy field area of the property to this cabin. There are stone and concrete walls along the terrace and stairway. A stone on the terrace is etched with "1937" and it is assumed that is the date the terrace, patio, stairs and stone walls were installed.

The Bunkhouse

The bunkhouse, located at the north end of the complex, is a two-story building tucked into the west hillside. The foundation is stone and concrete; a cornerstone located at the northeast corner of the lower level reads "1938." The lower level of the bunkhouse is constructed of heavy stone and concrete and is in part butted against the hillside behind the building on the west. The upper floor is wood-framed and is clad with horizontally applied half-round log siding. The hipped roof has a slight flare at the wide overhanging eave, which has exposed rafter tails; the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A full-width screened-in sleeping porch, added in 1952, is located at the upper level on the east side of the building. Low walls with large screened openings above are located on the north, east, and south sides. The exterior siding on the sleeping porch is horizontal lapped board siding (installed in 1989). The porch is supported from below by oversized knee braces; the area beneath the sleeping porch is open rather than enclosed. The original three-over-one wood sash windows on the upper level are intact. A large picture window is located on the south elevation of the lower level; smaller windows are located on the north, south and east sides on the lower level. The entrance to the building is a doorway on the lower level on the south side of the building. An exterior brick chimney is located on the north side of the building at the west corner.

The interior consists of a large open space on the ground floor and sleeping space above. The walls on the lower level are exposed stone; the floors joists from the upper level are also exposed as the ceiling on the ground level. The floor at this level is concrete. The large picture window takes up most of the south wall; the door is located near the east corner on the south wall. A wood stove is located in the northwest corner. Stairs to the upper level are located on the north wall. The large sleeping room on the upper level was recently gutted due to a mold issue. New knotty pine wood covers the walls and ceiling; the flooring is wood. A closet has been built into the northwest corner of the room. The sleeping porch is accessed through a door in the east wall. The interior of the sleeping porch includes the exterior log wall of original bunkhouse as the west wall of the porch and the screened walls on the other three sides. A small bathroom was located on the ground level, but it has been removed.

A substantial stone retaining wall is located perpendicular to the south wall of the bunkhouse against the hillside to the west. Tucked into the space east of this wall along the south wall of the bunkhouse is a stone patio. It is similar to the terrace and patio near the cabin and was probably built at the same time as the bunkhouse.

The Outhouse

The date of the outhouse is unknown, but it appears that it was contemporaneous to the older buildings dating to the 1890s. It is buried in an overgrown hillside behind the cookhouse. It is of simple wood construction and is in fair condition. It appears to retain a high degree of historic integrity.

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The Shed

The owner believes that the shed was constructed perhaps in the 1940s or 1950s. It sits behind the main cabin to the northeast against the hillside. It is wood-framed and is clad with horizontal wood boards. It sits on a concrete foundation; its front-facing gabled roof is clad with asphalt shingles; the rafter tails are exposed beneath the overhanging eave. The door is wood with a single fixed pane window. The shed is currently used for storage.

STRUCTURES

The Ice House

The ice house is the only log structure among the group of resources. It dates to the 1892 when the first buildings and structures were erected on the site. It is constructed with peeled round logs stacked atop one another in true log construction fashion. The corner joints are a kind of modified dovetail notching, except that the logs are rounded rather than squared off. The logs are chinked with a thick cementious material, most of which is original, some of which has been replaced over the years. The upper part of the structure is a wood-framed gabled roof, facing the front, clad with asphalt shingles (the entire roof was reconstructed in 2010). The gable ends are clad with vertically applied wood boards. A small door in the east side of the building provides access to the interior. A small wood panel door in the east gable end is located directly above the main door.

The interior of the space is completely open from the ground to the peak of the roof. There are no interior wall finishes; the walls on the main level are exposed log and the walls and roof system are exposed above. The structure is currently used for storage.

The Chlorinator House

This structure was constructed in 1942. It is a concrete structure, approximately ten feet by twelve feet. The structure, most of which is below ground to prevent freezing in the winter, is located at the north end of the property near the creek. It was used historically to store chlorine and equipment. It is currently unused.

The Bridge

A small bridge is located near the south end of the property and provides access from the main roadway to the area where the buildings and structures are located. It is a simple beam type bridge that spans Alkali Creek and is constructed primarily of logs and wood planks. It is notable, however, due to the lampposts at each end of the bridge. These lampposts are made of petrified wood pieces, stacked in slightly tapered shapes, and set with concrete. The metal hardware for the lamps remains intact, but the glass globes have been removed.

OBJECTS

The Wagons

Located between the cook house and the ice house are remnants of two wagons dating to the earliest days of the complex. One of the wagons is largely intact and is an example of the style of wagon used to haul logs. The other wagon's original use is unknown at this time. Although their conditions are somewhat deteriorated, they both retain a high degree of historic integrity and contribute to the overall property.

