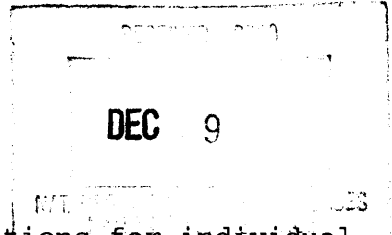


NOV 27 2000

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1680



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.

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Reeves Farmstead Historic District

other names/site number Reeves Heritage Farm 75-00164

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 15991 Highway 60 not for publication
city or town LeMars vicinity x
state Iowa code IA county Plymouth code 149 zip code 51031

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 statewide x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Patricia Overkins DSMPD
Signature of certifying official

12-8-00
Date

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

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 other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

4. National Park Service Certification

=====

I, hereby certify that this property is

Edson H. Beall 1-26-01

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): _____

for

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
11	1	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	1	objects
11	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) NA

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Domestic</u>	Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u>
<u>Agriculture/Subsistence</u>	<u>Secondary Structure</u>
<u>Agriculture/Subsistence</u>	<u>Storage</u>
<u>Agriculture/Subsistence</u>	<u>Animal Facility</u>
<u>Agriculture/Subsistence</u>	<u>Agricultural Outbuilding</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Vacant/Not in Use</u>	Sub: _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Other - House/Four Square

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	<u>Concrete</u>
roof	<u>Asphalt</u>
walls	<u>Wood/weatherboard</u>
	<u>Synthetics/vinyl</u>
other	_____

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

- ___ 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)

Architecture

Period of Significance ca.1917 - ca.1940

Significant Dates NA

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation _____

Architect/Builder Unknown

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

See Continuation Sheet(s)

=====

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

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository:

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property 2.07

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

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

Boundary Justification

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====
name/title Todd Kapler, Principal Investigator

organization Cultural Heritage Consultants date 7-31-00

street & number P.O. 3836 telephone 712-239-9085

city or town Sioux City state Iowa zip code 51102-3836

=====

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)

=====
Property Owner
=====

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

name Larry and Sarah Jane Voas

street & number 469 Walda Drive telephone 228-338-1429

city or town Biloxi state Mississippi zip code 39531

=====

=
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 properties, 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.O. Box 37127,
Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork
Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Plymouth County, IA**

Narrative Description

The Reeves Farmstead Historic District (RFHD) is a fully integrated farm complex located about 200 feet west of Highway 60 approximately 1 ½ miles north of the city of LeMars in Plymouth County, Iowa. Within the span of less than 300 feet square, the farmstead district contains a house, barn, corn crib, and numerous outbuildings that visually represent the agricultural way of life so common to many families in NW Iowa during the first half of the 20th century.

Architecturally, the two-story farmhouse proper is a four square design with a hipped roof (pyramidal) resting on a poured cement foundation. It appears the original house was 24 feet square and a 12' x 24' addition was added to the west end at a later date. This west-end addition, which currently houses the kitchen and pantry area, has a half-hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. A 7' x 16' porch connects to the front (east) side of the house. Relatives of the current owners purchased the farm complex in 1917 and at that time the farmstead contained the house, barn, hog house and hen house. Although the date of house construction is unknown, the two-story pyramidal-style house that once dominated the rural landscape in the Midwest are typically dated to the late 19th and early 20th century, ca. 1890-1920 (McAlester and McAlester 1988:100). With original elements such as pine flooring, original base boards and exquisite heating duct vents juxtaposed with the more modern beaded paneling and dropped acoustical ceiling, the house represents an intriguing mixture of the old and (relatively) new.

House (contributing)

The house rests on a poured foundation that extends ca. 16" above ground. Incised lines in the poured cement suggest the builders utilized 8" wide boards for the foundation forms (boards). Windows on the north and south ends of the raised foundation are hopper type with a fixed window on the west end. In select portions around the house, rolled asphalt covers the raised portion of the foundation.

The front porch (east) rests on cement blocks. 1" x 4" tongue-and-groove (T&G) boards make up the flooring. Three wood classic column supports hold up and frame the porch entablature and roof. The porch roof supports are encased in 1" x 8" and 1" x 12" boxed boards. The porch fascia is 1" x 4" boards; the soffits are 1" x 12" boards. The porch ceiling is a commercial beaded T&G board panel. The front doorway displays a

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Plymouth County, IA**

decorative cornice on the top portion and the architrave trim is 1" x 4" boards. The entire porch is painted white.

