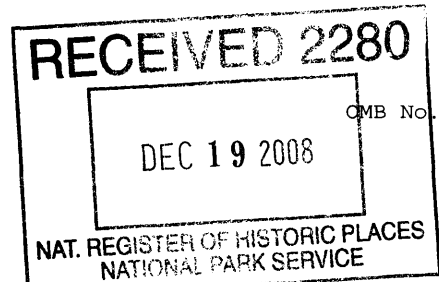


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



1384

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Hagadone, Frank Homestead

other name/site number: 24FR0328

2. Location

street & number: Missouri River, Mile # 97,

not for publication: N/A

city/town: N/A

vicinity: N/A

state: Montana

code: MT

county: Fergus

code: 027

zip code: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally.

Robin L Burgess, Preservation Officer, Dec 9 2008
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency or bureau Bureau of Land Management (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

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

Mark F. Gaumer 10/29/2008
Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau MONTANA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE, MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> see continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain): _____	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property:	Public - Federal	Number of Resources within Property	
Category of Property:	District	Contributing	Noncontributing
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:	N/A	<u>4</u>	<u> </u> buildings
		<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> sites
		<u>2</u>	<u> </u> structures
		<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
Name of related multiple property listing:	N/A	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u> Total

6. Function or Use**Historic Functions:**

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
 DOMESTIC/secondary structures
 AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions:

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description**Architectural Classification:**

OTHER/Western Stick
 OTHER/Log Building

Materials:

foundation: None
 walls: WOOD/weatherboard, log; ASPHALT
 roof: WOOD/shingle; ASPHALT
 other: METAL/steel

Narrative Description

(see continuation sheet)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Areas of Significance: AGRICULTURE;
 EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

Period(s) of Significance: 1918-1954

Significant Dates: 1918

Architect/Builder: N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Frank Hagadone Homestead is one of the best preserved homestead complexes along the Missouri River. It is historically significant and eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its historic association with land settlement in the early 1900s along the Missouri River within the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument. The area where the homestead is located looks much as it did 100 years ago. Its inaccessibility has provided a buffer from much of the outside world. The Missouri Breaks maintain much of the character that encouraged its early settlement and the Frank Hagadone Homestead is an important component of the landscape.

The Frank Hagadone Homestead was initially settled in 1918. George Clyborne settled on this claim in 1918. His brother-in-law, Herbert Cameron and his family lived on the land during this time. Francis Hagadone purchased the property in 1924, after living in the cabin occupied by George Clyborne since 1923. George Hagadone continued to occupy the property until 1954.

The Frank Hagadone homestead also captures the story of the development of the Homestead Act itself. As it became apparent that 160 acres was not sufficient for settlement in arid country, increased acreage became available for agricultural use. The Frank Hagadone homestead is an example of an individual using multiple homestead acts; initially filing in South Dakota, filing on this location as an enlarged homestead, and enlarging his claim with a stock raising homestead. The different construction styles provides a glimpse into resource availability from log construction to frame housing.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Arthur, Jim. *A History of Winifred, Montana*. Lewistown: Central Montana Publishing, 1988.

Beck, Carla. "The days of homesteading and James J. Hill recalled," Great Falls Tribune, January 27, 1974.

Bergum, Jack. Telephone interview by Zane Fulbright on January 25, 2008.

Bergum, Jack and Loraine Bergum. Bob O'Boyle. Interview with Jack and Loraine Bergum on July 28, 2004, in Appendix 1, "More Making a Living in the Missouri River Breaks of Montana: Additional Oral Histories of the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument."

Healy, Donna. "Homestead Memories: Challenges of Life in the Breaks include Isolation, Rattlesnakes." Billings Gazette July 24, 2004. Found at: www.billingsgazette.net.

Hledik, Myrtle Hagadone. Letter to BLM Havre Field Station, March 28, 2001.

Miller, Robert E. "Homesteaders," Montana Magazine of the Northern Rockies Vol. 7 #2, Spring 1977.

Muhn, James and Hanson R. Stuart. Opportunity and Challenge: The Story of BLM. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1988.

Monahan, Glenn. Montana's Wild & Scenic Upper Missouri River. Anaconda: Northern Rockies Publishing, 1997.

Toole, K. Ross. *Twentieth-Century Montana: A State of Extremes*. Norman OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1972.
Montana: An Uncommon Land. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1979.

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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Specify Repository: BLM Lewistown Field Office

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 17.22

UTM References (NAD 1927):	Zone 12	A: 614175m Easting	5287180m Northing
		B: 614483m Easting	5287263m Northing
		C: 614484m Easting	5287022m Northing
		D: 614175m Easting	5287020m Northing

Legal Location (Township, Range & Section(s)): T. 23N R. 17E Section 25 Lot 9, (S1/2SESE and NESESE).

Verbal Boundary Description: The boundary of the nominated property is delineated by the polygon on the USGS map Gallatin Rapids (1954), whose vertices are marked by UTM reference points. Located on a flat terrace on the south side of the Missouri River in the SESE of Section 25, T23N R17E.

Boundary Justification: The boundary includes the house, outbuildings, farm implements, garden, and the adjacent area that historically was part of the Hagadone Homestead and maintains the historic integrity. The Missouri River defines the northern boundary.