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RUINS SITE

Located at the north end of the property, near the creek, is a site of ruins from a sawmill that operated during the construction of the nearby dams. Portions of old foundations and a smokestack are lying near the creek beneath dense brush and overgrowth. The extent of the ruins is not known at this time because the overgrowth prevented full documentation, but the site should be noted and considered contributing to the nominated property.

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

Most of the buildings associated with this district are of the vernacular type. Each was built with function as a focus rather than style. There was an effort, however, to create a rustic log cabin aesthetic by the application of the peeled, half-round log siding on four of the buildings and the use of stone on the summer cabin, bunkhouse, bridge and grounds. Although somewhat modest in its application, the use of log siding and stones was adapted from the architecture of the summer homes in New York's Adirondack Mountains (discussed in Section 8 of this nomination). This created a unified appearance of a rustic recreational site as it evolved into the summer home for the Davenport family.

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| 0 01-1 | | |
|----------|---------------------|--|
| x Staten | ent of Significance | |
| | | |

| (Mark "x" for Nation | able National Register Criteria in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property al Register listing) Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. | Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) Industry Commerce Entertainment/Recreation |
|----------------------|--|--|
| хВ | 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. | Period of Significance 1892-1978 |
| D | Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, Information important in prehistory or history. | Significant Dates 1892, 1926, 1938, 1953, 1978 |
| | a Considerations in all the boxes that apply) ty is: | Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above) |
| A | Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. | Joseph J. Davenport Jarvis D. Davenport |
| В | Removed from its original location. | Cultural Affiliation (if applicable) |
| C | A birthplace or grave. | |
| D | A cemetery. | |
| E | A reconstructed building, object, or structure. | Architect/Builder |
| ☐ F ☐ G | A commemorative property. Less than 50 years old or achieving Significance within the past 50 years. | Joseph J. Davenport Jarvis D. Davenport |

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site is a small historic district being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and B. Under Criterion A, the complex is associated with historic commerce and industry as the site related to the creation and operation of the Sturgis Water Works between 1892 and 1978. It is also associated with the area of entertainment/recreation as the summer home of the Davenport family. Under Criterion B, the property is associated with two men, Joseph J. Davenport and his son, Jarvis D. Davenport, important to the history of Sturgis, South Dakota. Both made significant contributions to the community and this property best exemplifies those contributions.

The period of significance begins in 1892 when Joseph Davenport began construction on the Sturgis Water Works system. It ends in 1978, shortly after the death of Jarvis Davenport, when the family sold the water works system to the City of Sturgis. The Davenport descendants continue to own the twenty acres of the original land; the nominated area includes approximately ten acres on which the resources are located.

The property is being nominated as locally significant.

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

A Brief History of Sturgis and Joseph J. Davenport's Arrival in Sturgis

In 1878, a military camp was established near Bear Butte under the command of General Samuel D. Sturgis. The camp was named Camp J.G. Sturgis after the general's son who was among those of the 7th Cavalry who died at the Battle of Little Bighorn. Later that year a permanent fort was established a few miles south of the camp site and was named Fort Meade in honor of Major George G. Meade of Civil War fame.¹

Recognizing the opportunities of locating near the fort, a number of vendors set up where they could sell their wares to soldiers. The practice of relieving the men of their pay was called "scooping" and the vendor settlement was called Scooptown, a nickname that Sturgis retains today. Scooptown was platted, in August 1878, as Sturgis City and was named for General Samuel Sturgis. The town was incorporated ten years later as Sturgis and it quickly became a center for commerce, agriculture and eventually tourism.²

Joseph J. Davenport arrived in Sturgis in June 1884. His first business venture was to organize the Lawrence County Bank with a capital of \$25,000 (this bank was located in Sturgis, which at that time was still part of Lawrence County). He served as the cashier until this bank was consolidated with the Box & Stebbins Bank. At that point, Davenport organized the First National Bank of Sturgis where he served as a director and the cashier until selling his banking interests in 1896.3

¹ "Sturgis History" website (www.sturgishistory.org), accessed March 2016.

² Ibid.

³ George W. Kingsbury, "Joseph J. Davenport," History of Dakota Territory, Vol. IV (Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1915), 112-116.

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The Sturgis Water Works Company

In 1890, Sturgis was a growing community of 300 residents. It had recently been named the seat of Meade County after the county was created from a portion of Lawrence County in 1889. With a keen eye for business and the commitment to the betterment of Sturgis, Davenport petitioned the city in 1892 for a franchise to develop and operate a water works system for Sturgis. That franchise was approved as Ordinance No. 37 on January 12, 1892.4

The ordinance, which assigned the "exclusive privilege of establishing, maintaining and operating a system of water works" to Davenport, his associates and successors, granted the franchise for a period of twenty years with an option of renewing for another twenty years after which time, the City of Sturgis would purchase the entire water system. The purpose was to supply "good and wholesome" water to the city and its inhabitants. The system would include reservoirs, pipelines, hydrants, and conduits sufficient in size and with enough water pressure as needed for the city. Davenport was to install water lines along all city streets and alleys that existed at that point in time and was responsible for extending the system as the city grew over the following twenty years. The ordinance also set forth a financial agreement of rent paid to Davenport by the city and a schedule of rates for all businesses and residences in town. Davenport could operate the system as a subscription service and collect flat rates or install meters and collect by a metered rate. The construction of the water plant and installation of three miles of water mains was to be completed on or before May 1, 1893.5

