OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

155-1

1. Name of Property

historic name Gramberg Ranch

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number14895 Lower Spring Creek Road				not for pu	ublication	<u>N/A</u>				
city or	town	Hermosa	l						Vicinity	<u>X</u>
state	South	Dakota	Code	SD	county	Pennington	code	103	zip code _	57744

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally X statewide locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

10 -22-99 Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or oth	er official
--------------------------------	-------------

Date

Gramberg	Ranch
Name of Pro	perty

Name of Froperty	County and State					
4. National Park Service Certification	Λ					
I hereby certify that the property is: entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register. other,	Signature of the Keeper Date of Action (2/17/99)					
(explain:)						
5. Classification Ownership of Property (Check as many X Private public-local public-State public-Federal	boxes as apply)					
Category of Property (Check only one b building(s) X District Site Structure Object	ox)					
Number of Resources within Property Contributing Noncontributing						
$ \begin{array}{c c} 8 & 0 \\ - 4 & 0 \\ - 6 & 0 \end{array} $	Buildings Sites Structures Objects					
18 0	Total					

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register <u>0</u> Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) <u>N/A</u> Name of Property

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Domestic	Sub:	Single Dwelling
	Agriculture/Subsistence	-	Animal Facility
	Domestic	-	Secondary Structure
	Agriculture/Subsistence	-	Agricultural Outbuilding
		-	
		-	
		-	

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Domestic	Sub:	Single Dwelling
	Agriculture/Subsistence		Animal Facility
	Domestic		Secondary Structure
	Agriculture/Subsistence		Agricultural Outbuilding

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Folk German

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation Brick, Concrete Roof Asphalt, Wood, Metal Walls Brick, Wood

Other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

8. Statement of Significance

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

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

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

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

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture	
Architecture	

Period of Significance

1885-1949

Gran	nberg	Ranc	h

Name of Property

Significant Dates	1885 1936
Significant Person	N/A
Cultural Affiliation	N/A
Architect/Builder	William Gramberg, builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

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

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 160 Acres

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	13	653488	4863661	3	13	654260	4862881
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	13	654255	4863688	4	13	653500	4862850
					See	continuation she	et

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Jill Petersen and Stephen Rogers (SD SHPO staff)								
organization	۱			date December 1998					
street & nun	nber	14895 Lower Spring Creek Road		telephone	(605) 342-5	595			
city or town	He	mosa	state	SD	zip code	57744			

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Name of Property

Property Owner

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

name Lyn	name Lyndell and Jill Petersen								
street & numb	er	14895 Lo	ower Spring Creek Ro	ad	tel	ephone	(605) 342-5	595	
city or town	He	mosa		state	SD	_ zip code	57744		

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list roperties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page # 1

Physical Description:

The Gramberg Ranch is 160 acres in central Pennington County, South Dakota. Located approximately 7 miles northeast of Hermosa, the ranch is bordered on the west by Lower Spring Creek and on the north by a county road. The property features open pastures for grazing with a small number of trees along the creek. This area of Pennington and Custer counties is dotted with a large number of family-owned ranches.

The ranch layout is typical of the smaller operations that started at the end of the open range era of early ranching in western South Dakota. Outbuildings are clustered around the house for ease of access. Corrals connect the barns and form a holding area for horses and cattle. Contributing resources include the main house, barn, privy, other outbuildings, four brick-lined wells, and three sites. There is a small stand of trees planted by William Gramberg as a windbreak, and several small apple trees remain as evidence of the apple orchard.

Resources:

<u>1. House</u> The Gramberg House is a two story, square plan, hipped roof building. Construction of the house started in 1885 but the structure was completed to its current state until 1936. The house design is based on German folk architectural designs that William Gramberg remembered from his homeland. The brick used in the construction was made on site and is laid in a common bond pattern.

The house rests on a brick foundation and features a full basement. Window wells, two each on the north and south sides, have segmental arched lintels. Approximately 2 feet above the ground, a sandstone belt course runs completely around the house.