Frank Hagadone Homestead
Name of Property County and State

Fergus County, Montana

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Zane Fulbright / Archeologist, & Benjamin Miller / Archeology Technician
organization: BLM, Lewistown Field Office date: July 2008
street & number: 920 NE Main Street telephone: 406-538-1900
city or town: Lewistown state: MT zip code: 59457

Property Owner

name/title: Bureau of Land Management
street & number: 920 NE Main St. telephone: 406-538-1900
city or town: Lewistown state: MT zip code: 59457

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Frank Hagadone Homestead
Fergus County, Montana

Description of Resources

The Francis (Frank) Hagadone Homestead is located at River Mile 97.0 on the south side of the Missouri River in an isolated portion of the Breaks along the Wild and Scenic Upper Missouri River. This area is within the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument, created in 2005 by President Clinton. Within the proclamation designating this as a monument is language referencing the "abandoned homesteads" as features of the Monument. Access is difficult at best. The road from the top of the breaks to the homestead is no longer suitable for vehicle travel due to intense erosion activity. Sagebrush and greasewood have erased evidence of cultivated land. One small flat below the buildings, near the river's edge, still has the appearance of being cultivated, though sagebrush now dominates the vegetation. Cottonwoods border this flat. The buildings and structures are relatively intact, and still convey a sense of homestead life in this isolated stretch of the Missouri River.

Building #1, house (one contributing building)

This small, single-story frame house appears to be the result of three construction episodes. The house is believed to have been constructed between 1918 to 1924, the original occupation of the property by the Clybornes and Camerons. The north room, measuring 14.3' x 12.4', is a bedroom. It is covered by a gable roof topped with wood shingles. The roof exhibits open eaves with exposed rafters. The gable roof line of the north room is 1 foot higher than the gable roof of the south room. Stud and rafter spacing is 24". A 24" x 36" opening allows access into the attic. The walls are constructed of heavy, uneven planking covered with green mineralized rolled roofing which is torn in places, exposing the wall construction. This room has a 4-pane window on the west elevation measuring 20" x 28", and a double hung window in the east elevation measuring 28" x 56". The north interior wall is constructed of sheetrock; all other interior walls display rolled cardboard. Flooring is 3" wide tongue and groove.

The south room measures 10' x 12' and is a kitchen. It is covered by a gable roof with a shed extension on the east side; wood shingles cover the south portion of the building. The roof displays open eaves with exposed rafters. The shed extension serves as an entryway. The walls are constructed of lapboard covered with green mineralized rolled roofing which is torn in places, exposing the wall construction. The south room has a 4-pane window on the west side measuring 19" x 24", and a 4-pane window on the south wall that is 18" x 22" in size. A 24" x 24" opening in the ceiling allows access into the attic. Floor coverings consists of 2" wide flooring in the south room and 2" and 3" tongue and groove boards in the entryway. A 5-panel wood door connects the entryway with the south room. The shed-roofed entryway has a 6-pane window in the east elevation measuring 29" x 26." A 26" x 26" 2-pane window is located in the interior wall between the entryway and the kitchen. All the exterior windows have screens. The exterior door is located on the north side of the entryway. The door, measuring 26" x 72", is constructed of tongue and groove boards; it is fronted by a screen door.

The house has no foundation, but is supported by stones at the corners. The east shed entryway is resting on the ground with no other support. Much of this green roofing on the walls has been applied since 1976 in an attempt to preserve the building. The building was reroofed in the late 1990s with Certigrade Blue Label cedar shingles. Furnishings in the house include: two metal bed frames, a wood burning stove in the bedroom, a home comfort range, a table, one bentwood and one cane-bottomed chair, and metal storage cabinets measuring 12" w x 36" l x 6' h.

Building #2, privy and tool shed (one contributing building)

Building #2 is located 95 feet north of the house. It is a two-hole privy and adjoining tool shed. Building #2 is believed to have been constructed the same time as the house, between 1918 to 1924, the original occupation of the property by the Clybornes' and Camerons. The tool shed portion of the building measures 8.3' x 6.4' and the privy measures 5.4' x 3.9'. The single-story two-room, gable-roofed frame structure is protected by wood shingles. The walls are made of lapboard. The tool shed door opening, which

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measures 23" wide x 5' tall, is in the east elevation, immediately south of the privy. The privy door is located in the south elevation of the privy. It measures 24" x 66" and is constructed of two 1" x 12" boards, attached to the privy with two hinges. The privy has 30" stud spacing, while the shed has 24" spacing. Metal strips and steel can tops cover gaps and holes in the wood siding. Assorted tools and equipment are in the toolshed. The building was reroofed in the late 1990s with Certigrade Blue Label cedar shingles. This building has no foundation and rests on the ground. Due to the partial function of the building as a privy, it most likely has been moved several times in the same general area though no depressions have been noted.