Davenport's Sturgis Water Company was officially established in February 1892 and articles of incorporation were filed with the state in May 1893. The officers were J.J. Davenport, President, M.J. LaMent, Treasurer, and G.W. Ladd, Secretary. Davenport had already done a great deal of homework in locating a site for the reservoirs and a route for the pipelines. He worked with geologists to determine the best locations for the dams and reservoirs and with civil engineers to plan the best ways to install the pipelines from the reservoirs through the rough terrain to the city. He secured the land (through purchases and leases) on which the water works would be installed. He researched and obtained the best cast iron pipes, valves, fittings, hydrants, and meters.

A "field camp" was set up as a staging area for supplies needed for the project and a location where the workers would eat meals or tie up their horses. This camp was known, in the family's business records, as the Supply Works Site. It was located just below the site of the first dam. A small barn was constructed, an ice house built, and a cookhouse constructed. Many of the men who worked on the project walked or rode horses daily from Sturgis to the site, were paid one dollar a day for their work, and were furnished a hot meal daily.⁶ In addition, a small sawmill was established at the north end of the site. As the logs were cleared in the canyon where the reservoirs would be, they were processed at this sawmill and most of the lumber taken to town for sale. It is not known if the lumber mill was operating when the cookhouse and barn were constructed; it is possible that lumber used to construct both was milled onsite.

Payroll records indicate that a full crew was working on constructing the water works system by the summer of 1892. They worked through the fall and winter and by the following spring, the system was complete and water was flowing to Sturgis. The water works was a gravity system where gallons of water from two reservoirs (#1 with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons; #2 with a capacity of 22,000,000 gallons⁷) flowed through cast iron pipes to the city. The drop in elevation of more than 700 feet provided excellent water pressure in town. The

⁴ "Franchise Granted Joseph J. Davenport Et Al., by the City of Sturgis, SD" Ordinance No. 37 (document published by the City Council, 1892).

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ George A. Hill, A letter to the Davenport Family (September 1993).

⁷ Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Report on Water Works Operation (Kansas City, Missouri, 1952), 7.

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water, sourced from springs flowing through deep volcanic rock (known as trachyte) approximately three and one-half miles south of Sturgis, was of high-quality with a natural softness unlike most of the hard water in the Black Hills that flowed from limestone deposits. An article on the town of Sturgis, in a 1904 book entitled *The Black Hills Illustrated*, called the water works system "one of the greatest prides" of the city.⁸

In 1895, the system was expanded so that water could also be supplied to Fort Meade. With the continued growth of Sturgis came the increased need for water. In 1898, Davenport expanded the system to include a third dam, upstream from the other two. This reservoir has a capacity of 10,000,000 gallons.⁹

The construction of the system involved hard work and ingenuity. Once the sites for the dams were determined, the canyon above them had to be cleared of trees and prepared for reservoirs. The trees were hauled to the sawmill at the Supply Works Site. The dams were constructed – the first dam was rubble masonry reinforced with concrete; the second dam was largely rubble masonry faced with concrete and topped by additional concrete; the third dam was concrete. Twenty-foot sections of pipe were placed along the route through the canyon; when it was necessary to change direction along the way, a pit was dug and a fire lit beneath the spot where the bend was needed. When the pipe was hot enough, horses attached to the end of the pipe pulled it until the proper bend occurred. At one spot, the canyon had to be crossed; a stone masonry arch bridge was constructed to support the pipe as it crossed the canyon. At another spot, a tunnel had to be created through which the pipe could run on its way down the canyon.

By 1904, the system had proven itself and on May 21, the Sturgis Water Company became the Sturgis Water Works Company. The new company was incorporated with J.J. Davenport as president, his wife, Sara, as Secretary, and Sara's father, Daniel Jarvis, as treasurer. The corporation was a closed one, with all stock owned by the family.¹⁰

The following year, Davenport requested an inspection of the water works by Samuel H. Lea, a consulting engineer with the American Society of Civil Engineers. That report confirmed the quality of water, but recommended an expansion in capacity either by constructing additional dams or by enlarging those that already existed. In 1910, Davenport constructed a fourth dam, upstream from Dam #3. This dam was enlarged and raised in c.1932, which increased the reservoir's storage capacity of 23,000,000 gallons.

The Davenport family continued to own and operate the water works as the City of Sturgis opted to continue the franchise rather than purchase the system. The company's ownership evolved over time; Daniel Jarvis died in 1908. In the early 1920s, Jarvis D. Davenport, Joseph and Sara's youngest son, joined the family's company. Sara died April 24, 1928; Joseph died October 17, 1937. Jarvis Davenport became the owner of the company at that time.

