

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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1. Name of Property

historical name: Puhl House

other name/site number: Bacon House, AHR Site No. ANC-197

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2. Location

street & number: 13151 East Scott Road

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Palmer vicinity: X

state: AK county: Matanuska-Susitna code: 170 zip code: 99645

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3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: building(s)

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Settlement and Economic Development of Alaska's Matanuska-Susitna Valley

4. 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. See continuation sheet.

Judith E. Buttner
Signature of certifying official

May 7, 1991
Date

Alaska
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this 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 (explain):

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

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 6. Function or Use
 =====

Historic: domestic Sub: single dwelling
 Current: domestic Sub: single dwelling

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 7. Description
 =====

Architectural Classification: no style

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation concrete block roof asphalt
 walls log other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance. See continuation sheet.

The Puhl House is an example of a farm house associated with the Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation project in the Matanuska Valley.

The house is a one-story log building. It is rectangular in plan, and measures 35' x 25'. There is a rectangular entry vestibule on the west side. The house and vestibule roofs are covered with rolled asphalt paper. The eaves are open and rafter ends support a plain fascia board. The roof deck is 2 x 6 tongue-and-groove decking. Wall logs are full round, saddle notched at the corners, and graduated in both length and diameter. The longer and larger logs are used on the bottom levels. They form a diminishing diagonal as the courses of logs rise to the eave. Oakum chinking is used.

The logs used in this house were not the typical three-sided ones used throughout the colony project because this house was not built by the WPA construction crews as most of the farm houses were. With the assistance of fellow colonists, Puhl built his house, barn, and outbuildings. The WPA crews were behind schedule and by organizing his own crew, Puhl did not have to wait.

Most of the windows are large, 6/6, multi-pane, double-hung windows with multi-pane storm windows set in plain, wide frames. The original four-plank, tongue-and-groove colony door is located on the south side. The door on the entry vestibule is a solid wood door. The only alteration to the house has been the addition of a concrete block basement in the 1970s. It has not negatively impacted the building's integrity.

Five non-contributing buildings, a barn and four sheds, stand on the property. Built in 1935, the barn has been moved and significantly altered. The sheds that stand on the property were constructed after the period of significance.

On the lot are gardens, flower beds, and two rows of large birch trees lining a short drive and sidewalk. The house and landscape exhibit attention to detail and obvious excellent care.

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8. Statement of Significance
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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: nationally, locally

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: agriculture
community planning and development
social history
architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1935-1940

Significant Dates: 1935

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Puhl, Joe

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
See continuation sheet.

Built in 1935, the Puhl House is a Matanuska Colony farm house. It is atypical, however, because of its construction and materials. The house is an excellent example of log work, and has been minimally altered since its construction.

Joe and Blanche Puhl and their two children moved from Rice Lake, Wisconsin to Alaska as part of the Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation resettlement project. Puhl was one of the first colonists to begin paying his own way--just fourteen months after the project started. This was possible because Puhl built or helped to build his farm buildings. The average colonist's debt quickly exceeded the \$3,500 estimated cost for farmstead construction. Puhl's total debt for land, buildings, and improvements totaled only \$2,437, much less than the \$9,600 average. Because the WPA construction crews were behind schedule, Puhl organized a group of colonists and procured the materials to build his house. It is different from most other colony houses with its full-round as opposed to three-sided logs. The Puhl family lived in the house from 1935 to 1942.

Of interest, the current owner of the house, Priscilla Bacon, is a daughter of one of the original colonists.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 5 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing		Zone Easting Northing	
A	<u>06</u>	<u>387700</u>	<u>2832650</u>
B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___
D	___	___	___

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

The property is Parcel A11 located in the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 32, Township 18N, Range 2E, Seward Meridian.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

The boundary includes five acres of the original forty acre farmstead (Matanuska Colony Tract 99). It includes the core of the original farmstead, but only the house is a contributing property. The house is 35' x 25'.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Fran Seager-Boss, Archaeologist; Lawrence E. Roberts, Historian
 Organization: Matanuska-Susitna Borough Date: September 30, 1990
 Street & Number: 350 East Dahlia Avenue Telephone: 907-745-9859
 City or Town: Palmer State: AK ZIP: 99645

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 9

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Bacon, Priscilla. Personal communication. 1990.

Lane, Donna, Susan Lee, and Pandora Willingham. "Evaluation of Historic Sites in Palmer, Alaska." (Palmer: Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Division of Cultural Resources, 1988).