Building #3 (one contributing building)

Building #3, located 35 feet NNE of the house, is a storage shed/root cellar. The building covers the root cellar trap door. The construction date of this building is unknown. It is a single-story gable-roofed log building measuring 11.3' x 9'. The roof is covered with green mineralized rolled roofing over 1' x 6' lumber supported by 2" x 4" rafters with 24" spacing. The roofing material is beginning to decay. It has open eaves and exposed rafters. Rolled Baker and Glidden barbed wire are on the roof. This building is constructed of saddle-notched ponderosa pine logs, with wooden wedge and lime chinking and daubing. The ends of the logs have been sawed. The east and west elevations are comprised of seven rows of stacked logs and the south and north elevations consist of eight logs. A window opening measuring 2.9" x 2.4" is in the east elevation. A 2.3' x 5.3' Z-braced door, attached with three strap hinges, faces south. The door jamb is made of a 2.5" x 11" timber. The wooden floor of the building, replaced in 2005 with pine tongue and groove flooring to replicate the original floor, contains the original trap door leading to the root cellar. The sill logs were replaced in 2005. The root cellar has collapsed though approximate dimensions were 9'1 x 9'w x 8'deep. A portion of an 8" ceramic vent pipe remains.

Building #4, barn (one contributing building)

Building #4 is a barn located 800' east of the house, across a coulee, and 450 feet south of the river. The construction date of this building is unknown though it is likely contemporaneous with Building #3. The barn measures 14.5' x 16.6'. It is single story, and displays a board-and-batten gable-roof. The roof is of sawed planks with tongue and groove strips used as battens. This roof was on the building in 1976, though it is unknown if it is original. The building is constructed of v-notched ponderosa pine logs and has wooden wedge and mud chinking. The ends of the logs exhibit both saw and axe cuts. The east and west elevations are comprised of six rows of stacked logs and the south and north elevations consist of seven logs. Two whole logs and two partial logs on the west side were replaced in 2005. A horizontal wood plank door attached to the barn with three strap hinges is located in the south elevation. The windows in the east and west elevations measure 2' x 2.3'; the sill logs were replaced in 2005. The east window is boarded closed. A feed trough has been added along the north interior wall, though when this occurred is not known. This building has a dirt floor.

Structure #1, possible storage shed (one contributing structure)

Structure #1 is a collapsing, possible storage shed located 95' NNE of the house. It is unknown when this structure was built. It measures 10.5' x 8.2'. It displays three beam frame and plank construction. The structure was originally topped by a low slope gable roof that has mostly collapsed. Both the roof and the elevations were covered with galvanized steel siding overlaying horizontal 1" x 10" planks. Portions of siding are missing. Posts used in frame construction averaged 3" to 4" in diameter, and display 24" spacing. Siding is not uniform in size or type. The doorway measures 2.6' x 6' in size; the door is no longer attached to the structure.

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Structure #2, fence, corral, and chute (one contributing structure)

Structure 2 is the remnants of a high pole fence, corral, and chute. No associated date is known for this structure. It is situated beginning at the west wall of the barn (Building #4) and extending west, and then north. Frank Hagadone was an expert horseman and likely used this structure to break horses and perform other related activities.

Site #1, two-track road (one contributing site)

Site 1 is a two-track road, approximately 10' wide, connecting the buildings at the site. It continues to the south. Historically the road continued through the timbered slopes, south to the uplands, eventually connecting to the Winifred-Stafford Ferry Road. The road is stable within the district boundary, but has eroded and is impassable to the south.

Site #2, garden plot (one contributing site):

The one-acre garden plot is on a slightly lower terrace adjacent to the river, and bounded on the east and south by the cottonwood-lined coulee. The west side is delineated with a row of planted trees; no other domestic plantings are evident anywhere in the district. One piece of 2" diameter metal irrigation pipe is present between the garden and the river. The entire area has revegetated with sage brush. Francis Hagadone was reported to have done a lot of canning. He canned ground cherries and venison, and had "a heck of a garden" (Bergum 2008).

Site #3, possible chicken coop (one noncontributing site)

Site #3 is the remains of a possible chicken coop. No associated date is known for this structure. It is 14' west of the NW corner of Structure 1. A 6' deep depression, 12' x 13', with chicken wire in the bottom is all that remains.

An examination of documents at the Fergus County tax assessor's, appraiser's and clerk and recorder's offices failed to yield any definitive information regarding construction dates of the buildings and structures. Equipment noted around the homestead, much of it in the vicinity of the barn, includes a wooden wagon, a stone boat, a McCormick-Deering #7 mower, a harrow, a cultivator, a disc, a drill seeder, a Thomas Crown mower, a dump or buck rake, a hay wagon, and a flat-bottomed river boat. The collection of implements contributes to the site's association with early twentieth century agricultural development, and is representative of the work necessary to provide a livelihood on a Missouri River homestead.

In 2006 BLM employees applied a turpentine and linseed oil mixture to all surfaces of the root cellar (Building #3) and the barn (Building #4), to preserve the original and newly restored logs.

The site is visited by river-goers and used intermittently for cattle grazing. Neither activity is harmful to the site, as the buildings are fenced off from the cattle and visitors have respected the homestead and its vestiges.