Throughout the years of construction, followed by years of monitoring the operations, the Supply Works Site was often occupied by workers and/or a caretaker. In 1926, the summer cabin was constructed at the site. This building is referred to in some of the company records as the "Operator's Cottage" and the records state that it

¹⁰ Articles of Incorporation, Sturgis Water Works Company, May 21, 1904.

⁸ George P. Baldwin, *The Black Hills Illustrated* (The Black Hills Mining Men's Association, 1904), 83.

⁹ Burns & McDonnell, 7.

¹¹ Samuel H. Lea, Report on Inspection of Sturgis Water Works Company System, February 7, 1906.

¹² Burns & McDonnell, 8.

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was used as "living quarters for the operator and watchmen of the supply works." The "operator" of record was Jarvis Davenport. It is not known if this cabin was occupied only by family members or if hired crew also resided there at some point in time. According to family descendants, John McMillan, who worked as the cook for company, lived in the cookhouse until the 1930s. In 1938, the bunkhouse was built to provide housing for workers who lived on site and provided oversight and maintenance for the waterworks system. Eventually the sleeping porch was added to that building and it become part of the family's summer home.

Jarvis Davenport continued to own and operate the Sturgis Water Works Company until his death in 1977. At that point in time, the company was one of only a few privately-owned water companies in the country. Following his death, the remaining family sold the water works to the City of Sturgis in January 1978, retaining only twenty acres of land and the site that had become the family's summer home.

Joseph J. Davenport

Joseph J. Davenport was a very successful businessman who made significant contributions to the building of the City of Sturgis. He was born (with a twin sister, Maria) in Woodford County (near Metamora), Illinois on January 23, 1850. When he was only two years old, his father died of cholera. By age eight, he was employed herding sheep to earn his own living. During the Civil War, he was a drummer boy for Company E, One Hundred and Eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Prior to age eighteen, he had also worked as a rider of racing stock and a station agent in Eureka, Illinois, where he learned telegraphy and worked for the next three years as a newsboy on trains. He became a brakeman on a train running between Peoria and Chenoa (Illinois); after two years he sustained a serious injury to his hand. When the superintendent of the rail line informed him that the injury would result in being laid off, he advised Joseph to return home and attend school.¹⁴

Although he was eighteen before ever attending school, Joseph returned to Metamora and spent a year studying at a school in Minock, Illinois. From 1871 to 1874, he attended the University of Illinois at Champaign. When he ran out of funds to continue his college studies, he opened a newsstand in Urbana. The following year, he moved to New York City and opened a branch office of the Chicago Feather Duster Company, where he worked for three years. In 1878, Joseph took a position at the Marine National Bank on Wall Street and worked for the bank until its failure in 1884. Soon thereafter, he decided to head west with Sturgis as his destination. He arrived in June 1884 and engaged in a banking career (as previously mentioned) with the Lawrence County Bank and the First National Bank of Sturgis.¹

In 1892, he pursued his desire to develop and operate a water works company in Sturgis (details are found in the previous section of this nomination). His time was concentrated on the building and management of the water works, so in 1896 he sold his banking interests to the organizers of the Meade County Bank. From 1892 to his death in 1937, he served as the president of the Sturgis Water Works Company, a company with an estimated value of more than \$100,000 in 1915 (no estimates of worth at his death were found). Although his primary business interest was the water works, he was also involved in the real estate business and he became an extensive landowner in South Dakota. 16

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Kingsbury, 112-116.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

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On October 14, 1885, Joseph married Sara E. Jarvis of Brooklyn, New York. Sara was the only daughter of Daniel and Amelia (Robinson) Jarvis. Daniel followed Sara to Sturgis in 1892 and engaged in ranching until his death (he was also involved as an officer of the Sturgis Water Works Company as previously mentioned). Sara and Joseph had four children – Alice J., Florence Agnes, John J. (who died at age fifteen), and Jarvis Daniel.¹⁷

Joseph served a term as mayor (late 1880s) and was active in several local organizations in Sturgis. He was especially active and very prominent in the Masonic fraternity with memberships in the Olive Branch Lodge, No. 47, A.F. & A.M. in Sturgis, Lodge 25 in Rapid City, the Dakota Commandery, No. 1 K.T. of Deadwood, the Deadwood Consistory, No. 3, and the Naja Shrine of Deadwood. He was also a member of the Masonic Veterans Association and served as its president in 1904 and 1905. He served as the Masonic Grand Master of South Dakota in 1908 and 1909; during this time he helped lay the cornerstone of the new capitol building in Pierre in June 1908 and the cornerstone for the new Masonic Temple in Redfield in October 1908.¹⁸

When he died in October of 1937, he was remembered as a self-made man, successful in business with a strong interest in his community. He enjoyed life, was always courteous and kind, and determined to make the most of any situation. His success with the Sturgis Water Works Company was a significant contribution in the areas of commerce and industry to the community's history.