NPS Form 10-900-a
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

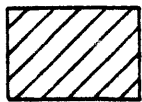
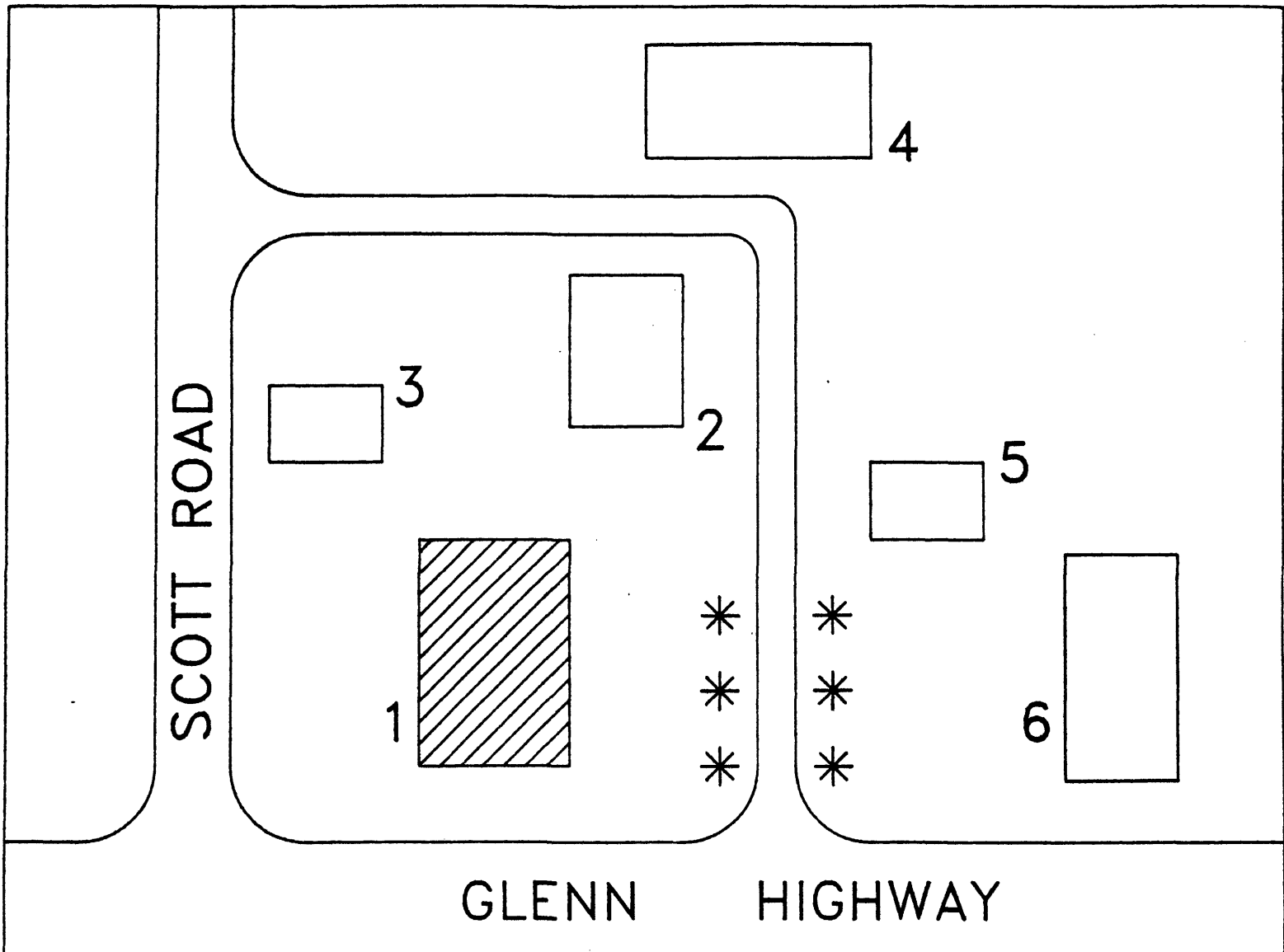
Section number _____

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Photograph identification

1. Puhl House (AHRS Site No. ANC-197)
Palmer, Alaska
Unknown
1936
Anchorage Museum of History and Art, 121 West Seventh Ave., Anchorage,
Alaska 99501 (Odsather Collection)
Looking west at house

2. Puhl House (AHRS Site No. ANC-197)
Palmer, Alaska
Fran Seager-Boss
September 29, 1990
Cultural Resources Division, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 350 East Dahlia
Ave., Palmer, AK 99645
Looking towards northwest at house; the non-contributing barn is
visible in the background



CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE

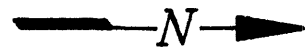


NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE

1. HOUSE

2. BARN

3.-6. SHEDS



PUHL HOUSE
(NOT TO SCALE)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 91000777 Date Listed: 6/21/91

<u>Puhl House</u>	<u>Matanuska-Susitna</u>	<u>AK</u>
Property Name	County	State

Settlement and Economic Development of Alaska's Matanuska--
Susitna Valley MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for Autenioth Glee
Signature of the Keeper

7/3/91
Date of Action

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Amended Items in Nomination:

Geographical Data: The Verbal Boundary Description should read: "From the north corner of Scott Road and the Glenn Highway, proceed north 660 feet, then proceed west 320 feet, then proceed south 660 feet, and then east for 320 feet back to the point of beginning."

This information was confirmed with Jo Antonson of the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)