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Integrity

The Frank Hagadone Homestead clearly retains excellent integrity, which is best reflected in its essentially unchanged rural location and intact architectural material. The setting and feeling of the property are much as they were during the period of significance from 1918 to 1954. Further, the historic homestead's contributing resources maintain their original locations and relationships with each other and the landscape. The overall setting, near the Missouri River in the dramatic Missouri River Breaks, provides a historic backdrop to the homestead that reveals the retained overall historic isolated and harsh character of the district. Additionally, the surrounding countryside has not been altered by new development, and the lack of modern intrusions only contributes to the overall integrity of the landscape. Though the cultivated fields and fenced pastures have been replaced by sagebrush and native vegetation, the sense of place and the isolated experience of the Missouri River homesteader is still present.

The quality of design, materials, and workmanship throughout the homestead's historic features has also been maintained. Generally, original logs, wood siding, and windows have survived unchanged. While some deterioration has affected the aesthetic value of the historic features, the stability of the structures appears to remain intact. Rehabilitative efforts have helped arrest the continuing deterioration of several of the buildings exposed to the harsh environment. Maintenance on the buildings, including log replacement, re-shingling the roofs, and foundation stabilization has been done with sympathetic materials, and utilizing techniques to mimic the original construction. The Hagadone Homestead is able to present to the visitor a glimpse into the life of a homesteader in the first half of the twentieth century.

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Cultural Setting

Agricultural Development in the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument

The agricultural development along the Upper Missouri Wild and Scenic River followed the stereotypical pattern of settlement common in Montana: Native inhabitants were followed by trappers and explorers, military and trade ventures, steamboats and cattlemen, until finally squatters and homesteaders took their turn at reaping the benefits of the land. During the rapid occupation of the public lands in the nineteenth century, American Indians were pushed into ever smaller areas. Although the federal government recognized some Indian rights to the lands they occupied, there were strong efforts to acquire the lands by agreement, treaty, or force. The 1855 Lame Bull/Stevens Treaty at the confluence of the Judith River and Missouri River had the most noticeable effect on the local land ownership by restricting the Blackfeet lands to the north side of the Missouri River, excluding the area occupied by the Hagadone Homestead from their treaty-defined territory. The south side of the river, an area that had been known as Blackfeet land in the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1851, became identified as common hunting ground.

Settlement along the Missouri River began in the 1860s at the Judith River's confluence. Some settlement did occur prior to the turn of the century, but the majority of the actual homesteaders who stayed long enough to patent their claims arrived in the twenty-year period between 1910 and 1930.

Montana's booming agricultural development took off at the turn of the century. By 1908, agriculture had replaced mining as the state's leading industry (Beck 1974: 11). In 1910, Montanans began to see the results of the modified homesteading laws, designed to make it easier for citizens to be self-sufficient on their 320-acre claims. The Enlarged Homestead Act was passed in 1909; one year later homestead entries in Montana increased from 7,500 filed to nearly 22,000 (Muhn & Stuart 1988:35). Nationally, homestead entries jumped from one million acres claimed in 1909, to over four million acres in 1910 (Miller 1977: 17). In many parts of the country, this boom continued until 1917, when the United States entered into World War I. Additionally, Congress reduced the amount of time homesteaders needed to reside on and prove up their claims from five years to three years. Also fueling the homesteading boom, the Milwaukee Railroad expanded its line through central Montana, encouraging settlers (also viewed as potential future customers) to homestead this area. The Great Northern Railroad, competing with the Milwaukee for homesteaders, was promoting dry land farming techniques for use along the Hi Line and throughout the Great Plains. The most significant factor in the homesteading boom was environmental. From 1910 until 1917, above average precipitation helped crops flourish, and gave homesteaders and promoters alike a false sense of the prosperity and potential of the land, that at the time seemed ideal for agricultural development. In 1912, Northern Pacific president Howard Elliott told the Dry Farming Congress: "We know that Montana is neither dry nor arid and we do not want that idea to go down to Indiana and Ohio and through the East where they are looking for places to go" (Miller 1977: 17). Besides promoting the railroad's interests in the settlement of the West, speeches such as this convinced many people that the conditions at the time were the norm rather than the exception.

At the outbreak of World War I, many homesteaders were drafted into the military. Mike Micklus, who had settled on the Missouri River in 1915, returned to his homestead following the war. After some disputes with the General Land Office over the lack of improvements occurring while he was gone, he finally patented his Enlarged Homestead in 1920, two years later than normal. Many people abandoned their claims at the time of the war. The absence of men, some who filed singly and some with families, made it impossible in some cases to maintain the claims and do the required amount of improvements. The tail end of the war also coincided with environmental hardships, namely drought. Northeastern Montana, north of the Missouri River, experienced drought in 1917. The rest of eastern Montana felt the effects in 1918. Between 1900 and 1916 the average yield for Montana wheatland was 25 bushels per acre. In Blaine County, north of the Missouri River, homesteaders harvested a mere 1/2 bushel per acre, while Cascade County and Judith Basin County were harvesting 30 and 15 bushels per acre, respectively (Toole 1972:71-1; 1979:235). Homesteaders continued to borrow money from the banks for seed, but with the lack of crops no money was coming in to pay off loans or mortgages. Livestock and crop prices, held unnaturally high during the war, collapsed in the early 1920s, leaving many

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homesteaders with no capital and no options for making the necessary improvements. In early 1920 wheat was selling at \$3.30 per bushel on the Minneapolis Grain Exchange; one year later the price had dropped to \$1.40 per bushel (Toole 1972:90). Pestilence followed the drought, with grasshoppers (or Mormon crickets, depending on the source) sweeping across eastern Montana. Even though the Depression did not hit the United States as a whole until 1929, the agricultural depression hit much of the West 10 years earlier.