The façade of the house, east elevation, has a central door with a four light, arched transom and a segmental arched lintel. The lintel features a repeating pattern of soldier and two rowlock bricks in the first row with a row of header bricks directly above the first row. Wall mounted lamp with octagonal globes are located on either side of the door. Also symmetrically placed on either side of the door are tall, double hung windows with four vertically divided lights over one. These windows also feature the segmental arched lintel but do not have the extra top row of headers. The windows have sandstone lug sills. There is a one-foot high raised area, ten feet deep and the width of the

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page # 2

house. A poured concrete wall surrounds this area. A new set of wooden steps and a wooden walk run from the front of the raised area to the front door.

The north elevation features three four-over-one, double hung windows with arched lintels like those over the front door. These windows also have sandstone sills.

The west elevation features two of the same kind of windows as the north elevation. The windows are located on either side of a small entry porch that was added in 1936, when the house was finished. The porch is centered on the wall and sits on a poured concrete foundation. It has a shed roof that is an extension of the slope from the main roof. The door into the porch is on the south side of the addition. The west side features a pair of four-over-one windows. These windows are rectangular and have simple wood trim. The porch was aluminum sided in 1998.

The south elevation features two four-over-one windows like others on the building, except that the lintel consists of two rows of rowlock bricks without the soldier bricks. This elevation has an exterior entry to the basement under the westernmost window. The walls of the entry were brick but have been reconstructed using concrete block with a brick veneer.

The house has a hipped roof with a central chimney. Wood shingles were replaced with asphalt shingles in 1998, but the original metal ridge cap was retained and reinstalled. There are two matching hip roof dormers, one on the east and one on the west. Each has a pair of four-over-one windows with simple wood trim. The eave was opened and has been closed, but the soffit was added at an angle to maintain the open appearance and the original angles.

The interior of the house has been remodeled to a great extent. Most of the historic material was unsalvageable by the new owners, as the property had sat vacant for over 30 years. Lathe and plaster has been replaced by drywall, and new trim and moldings have been installed. One wall was removed and another was reduced to a half wall to make the interior space more usable. Wood floors were refinished and repaired where necessary. Original doors were also kept, as was the hardware. Replacement hardware that closely matches the original was used where it was missing or destroyed. The basement has been finished leaving historic brick support columns exposed.

<u>2. Privy</u> The privy is located to the south of the house. Constructed circa 1886, the building has an asphalt shingled, gable roof and vertical wood siding. The door, on the east side, is also vertical

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page # 3

board and blends into the building. No longer in use as a privy, the building has been placed on a concrete slab and now serves as a storage shed.

<u>3. Chicken House</u> Constructed around the turn of the century, the chicken house features weatherboard siding and a saltbox roof. It is located approximately 120 feet to the front (east) of the house. The door, located on the west elevation, is constructed of the same wood as the siding and blends into the structure wall. Also on this gable end is a window opening at the ground level and a smaller, square opening off center under the gable.

The front, south elevation, features two, large, centered window openings. There are two smaller openings, one on each side of the centered windows. Almost flush with the ground, beneath the easternmost opening is a small opening for chickens to enter and exit the building. The north and east elevations have no openings. The roof is asphalt shingled and has a centered wooden ventilator. All of the windows are missing but window openings are intact and the building has overall integrity intact.

<u>4. Granary</u> This circa 1890 granary was moved onto the property along with two other structures sometime in the 1940s. The structure has a gable roof with a ridgeline running east to west and board and batten siding. The roof is partly covered with original wood shingles and partly with corrugated metal. In the 1960s the granary was raised and placed on concrete block piers. A door, centered on the east elevation, has simple wood trim. The north elevation had a single opening that has been enclosed. The west elevation has a single opening approximately five feet above the ground. The south elevation has a small opening toward the east end. A small loft type door is located almost on the center of the elevation. A second entry door, board and batten, is located left of center.

5. Schoolhouse Constructed at an unknown date this building was moved onto the property in the 1940s to be used as a bunkhouse. It is a front gable building sitting on concrete piers. The building has wood siding and a corrugated metal roof. The east elevation features a gabled roof entryway with a horizontal wood door. The south elevation has two window openings with simple trim and a cap molding. Glass is missing and the one-over-one window sashes are in poor condition.