Jarvis D. Davenport

Jarvis Daniel Davenport was born on August 25, 1897, the youngest of the children born to Joseph J. and Sara E. Davenport. His early childhood was spent in Sturgis. He graduated from the Shattuck Military School in Fairbault, Minnesota and attended the University of Wisconsin for three years where he majored in petroleum engineering. He entered the military in August 1918 and was discharged in February 1919 as a Second Lieutenant in the infantry.¹⁹

Jarvis married Jeannette Harris on January 21, 1922 at Riverside, Illinois. Soon thereafter, they relocated to Sturgis where Jarvis entered the family water works business, eventually becoming the owner and president of the company.

In addition to his success with the Sturgis Water Works Company, Jarvis was very active in local, regional, state and national affairs. Locally, he served as the Commander of the American Legion Meade Post No. 33, was a past master of the Masonic Lodge, was a member of the Naja Shrine and the St. Thomas Episcopal Church. He was active in both the Sturgis Chamber of Commerce and the Sturgis Rotary Club, and served terms as president of both organizations. In 1944, he was actively involved in securing a future for Fort Meade when it was closed. In 1945, he served as the chair of a committee tasked with convincing the new United Nations organization to locate their headquarters in the Black Hills (although the Black Hills was in the top five locations under consideration, the headquarters were built in New York City). ²¹

He was instrumental in the creation of the Greater South Dakota Association; the Black Hills, Badlands & Lakes Association; and the South Dakota Auto Club. He served as the director of the auto club for a number of

18 Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁹ "Jarvis Davenport Funeral Today" (unknown newspaper clipping dated September 28, 1977).

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Richard R. Chenoweth, "The Black Hills – United Nations Capital," South Dakota History, Vol. 5 No. 2 (1975), 153.

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years. Jarvis was also a director and vice-president of the Mount Rushmore Society. As a result of his business prominence, he served on several boards and commissions including the Board of Directors of the Black Hills Power & Light Company, the Board of Directors of the Wyodak Resources Development Corporation, the Executive Committee of the First National Bank of the Black Hills, and served as the chair of the South Dakota Cement Commission.²²

He was active in a number of national organizations and associations, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, where he was a member of the Natural Resources Commission and served as chair of the subcommittee on water and power. Jarvis was also a member of the American Waterworks Association, where he also served as a director.²³

Jarvis was active in Republican politics and served as a close advisor to several South Dakota governors, senators, and congressmen. In 1960, he was the head of the U.S. delegation to the meeting of the Economic Commission for Europe at its Electric Power Commission meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. He also filled similar missions to France and Romania during the Eisenhower Administration.²⁴

In 1954, Jarvis received a Distinguished Service Award, presented to a South Dakota businessman, from the University of South Dakota. In 1955, he received a Meritorious Achievement Award from the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology.²⁵

In addition to the Sturgis Water Works Company, Jarvis was also the owner and operator of the Bar D Dairy Ranch near Sturgis. At one point in time, he also had business interests in the Getty Abstract Company in Sioux Falls and had been a field analyst for The Texas Company.²⁶

Jarvis died on September 25, 1977. Jarvis and Jeannette had two daughters. Mary Beth died at the age of ten. Gwenllyn had three daughters, one of whom is Katherine Martel, the current owner of the nominated property.

The Davenport Family Summer Home

Development of the Supply Works Site as a permanent family summer home began in the early 1920s, after Jarvis and Jeannette moved to Sturgis. It was the construction of the summer cabin in 1926 that set the stage for the use of the site for not only family recreational purposes but as a place where the Davenports would entertain friends and dignitaries for more than fifty years. The construction of the bunkhouse in 1938 provided additional space for entertaining.

The concept of summer get-aways in the Black Hills was not new. Tourism began in the 1880s, when a group of investors developed a health resort in Hot Springs. In 1893, hotels were built at Wind Cave and Sylvan Lake, further encouraging excursions to the Black Hills. In addition to hotels hoping to entice tourists, private lodges were also built. One such place was the Pierre Lodge at Hisega, constructed in 1909 by a group of friends from Pierre. Even before President Cleveland established the Black Hills Forest Preserve in 1897, families were creating private retreats for personal recreation; following the establishment of the Forest Service

| 22 | lbid. |
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²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ "Jarvis Davenport Funeral Today."

²⁶ Ibid.

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leasing law of 1915, a number of private cabins were built by individuals and families who enjoyed camping, fishing, hunting or who simply enjoyed the scenery.²⁷

While many of the buildings in the Black Hills were vernacular in style, some embraced the notion of the "rustic" architecture that developed in the Adirondack Mountains in the 1870s. Focused on the use of native materials, the cabins and lodges of the Great Camps of the Adirondacks incorporated elements of logs (whole, split, with bark or peeled) and native stone (for foundations, chimneys and fireplaces) to create buildings that seemed to fit into their landscapes. These Adirondack camps were built by the wealthy as summer retreats from the cities. This rustic style of architecture evolved into a log cabin aesthetic that was widely adopted throughout the country and was used by private families, various business enterprises, and the National Park Service for buildings constructed in forested areas.²⁸

The Davenport family's place of social prominence led them to use this rustic log cabin aesthetic in the development of the summer home site. Four of the buildings on the site have applied half-round log siding and the use of stone is prominent in the summer cabin and the bunkhouse. In addition to the buildings, the use of stone and log appear elsewhere on the property, including the bridge, patios, and steps to the cabin, adding to a cohesive appearance of a rustic retreat.