According to local inhabitant Bernice Ford, an early settler just south of the Breaks, many homesteaders in the area left soon after proving up their claims. They would take out loans of about \$3000 from loan companies or banks, and then abandon their land, letting the loan company take it. After a few years the land became available for purchase from the loan company or the county, simply requiring the payment of taxes on the land (Arthur 1988: 76). Just such a thing occurred with land owned by local homesteaders Richard Cameron and Samuel T. Frizelle's (Feazelle). Frizelle had settled on the river prior to 1920, and patented two land claims, one in 1922 and the other in 1930. By 1934, Frizelle had been unable to pay taxes on his land, which made the land available for purchase. Lillie P. Hess, the mother of Bernice Ford and Ona Hanson, purchased the Frizelle place for one dollar, plus payment of the 1934 taxes owed on the property. Ona and Bernt Hanson homesteaded just upriver from the Frizelle place.

The agricultural depression in Montana continued from the 1917 drought into the 1930s. Drought and grasshopper infestations took their turns ruining crops, and homesteaders with them. Between 1921 and 1925, about half the farmers in Montana lost their land due to mortgage foreclosures, taking about two million acres of land out of production. In the 10-year period between 1921 and 1931, mortgage foreclosures ended 30,000 farming ventures (Miller 1977: 20). Poor prices and drought years in the early 1930s continued to hurt homesteaders. Dust storms across the Great Plains in 1934, so vividly depicted in The Grapes of Wrath, continued the environmental pressure working against homesteaders' success.

For those people who did not immediately abandon their property after receiving patent on their land claims, the government extended another option for leaving the land. In 1937, Congress passed the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, designed to "correct maladjustments in land use." In essence, the act provided relief to farmers leaving marginal agricultural land, and at the same time reduce environmental impacts of agricultural development on land unsuited for cultivation. Much of the land in the Missouri River Breaks falls into this category. Soils tend to be decomposed shale with little organic base. This creates the infamous clay gumbo which is susceptible to wind and water erosion, and additionally makes transportation virtually impossible in wet conditions. Some of the Missouri River homesteaders who were bought out under the Bankhead-Jones Act moved to the Kinsey irrigation project near Miles City; others simply moved to the nearby towns of Chinook, Winifred or Lewistown.

Missouri River Breaks Homesteaders

In most respects, the settlement of the Missouri River bottoms and breaks followed the basic patterns experienced in eastern Montana. What differentiated them from the "typical" homesteaders was the lack of a communal identity. The river did not provide the cohesion many homesteaders elsewhere created at supply towns and railroad landings. Settlers were all identified as Missouri River Breaks homesteaders, but they did not unite as a "Breaks" community. The river united them in their identity, but it did not unite them as a community with a central gathering point. Early in the river's settlement steamboats and barges would drop off supplies and mail, as well the news of "happenings" along the river and the rest of the world. People on the river were far from the communities of Winifred, Fort Benton, Geraldine, and the no longer extant communities of Eagle Butte and Graceville. Amenities common in these towns were not had on the river: no school or post office, store or barber to serve all the settlers. To take advantage of these resources, settlers ultimately had to leave the river.

As a fringe population, Missouri River Breaks homesteaders, generally speaking, were single males. Couples and families also lived along the river, but compared to the general homesteading population, the male to female and single to family ratios were disproportionately weighted in favor of the former. Single women were not attracted to the isolation, hardships and lack of

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community that the river bottoms offered. Consequently, many of the men who settled on the river were middle-aged single men who never married after homesteading on the river. Families that settled on the river, did however, develop more links on the river than the bachelors. Hagadones and Camerons, who lived at what would become the Frank Hagadone place, lived about one mile apart, and could travel between the homesteads by land. The Kipp and Jones families, as with the Hess, Hansons, and Fords did the same. In these cases, the community they developed was based on family ties, since they married into each other's families prior to settling.

Besides the effect on community, the special geographic setting compared to homestead experiences elsewhere on the Plains. Homesteaders along the Missouri River also developed and modified the landscapes of their claims to fit their unique environment. According to K. Ross Toole, the typical Montana homestead residence was "a wood shack covered with tar paper on the outside and newspaper on the inside" (Toole 1979: 231). Some river settlers fit this pattern, such as Arch Sexton. Sexton's "car roof" residence is no longer in place, though it may have become Tuffy Qunell's cabin, 1/2 mile upstream. Frank Hagadone, in his third attempt at homesteading (the first in South Dakota and the second ending in divorce), also opted for a frame residence. Hagadone's place captures the evolution of a homestead house from a one-room shack to a three-room residence, resembling a shrunken version of a house one might find in a town. For the most part however, settlers on the river used resources more readily available. Supplies for a frame house could be transported by barge on the river, or even hauled down the breaks from neighboring towns, but most Missouri River homesteaders opted to construct homes, barns, and other outbuildings with cottonwood and pine logs cut along the river and in the surrounding hills. Often when homesteaders first arrived on the river they did not have the resources or the time to construct a permanent residence. Breaking the land and planting crops was a higher priority. George Middleton's experience exemplifies the transitional living common for some of the homesteaders. He initially lived in a tent when he arrived in 1913. The bachelor then constructed a dugout where he lived until 1918. Many other homesteads along the river had dugouts, cellars, or caves on their homesteads, many of which served as residences until cabins or houses could be built. In August of 1918, Middleton completed his log house and moved out of his dugout (Monahan 1997: 157). The dugout then served as a root cellar, as it did for many of the river settlers. Some of these dugouts were dug into the level ground, but the majority of them were located in the hillsides or the faces of coulees bisecting the homestead claims. Facades on dugouts and houses consisted of milled lumber, salvaged timbers from steamboat and barge wrecks, timber from the surrounding hills, and stone. The material used varied with the availability as well as the skills of the settlers.