The north elevation appears to have had the same window treatment as the south elevation at an earlier date. A door has replaced one window, and the other window opening is enclosed. This second opening may also have been converted to a doorway before it was enclosed. The west

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____7 Page # ____4

elevation has no openings. An interior, brick chimney, centered on the ridgeline, is located near the west end of the building.

<u>6. Blacksmith Shop</u> The blacksmith shop is clearly an original building with an addition. At least part of the building was moved onto the property in the forties, but it is not clear whether a portion of the building was constructed on site and a second structure was attached, or if the construction occurred elsewhere in two phases and the entire building was moved.

The building has a wood shingle, side gable roof. The south half of the building has plain, vertical wood siding, while the north half has board and batten cladding. The wall at the southeast corner of the structure has collapsed, but the roof remains intact. The east elevation features a doorway and a window opening on the south half and two window openings on the north half of the building. One of these openings is smaller and sits only one foot off of the ground. The north elevation has a single centered window opening. The south and west elevations have no openings. Of interesting note in this building is the fact that the north half of the building is lined on the interior walls with plaster covered brick, perhaps to add some protection from the fires of the blacksmith forge.

7. Milking Barn This building was constructed circa 1890 with vertical wood cladding and a gable roof, covered in corrugated metal. The ridgeline is off center and the north slope of the roof is slightly shorter and steeper than the south slope. There are two doors on the east elevation, one centered under the gable peak and one to the left of the centered door. There is a small, square four light window to the right of the center door. Above the center door is a small metal louvered vent. A narrow horizontal cut in opening is centered on the south elevation. The west elevation has a single door located left of center. The building retains the original stanchions, but is now used for storage.

8. Hog House Also constructed circa 1910, this structure is in an advanced state of disrepair. The four walls and a few rafters of the once gable roof are all that remain of the hog house. The doorway is still visible on the west elevation and several window openings are discernible on the north elevation, as is a small ground level opening for animal entry. The east wall has no openings. The structure was constructed adjacent to a concrete retaining wall, which forms the south wall. Although now a ruin, the site still has enough integrity to potentially yield information about the early ranch and the diversity of agricultural practices on western South Dakota ranches.

<u>9. Barn</u> The circa 1888 barn is comprised of three sections. The east end of the building is a two story gable roof barn. Attached to the west end of the barn itself is a gable roof livestock shed,

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____7 Page # ___5

opened on the south. The west end of the building is a continuation of this animal shed constructed at a slightly later date. This addition is also opened on the south side except for the west end, which is enclosed. The front portion of the barn and the middle animal shed have corrugated metal roofs, while the western portion of the animal shed retains its wood shingle roof.

The barn features a three part, centered door on the east elevation. The bottom two portions serve like a Dutch door so that the top portion can be opened for ventilation and cooling. The top portion of the door opens into the hayloft. To the right of this door is a small square opening, and there is one small, four light window directly under the gable peak. The north elevation has one small opening directly under the eave of the roof. The south elevation has two small, two light windows. The animal shed portions of the building have no openings on the north or west elevations and have metal and wood gates on the open, south elevation. The building is sheathed in vertical wood cladding.

<u>10. Shed</u> Although the exact original function of this structure is uncertain, it probably served as a storage facility for animal feed and other supplies. It has a corrugated metal, gable roof and vertical wood cladding. The west elevation features a small, central loft door approximately four feet above the ground. There is an entry door immediately to the right of the small door. The north elevation has no openings, while the east elevation has only another small loft door. The south elevation features a door that opens directly over one of the property's brick lined wells. It appears that it would have been possible to obtain water from the well without leaving the building. It is probable that livestock was fed and watered from this structure.

<u>11. Livestock Shed</u> This livestock shed has a gable roof covered only in sawn planks. It is clad in board and batten siding. The south side of the structure is open and there are no openings in the other three elevations.

<u>12. Kiln Site</u> A kiln once stood at the edge of the corrals on the ranch. The kiln was used to make the brick for the Gramberg ranch as well as at least one other local ranch house. The site offers a chance to gather information about on site production of brick in western South Dakota. It may also provide answers to questions about the types of materials used in local brick making.