Most of the entertaining over the years was done by Jarvis and Jeannette (Jarvis's mother died in 1928 shortly after the construction of the summer cabin and his father died in 1937, the year before the bunkhouse was constructed). The Davenports entertained many dignitaries and friends, as well as family, through the years. Several photos of gatherings held at the summer home illustrate events such as parties, dances, meals, card games, and hunting excursions.

Jarvis was well acquainted with President Eisenhower and invited him to spend time in the Black Hills at the Davenport family's summer home. To accommodate such a visit, Jarvis had an addition built on the summer cabin (1953). Unfortunately, the trip was called off after the Secret Service visited the site and determined that it would be too difficult to evacuate the President in case of emergency.²⁹

Although the site continued to serve in relation to the water works until the late 1970s, its use as a family summer home illustrates the important role it filled for the family when socializing and entertaining.

CONCLUSION

The Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site was developed in association with a significant early commercial venture and industrial endeavor near Sturgis, South Dakota. The Sturgis Water Works Company, originally known as the Sturgis Water Company, was granted a franchise by the City of Sturgis in 1892. Between that year and 1978, the company was privately owned and operated by the Davenport family. Its success illustrates its importance in the areas of commerce and industry.

²⁷ Suzanne Barta Julin, *A Marvelous Hundred Square Miles Black Hills Tourism, 1880-1941* (Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 2009), 10-31.

²⁸ William C Tweed, Laura E. Soulliere, and Henry G. Law. *National Park Service Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942* (National Park Service Western Regional Office, Division of Cultural Resource Management, 1977).

²⁹ Hill, 1993 letter.

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It is also important for the role it filled in the family's entertainment of family, friends and dignitaries. The use of the site as a summer home was secondary to its relation to the development and operation of the water works, but was significant as a place where the Davenports could entertain anyone from immediate family to good friends to important political acquaintances.

The Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site should be considered eligible under Criterion A in the areas of commerce, industry and entertainment/recreation.

It also should be considered eligible under Criterion B for its association with Joseph J. Davenport, who conceived of and put into reality the water works system, not only as a successful business venture for himself and his family, but also as a significant contribution toward the betterment of Sturgis by making available quality water for the residents. In addition, it is eligible in association with Jarvis D. Davenport, who continued to own and operate the water works system until his death in 1977. Both men made substantial contributions to the community (and beyond) through the operation of the water works and through many hours of active participation in various organizations and associations. Although there are two houses in the city of Sturgis associated with the Davenports, The Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site is the place that best illustrates the contributions made by Joseph J. Davenport and his son, Jarvis D. Davenport.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

PRINTED RESOURCES

Articles of Incorporation, Sturgis Water Works Company, May 21, 1904 (Collection of Davenport family).

Baldwin, George P. The Black Hills Illustrated. The Black Hills Mining Men's Association, 1904.

Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Report on Water Works Operation. Kansas City, Missouri, 1952.

Chenoweth, Richard R. "The Black Hills – United Nations Capital," South Dakota History, Vol. 5 No. 2 (1975).

"Franchise Granted Joseph J. Davenport Et Al., by the City of Sturgis, SD" *Ordinance No. 37* (document published by the City Council, 1892).

Hill, George A. A letter to the Davenport Family, September 1993. (Collection of Davenport family).

"Jarvis Davenport Funeral Today" (unknown newspaper clipping dated September 28, 1977).

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Lea, Samuel H. Report on Inspection of Sturgis Water Works Company System, February 7, 1906 (Collection of the Davenport family).

William C Tweed, Laura E. Soulliere, and Henry G. Law. *National Park Service Rustic Architecture: 1916-1942*. National Park Service Western Regional Office, Division of Cultural Resource Management, 1977.

INTERNET RESOURCES

"Jarvis Daniel Davenport." Find A Grave Memorial website. www.findagrave.com. Accessed August 2015.

"Sturgis History" website. www.sturgishistory.org/history/sturgis-history. Accessed March 2016.