The availability of water tended to be a deciding factor in the location of homesteads, and the order in which they were selected. Most homesteaders settled along springs, streams and rivers. Many others dug wells to supply their domestic needs. Missouri River homesteaders had plentiful water for their livestock and crops, but the muddy Missouri was not the most palatable water. The amount of capital required to purchase a pump might have been a factor in limiting the number of people who filed desert land claims along the river. Perhaps conditions were such that settlers did not feel the need to irrigate their crops; the early years were relatively lush years. Of all the claims patented along this portion of the Missouri River, only five were desert land claims. Most of the bottoms where homesteaders settled have coulees bisecting them, channeling seasonal alkali streams through their land. Others on the river either were forced to get drinking water from the river or catch it during snow and rain storms. Few springs have been identified along this stretch of the Missouri. Rain barrels were probably common sights along the river.

The isolation faced by Missouri River homesteaders rivaled any of those endured by homesteaders settling in other parts of eastern Montana. The monotony associated with settlers on the Great Plains, with nothing to block their view but miles of open prairie, compares with Missouri River life, with nothing to see but the Breaks and the river disappearing around the bend. Even with homesteaders claiming neighboring river bottoms and terraces, visual isolation still existed. In addition, the elements were as unrelenting on the river as on the Plains. Winters were harsh and cold, and summers were unbearably hot. Settlers all along the river lost homes, fences, and fields to the river. Erosion ate away the banks and channeled deep coulees through claims. The flood of 1908 destroyed houses up and down the river. Like elsewhere, some people persevered and rebuilt while others cashed in and moved away.

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In the end, the Missouri River set these settlers apart from other Montana homesteaders. It defined them, they did not define it. Settlers were dependent upon the river for communication and supplies, and always for water. Little is left of homesteaders' efforts along the Missouri; a dilapidated cabin at one site, a collapsed dugout down the river. Homesteading history spans a brief period of Missouri River history often overlooked by river promoters and tour guides. Fortunately, physical evidence from the homesteading period still exists, allowing us a glimpse into a period less glamorous than explorers, steamboats and military exploits, yet equally as representative of settlement of the American West.

The Frank Hagadone Homestead

Initially settled in 1918, the Frank Hagadone Homestead has had multiple tenants, including bachelors, families, and divorced men. George Clyborne first settled on this claim in 1918. Clyborne held claim on the land until 1924. His brother-in-law, Herbert Cameron and his family also lived on the land during this time and it was in his cabin that Francis Hagadone settled. Francis resided there starting in 1923, and purchased the cabin in 1924. He and his family had settled downriver in 1917, but marital problems caused him to move. His wife, Lena, and daughters Agnes, Mary and Myrtle, continued to live on their homestead just downriver while Francis lived here. Lena stayed on the original homestead for another four years, selling it in 1927. During the school year the girls boarded in Winifred, about twenty miles to the south. In 1927, Lena and the girls moved to Winifred.

Francis "Frank" Marion Hagadone was born May 18, 1875, in Lexington, Nebraska. He came to Fergus County in 1903 at the age of 28, after working on cattle ranches in Texas and trailing the herds north. He was an expert shot, earning a spot with William Cody in his shows, and was featured as "Kid Cody" in his younger days. Francis was one of two roundup foremen left to gather at the 1902 roundup celebration held each year in Rapid City, South Dakota. He was a skilled rider and broke many saddle horses. He was widely known in northern Fergus County where he worked for a number of years on the PN Ranch at the mouth of the Judith River. He played an important part in the building of many homes in and around Winifred where he worked as a carpenter in the town's early days.

Frank married Helena (Lena) Orth in 1913, in Kadoka, South Dakota, where they each had filed homesteads. Agnes, the first of their three daughters, was born there, just before they sold the homesteads and moved to Montana. Myrtle and Mary were born after the Hagadones moved to their new homestead on the Missouri River. Nothing remains of that first Montana homesteading effort.