<u>13. Frame House Site</u> A wood frame house once stood on the ranch and actually served as the dwelling for the Gramberg's from circa 1888 until 1936. The site has physical evidence of the building and relates to the early history of the ranch

Gramberg Ranch Name of Property

NPS FORM 10-900-A (8-86) OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____7 Page # ___6

<u>14-17. Wells</u> There are four, brick-lined wells on the property. One is located behind (west of) the house, one is southeast of the milking barn, another is immediately south of the shed, and the last is in the pasture across the county road at the end of the driveway. The wells are all approximately 24 feet deep with the water line about 10 feet deep. The well near the house is built up with brick about three feet. It is capped with concrete and no longer in use. The well near the milking barn is capped at ground level and is the well that still serves the house. It features a 1930s era electrical pump. The well next to the shed has been filled to the water line with stone and is covered and fenced in. The last well, in the pasture was used to water livestock during dry seasons.

<u>18. Ranch Landscape</u> Pastures, the tree stand, remains of the orchard, corrals, fencing, and other landscape features also retain a large degree of integrity and contribute to the significance of the ranch. The curving driveway runs from the paved county road to the cluster of ranch structures. Planted vegetation, the tree stand and apple trees, stand to the east of the buildings. Natural vegetation, including cottonwood trees, lines the creek that meanders across the western edge of the property.

Gramberg Ranch Name of Property

NPS FORM 10-900-A (8-86) OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page # 7

Statement of Significance:

Under Criterion A, the Gramberg Ranch is significant as a prime example of an intact cattle ranching operation dating to the late nineteenth century. Since it began operation in 1886 the ranch has continued to prosper and grow. Growth has not led to physical change, however, and so the ranch is also significant under Criterion C, as it possesses a number of highly intact representatives of various types of ranch buildings, most of which date from the period just prior to the turn of the century.

The Gramberg Ranch lies along Lower Spring Creek, within thirty miles of the Black Hills of South Dakota. Until 1876 this area was a part of the Great Sioux Reservation, set up under the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868. In 1875, a military scouting party led by George Armstrong Custer discovered gold in the Black Hills. The Federal government opened the land to white settlement the next year.

William Gramberg, born in Germany in 1844, moved to Rapid City in the Dakota Territory in 1878, just a few years after the area was opened to settlement. That same year he married Johanna Behrens in Wisconsin and brought her back to Rapid City. Gramberg and a partner ran a General Store for two years. Gramberg then owned a grocery store in town until circa 1888, when the family moved to the ranch on Spring Creek.

Gramberg purchased the property in 1885 and started construction of a brick house. Apparently his wife was unhappy with the plan for the brick house and only the exterior walls were finished for several years. William Gramberg built a second, wood frame house on the property just to the northeast of where the brick house still stands. The family lived in this house until 1936, when it was destroyed by fire.

Although it was left unfinished as a residence, the brick structure did serve an important purpose until it was completed. The walls were heightened with several more layers of brick and gun ports were added in the semblance of a small fort. The fort was a necessity due to the continuing conflict between the Native Americans and the white settlers.

Small skirmishes between Native Americans and the Army continued as the Federal Government continued to make agreements to reduce the size of the reservations. Raids on individual ranches and small settlements were also a real threat as tribal members attempted to hold onto their native

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____8__ Page # ___8___

lands. After the battle at Wounded Knee in December of 1890, the fighting and raids slowed and finally stopped.

The Gramberg Ranch continued to prosper and grow after the turn of the century. William Gramberg died in 1914 and his wife Johanna died in 1932. Their children then took over the ranch. In 1936, a fire destroyed the wood frame house. Rather than rebuild the frame house, the siblings decided to finish the brick house that had been used for a fort. The top layers of brick that had been added were removed. About four feet of brick was removed by hand and slid down a chute to the ground to be used elsewhere on the ranch. The hipped roof was added and the interior was finished.

Emma Gramberg, with her brother, Bill, continued to own the property and expand the size of the ranch until the 1960s. When another individual acquired the property in the 60s, as pasture for grazing, the house and many of the ranch's buildings were not used. The buildings sat vacant and unused for almost thirty years until the Petersens purchased the property in the 90s. The brick house was without doors for many years and livestock roamed through uncontrolled.