INTERVIEWS

Interview with Katherine Martel, August 23, 2015.

| Previous documentation on file (NPS): | Primary location of additional data: |
|--|---|
| Preliminary determination of individual listing Previously listed in the National Register Previously determined eligible by the National Register Designated a National Historic Landmark Recorded by Historic American Building Survey # Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # Recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # | x State Historic Preservation Office Other state agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository |
| Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): | : |

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| Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site Name of Property | Meade, South Dakota County and State | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| 10. Geographical Data | | | |
| Acreage of Property _approximately 10 acres | | | |
| Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates | | | |
| Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees) Datum if other than WGS84: (enter coordinates to 6 decimal places) | | | |
| 1. Latitude <u>44.361403</u> 3. La Longitude <u>-103.516188</u> Lo | ititude ingitude | | |
| 2. Latitude 4. La Longitude Longitude | titude ngitude | | |
| UTM References Datum (indicated on USGS map): NAD 1927 or NAD 1983 | | | |
| 1. Zone <u>13</u> Easting <u>618239.13</u> Northing <u>4</u> | 913084.95 | | |
| 2. Zone | | | |
| | | | |
| Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the | property) | | |
| The boundary includes the eastern half of the 20-acre parcel as listed with the Meade County, South Dakota Treasurer as Parcel 11.28.431 in District U-461 (also listed as N1/2SWSE Sec/Twp/Rng: 28-5-5); it includes the property located on the east side of the road that bisects the parcel. | | | |
| Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected) | | | |
| The boundary encompasses the portion of the property that includes the historic buildings and structures associated with the Davenport family's property. | | | |
| 11. Form Prepared By | | | |
| Name/title Michelle L. Dennis Organization M.L. Dennis Consulting Street & number 513 Meade St. City or town Rapid City State SE E-mail michdenn@msn.com Telphone Date April 2016 | Zip code <u>57701</u> 605-342-8286 | | |

Additional Documentation (Submit the following items with the completed form)

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location
- Sketch map for historic district and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.

Photograph log, Page 19

Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site Name of Property

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Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 dpi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

| Name of Property: Sturgis Water Works Compa | any Supply Works Site | |
|--|---|--|
| City or Vicinity: Sturgis | | |
| County: Meade | State: SD | |
| Photographers: M.L. Dennis; Chris Nelson (SHPO Staff) | | |
| Date Photographed: August 2015 | | |
| Description of Photograph(s) and number, include | e description of view indicating direction of camera. | |
| Photo 1 of 23: The cookhouse. Front (southeast) (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company S |) and side (southwest). Camera facing north (Dennis photo) upply Works Site_0001) | |
| Photo 2 of 23: Old stove in the cookhouse. Cam (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company S | 9 | |
| Photo 3 of 23: Doorway in floor to root cellar ben (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company S | neath the cookhouse. Camera facing north (Dennis photo). upply Works Site_0003) | |

Photo 4 of 23: The barn, front (northeast) and side (northwest). Camera facing south (Dennis photo) (SD MeadeCounty Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site 0004)

Photo 5 of 23: Interior of barn. Camera facing south (Dennis photo) (SD MeadeCounty Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site 0005)

Photo 6 of 23: Summer cabin, south and west elevations. Camera facing northwest (Nelson photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0006)

Photo 7 of 23: Summer cabin, west elevation, addition at far end (left). Camera facing northeast (Dennis photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0007)

Photo 8 of 23: Summer cabin, north and west elevations. Camera facing southwest (Nelson photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0008)

Photo 9 of 23: Living room of summer cabin. Camera facing east (Dennis photo) (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0009)

Photo 10 of 23: Kitchen in summer cabin. Camera facing south (Dennis photo) (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0010)

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Photo 11 of 23: Bunkhouse, north elevation. Camera facing south (Dennis photo) (SD MeadeCounty Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site 0011)

Photo 12 of 23: Bunkhouse, south and east elevations. Camera facing northwest (Dennis photo) (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0012)

Photo 13 of 23: Interior of bunkhouse, ground floor. Camera facing southeast (Dennis photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0013)

Photo 14 of 23: Bunkhouse, upper floor. Camera facing northwest (Dennis photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0014)

Photo 15 of 23: Bunkhouse sleeping porch. Camera facing northwest (Dennis photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0015)

Photo 16 of 23: The shed, west and south elevation. Camera facing east (Dennis photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0016)

Photo 17 of 23: Ice house, east and north elevations. Camera facing southwest (Nelson photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0017)

Photo 18 of 23: Close-up of ice house notching. Camera facing northwest (Dennis photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0018)

Photo 19 of 23: Ice house interior. Camera facing west (Dennis photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0019)

Photo 20 of 23: The bridge with petrified wood lampposts. Camera facing southwest (Dennis photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0020)

Photo 21 of 23: The wagons. Camera facing southwest (Nelson photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0021)

Photo 22 of 23: Looking toward location of site of sawmill (ruins site). Camera facing northeast (Dennis photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0022)

Photo 23 of 23: Reservoir #4 and top edge of concrete dam. Camera facing south (Dennis photo). (SD_MeadeCounty_Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site_0023)