On April 19, 1930, Francis received Patent # 1036272 on his 145.68-acre enlarged homestead, located in T23N R18E, Section 30 Lot 4, and Section 31 Lots 3, 4, and 5. Four years later, on July 10, 1934, Francis received a stock raising homestead patent (#1070781) for an additional 175.87 acres in T23N R17E, Section 24 Lots 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, and Section 26 Lot 6 and the NWSE. When settlers reached the semiarid Great Plains, it became clear that 160-acre homesteads were too small for successful farming or ranching in such an environment. In 1909 Congress passed the Enlarged Homestead Act, which authorized 320-acre homesteads in several western states. In 1916, 640-acre stock-raising homesteads were permitted in some parts of the West. At the time he patented his Missouri River claim, improvements included a 14' x 16' frame house, a 14' x 18' barn, a 10' x 20' log chicken coop, a 10' x 12' tool house, a 12' x 12' ice house, two corrals and 1.5 miles of fence. He had broken about 60 acres and seeded it with crested wheat grass and yellow clover for pasture for his 15 head of livestock. Frank was the first to raise tobacco on the river bottom (Hledik 2001). Francis was 58 years old at that time.

In a 2004 interview Francis's daughter Myrtle Hledik recounted life on the Missouri River, an area she referred to as "Devil's Pocket." "It was just Godforsaken living. ...it was an inhumane place to raise three little girls" (Healy 2004). Rattlesnake encounters were a common occurrence on the homestead. "One morning Daddy had Major, his saddle horse, all ready to ride to Winifred. My mother noticed my sister Mary rubbing her leg. She pulled down her stocking and called to my father. He looked and said, 'snakebite.' "Then, to my horror, he reached for his straight edge razor and gashed my sister's leg through a white welt with two tiny red punctures. He sucked and spit again and again. My mother brought a strip of cloth and Daddy tied it around her leg close to the knee.

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“My father dashed out of the house and snatched up a little pet hen near the door. He slit it open with his razor and thrust Mary’s leg into the body of the hen, telling Mama to hold it there while he rode to McClelland’s for snake bite medicine” (Healy 2004).

In another interview, Jack and Lorane Bergum revealed that Frank Hagadone “used to raise a great big garden down there and then he’d haul it into Winifred and sell it – with a team and wagon” (Bergum and Bergum 2004). In his garden Frank Hagadone grew a wide variety of things including watermelon and muskmelons. Francis irrigated from the river, and had a pump and a pipeline set up since the garden was elevated above the river. In addition, Hagadone made some money by allowing Louie Olson to pasture his yearling cattle on his place. In conjunction with his truck farm “that’s kind of how Frank made his living” (Bergum and Bergum 2004). He also supplemented his income by buying supplies in Fort Benton and selling them on his way downstream. He would buy lumber to construct three barges, and then buy supplies to fill the barges. As he sold supplies he would empty one barge then sell the lumber from that, eventually selling everything he had purchased in Fort Benton.

In 1934, at the age of 59, Francis had 60 acres cultivated on his property and 15 head of livestock. He lived on the homestead for almost another 20 years. To get to Hagadone’s house was difficult, “you couldn’t get down there in a car – he had a road down the coulee” (Bergum and Bergum 2004). Frank would haul his produce up the road from the river to the top of the breaks in a wagon or stone boat pulled by a team of horses. “90% of his time was spent with a fresno [scraper] and team working on that road” (Bergum 2008). He kept his Chevy in a garage at the top of the hill; he never drove it down to the river. “Hagadone drove a ‘36 Chevy coupe – and he drove it slow, about ten miles an hour – and he would stop every time his cigarette would finish. He always had a Bull Durham Cigarette, and would roll another” (Bergum and Bergum 2004).

As Francis got older he relied on Jack Bergum and other young men to help him. He continued to garden and can, but was no longer able to hunt. Jack Bergum and Jimmy Jensen from down at the ferry would check in on him, seeing if he needed any venison. Once when Jack went to visit him Francis told them he didn’t need any meat. Francis had put traps down by his garden to keep the beavers from killing the cottonwoods lining the garden. A deer had stepped in one of his traps, so Francis went down with his six-shooter and killed it (Bergum 2008).

Frank Hagadone died in 1954 at the age of 78. He had stopped in Las Vegas en route to his sister’s in Fresno, California. Frank “got rolled” in Las Vegas (Bergum 2008). He died in Fresno of complications from the incident; funeral services were held later in Fergus County.

George Hledik, Frank Hagadone's son-in-law, was appointed Administrator of his estate. At public auction on September 9, 1953, Charles Tower and W.B. Willis acquired all of the real property and personal property belonging to Frank Hagadone for \$4,700. Personal property in the sale included: 1934 Chevrolet Coupe, four head of horses, one gas engine, one irrigation pump, miscellaneous old household furniture, clothing, and bedding; miscellaneous old horse-drawn farm machinery, traps and tools; and one-half ton of mixed hay. On September 13, 1954, W.C. Willas and Arthur Osburnsen acquired all of the property, including the personal property, for \$10. W.C. and Annabelle Willis transferred their share of the property to Arthur and Lucille Osburnsen on February 17, 1966, for \$1. Glennafae Willis, wife of W.B. Willis, transferred her share of the property to the Osburnsen's on April 27, 1967. The Osburnsens then sold their entire 488.04 acres to the U.S. Government on March 5, 1980, for \$195,216.