The house and other contributing buildings are architecturally significant as highly intact examples of typical South Dakota ranching structures. Not only are they good individual examples of various building types, but also are noteworthy because of the high degree of integrity in the building cluster. The house is rare due to its construction in a folk German style and the use of brick made on site. It is believed that the William Gramberg house is the only pre1900 brick home remaining in the area. At one time there was another house along Spring Creek constructed around the same time as the Gramberg house with brick from the Gramberg kiln, but it was dismantled in the 1970s and the brick was used to build a new house.

Even the buildings that were moved onto the property have achieved significance as they demonstrate the evolution and growth of the ranch at a time when building materials were at a premium, near the end of WWII. Moving unused structures among South Dakota ranches was and still is a common occurrence as the need for more construction of new facilities was slowed by the lack of available materials. The practice was especially prevalent in the late 40s and early 50s.

The Gramberg Ranch is significant under Criteria A and C as an example of western South Dakota ranching and ranching architecture. The primary role of the ranch as a cattle-producing operation has continued since it started in 1886. The buildings and landscape continue to evince the feelings and maintain the associations of an 1880s ranch.

Gramberg	Ranch
Name of Pro	perty

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page # 9

Brooks, Allyson and Steph Jacon. <u>Homesteading and Agricultural Development Context</u>. SD State Historical Preservation Center. 1994.

Eastern Custer County Historical Society. Our Yesterdays. 1967-70.

Hall, Phillip S. To Have This Land. University of South Dakota Press. 1991.

National Register Bulletin. Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes.

Parkison, Eka. <u>Rapid City Pioneers of the Nineteenth Century.</u> Rapid City Society for Genealogical Research.

Parkison, Eka. <u>Rapid City Pioneers of the Nineteenth Century Volume II.</u> Rapid City Society for Genealogical Research.

Pennington County History Book Committee. <u>People of Pennington County, A History of Pennington</u> County SD. Taylor Publishing.

Personal Interviews:

Behrens, Patta. December 1998. Heller, Henry. August 1998. Hellickson, Milo. September 1998. Peterson, Darrell. September 1998.

Gramberg	Ranch
Name of Prop	perty

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page # 10

Verbal Boundary Description:

The NE quarter of Section 6, TWP 2 S, RNG 9 E, Pennington County, South Dakota.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property is the quarter section historically associated with the Gramberg Ranch, which contains the cluster of buildings and intact landscape of the property.

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page # 11

Photographer:Stephen Rogers, SHPO staffDate of Photos:July 1999Loc. of Negatives:SD SHPO

- 1. Overview of ranch, camera facing W
- 2. Ranch house, front facade and north elevation, camera facing SW
- 3. Ranch house, front façade and south elevation, camera facing NW
- 4. Ranch house, south elevation and rear (west) elevation, camera facing NE
- 5. Ranch house, north elevation and rear (west) elevation, camera facing SE
- 6. House interior, entry hall, camera facing W
- 7. House interior, living room, camera facing W
- 8. House interior, kitchen and dining room, camera facing E
- 9. House interior, second floor bedroom, camera facing SW
- 10. House interior, basement, camera facing NE
- 11. Privy, camera facing SW
- 12. Chicken house, camera facing NE
- 13. Granary, camera facing NW
- 14. Schoolhouse, camera facing NW
- 15. Blacksmith shop, camera facing NW
- 16. Milking shed, camera facing SW
- 17. Hog house, camera facing SE
- 18. Barn, camera facing NW
- 19. Barn, camera facing W
- 20. Two animal sheds, camera facing W
- 21. Kiln site, camera facing NE
- 22. Well behind house, camera facing NW
- 23. Well near milking shed, camera facing W
- 24. Well between barn and shed, camera facing W
- 25. Ranch buildings, camera facing S
- 26. Tree stand, camera facing NE
- 27. Remains of apple orchard, camera facing E



3-Chicken House 4-Granary 5-Schoolhouse 6-Blacksmith Shop

- 7-Milking Shed
- 8-Hog House
- 9-Barn
- 10-Shed
- 11-Shed
- 12-Kiln Site
- 13-Frame House Site
- 14-17-Wells
- 18-Ranch Landscape

Gramberg Ranch

14895 Lower Spring Creek Road Hermosa Vicinity, Pennington County, South Dakota