Meade, South Dakota County and State

Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site Name of Property

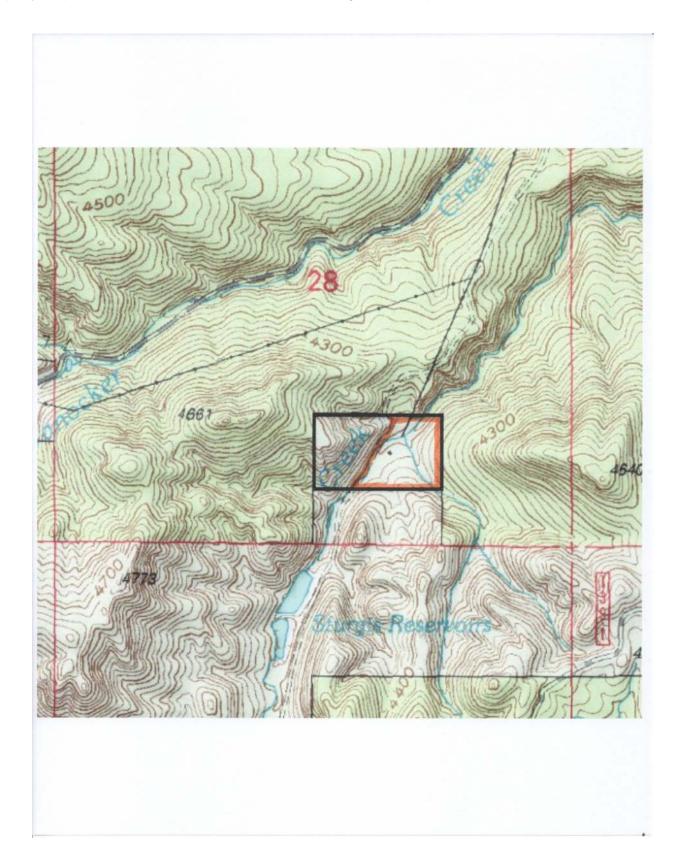
USGS Topographical Map - Site marked by red box



Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site Name of Property

Meade, South Dakota County and State

Property map – 10-acre nominated area outlined in orange; 20-acre parcel outlined in black

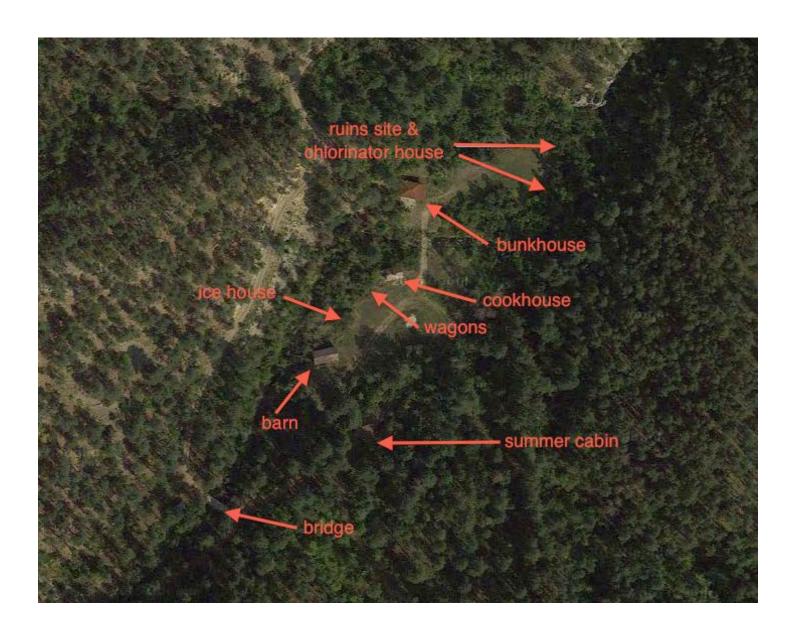


Meade, South Dakota

County and State

Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site
Name of Property

Satellite image Locations of major resources marked in red



Meade, South Dakota County and State

Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site Name of Property

Satellite image Photo Key

















































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

| Requested Action: | Nomination |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Property Name: | Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site |
| Multiple Name: | |
| State & County: | SOUTH DAKOTA, Meade |
| Date Rece | ived: Date of Pending List: Date of 16th Day: Date of 45th Day: Date of Weekly List: 12/6/2016 12/6/2016 12/15/2016 |
| Reference number: | 16000827 |
| Nominator: | State |
| Reason For Review | : |
| X Accept | Return Reject 12/6/2016 Date |
| Abstract/Summary Comments: | Meets Registration Requirements |
| Recommendation/ Criteria | |
| Reviewer Edson | Beall Discipline Historian |
| Telephone | Date |
| DOCUMENTATION | : see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No |

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.





OCT 2 1 2016

Natl. Reg. of Historic Places National Park Service



13 October 2016

Keeper of the National Register National Register of Historic Places National Parks Service 1201 Eye St NW 8th Floor (MS 2280) Washington DC 20005

Dear Keeper of the National Register:

Enclosed are seven National Register of Historic Places nominations: Farmers and Citizens State Bank, Belle Fourche Band Shell, Sturgis Water Works Company Supply Works Site, Rapid City Masonic Temple, Canton Carnegie Library, Prairie Village Carousel, and Lemmon Petrified Park (Amendment).

If you have any questions regarding any of these submittals, please feel free to contact me at 605-773-3103 or at chrisb.nelson@state.sd.us.

Sincerely.

Chris B. Nelson

Historic Preservation Specialist