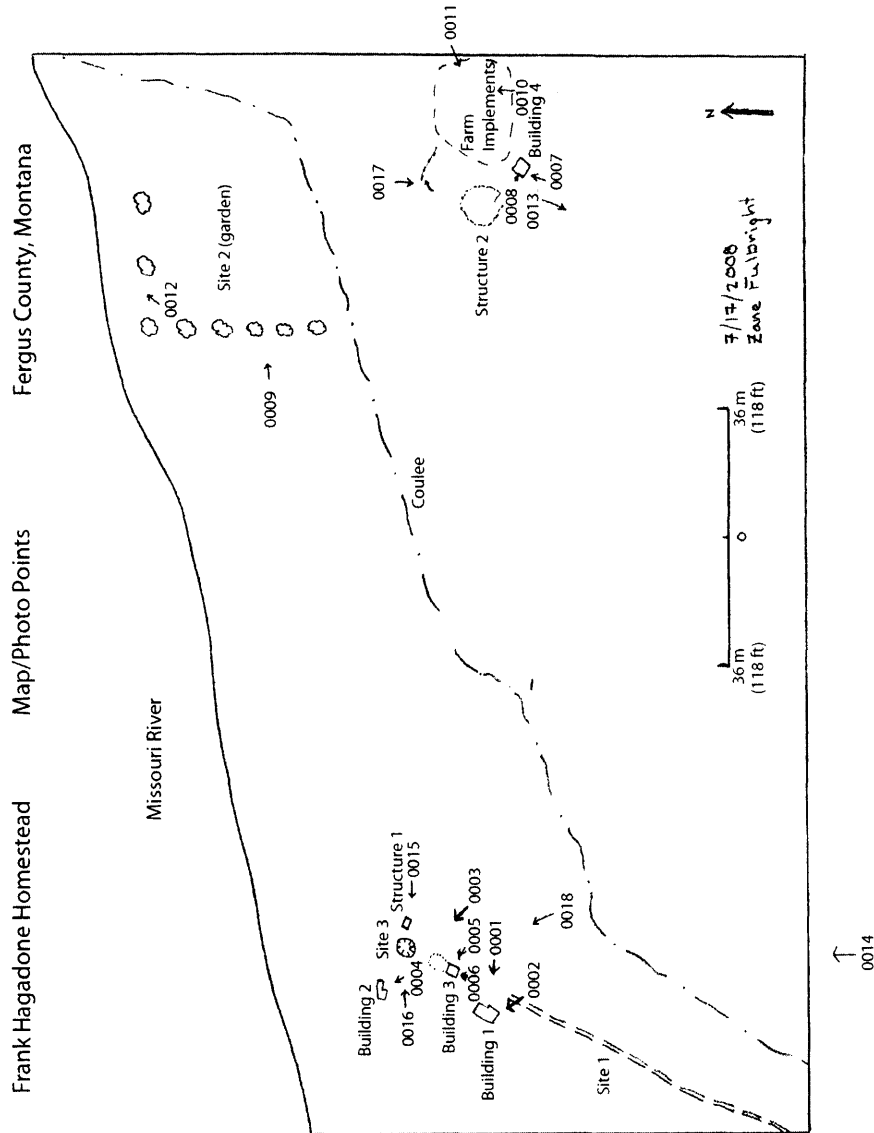
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In accordance with the March 2005 Photo Policy expansion, the photos that accompany this nomination are printed on HP Premium Plus Photo Paper, using a Hewlett Packard 100 gray photo cartridge. This combination of paper and inks is included on the NR's list of "Acceptable Ink and Paper combinations for Digital Images." The images are also recorded on an archival CD-R with a resolution at least 1200x1800 pixels, 300 dpi in "true color" 24-bit format.

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Building 1, east elevation. View to west.
Photograph Number: 1

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Building 1 SE quarter. View to northwest.
Photograph Number: 2

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Buildings 2 and 3. View to the west.
Photograph Number: 3

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Building 2 SE quarter. View to northwest.
Photograph Number: 4

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Building 3, east elevation. View to west.
Photograph Number: 5

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Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Building 3, south elevation. View to north.
Photograph Number: 6

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Building 4, south elevation. View to north.
Photograph Number: 7

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Building 4, west elevation. View to east.
Photograph Number: 8

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Site 2, garden overview. View to north.
Photograph Number: 9

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Hay rake. View to south.
Photograph Number: 10

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Implement cluster and Building 4. View to southwest.
Photograph Number: 11

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Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Irrigation pipe for garden. View to northeast.
Photograph Number: 12

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Landscape of area from Building 4. View to south-southwest.
Photograph Number: 13

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Site 1, homestead overview. View to north.
Photograph Number: 14

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Structure 1, east elevation. View to west.
Photograph Number: 15

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Site 3 and Structure 1. View to south.
Photograph Number: 16

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Structure 2. View to east.
Photograph Number: 17

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Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Homestead overview, west half. View to northwest.
Photograph Number: 18

Name: Frank Hagadone Homestead
County and State: Fergus County, Montana
Photographer: Zane Fulbright
Date of Photograph: September 3, 2008
Location of original negative: BLM Lewistown Field Office
Description and view of camera: Frank Hagadone (left) playing cards and drinking on the range (1880s).
Photograph Number: 19