The wall cladding on the entire house proper is 1" x 6" painted horizontal clapboards. The wall/roof juncture has 1" x 8" frieze boards and 1" x 12" soffits. The window cornices have decorative bead molding atop the frieze boards. The windows have 1" x 4" vertical casings, the sills are 1" x 2" with decorative bead molding atop the window casings. All windows are double hung. The roofing is green asphalt composite shingles in a coursed pattern.

The rear (west) addition has a number of interesting elements. First, there is no basement under the addition, which strongly suggests a later construction date from the house proper. Second, the roof is a variation of a half-hipped gable design as opposed to the pyramidal roof associated with the original house. A chimney for the current kitchen protrudes through the roof and is supported (reinforced) by iron rods connected to the roof. A ghosted window opening (36" x 64") immediately adjacent to the current rear door is covered by clapboard in an attempt to match the wall cladding on the rest of the house. The current owners note that this former window served to cool the house in the summer and was encased with glass during the winter months (Sarah Voas: Pers. Comm, 18 March 2000). Third, it appears the current addition may have had two separate construction dates. Evidence to support this hypothesis comes from the non-symmetrical nature of the addition. That is, the south end is 64" longer from center than the north end. A shed roof covers this extension. Inside, this extension is an uninsulated pantry. Like the original house proper, the addition has green asphalt composite shingles in a coursed pattern.

With the exception of the west side of the addition, gutters surround the entire house. Gutters from the original house funnel water down a spout and into the addition's gutters. This water was likely coursed to the west side of the house and down into a brick and cement-lined cistern immediately off (west) the rear entrance of the house. A well located near the NW corner of the house supplied water to the facility. A cement pad extending across the entire west end of the house (addition) served as a landing.

The basement rests under the original 24' x 24' house. From the first floor, there are three steps to the landing and ten steps to the basement floor. The basement, like the foundation, has poured cement walls and floor. Currently, several supports consisting of bridge plank and vertical metal piping reinforce sagging floor joists. The floor joists

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Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 3**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Plymouth County, IA**

visible in the basement may offer some clues to the enclosed joists on the first and second floors. A 6" x 6" header beam across the center of the basement is likely original to the house. Support for this assertion is the beam terminuses placed *within* the foundation walls. 2" x 6" (actual) floor joists are positioned 24" on center with 1" x 8" rough-sawn fir placed obliquely atop the joists. There are two identically sized rooms in the basement; one is a work area and one a utility room. The rooms occupy the south portion of the basement and are portioned by 2" x 6" vertical joists. Covering the vertical joists is 1" x 10" horizontal fir boards. Accouterments within the basement include a furnace (with associated chimney) and water heater.

The first floor consists of the kitchen, a small eating nook, and pantry area in the addition. The remainder of the first floor consists of a bedroom and living room within the original house configuration (see first floor plan). The pantry has 2" x 4" vertical walls joists, 24" on center except where windows along the south wall required the builders to place the vertical joists 28" on center. The south and west ends have 1" x 5" horizontal boards covering the wall joists and are uninsulated. As noted previously, the pantry is part of the shed roof attachment to the half-hipped addition and may have been constructed at a later date. A ¼" plywood wall separates the entranceway to the kitchen from the pantry. The kitchen has a linoleum floor and the lower portion of the walls consist of a linoleum-type cladding intended to mimic ceramic tile; the upper portion has wallpaper covering drywall. The walls and ceilings within the entire house have a mixture of boarded commercial drywall and applied plaster over wood lath. A chimney protrusion along the west wall vented what was likely a wood or coal stove (since removed). The kitchen countertop is a contemporary metal/formica type situated along the north and portions of the east and west wall. The 4.5' x 6' eating nook in the kitchen has a carpeted floor and arched header that drops from the ceiling. The inside door casings and entranceway from the kitchen to living room is 1" x 6" fir.

1" x 8" fir baseboards surround the entire living room and first floor bedroom. The double hung windows throughout the living and bedrooms have 1" x 6" casings and 1" x 4" sills. The living room has a carpeted floor with 16" x 18" heating ducts along the north wall, and two baseboard heating ducts along the south wall. Painted drywall covers the living room walls. A ridge support beam separates the living room along an E/W orientation. The W ½ of the living room has a dropped acoustical paneled ceiling 90" high with two sets of fluorescent lights. The E ½ of the living room has a drywall ceiling and is 98" high. The chimney (coming up from the basement) is covered with textured faux brick paneling. The west wall, separating the kitchen and living room, consists of beaded paneling. Nail holes in the paneling suggest the wall joists are 16" on center.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Plymouth County, IA**

The first floor bedroom has 1" x 4" pine flooring, painted drywall over stud walls and 1" x 8" fir baseboards surrounding the entire room. An adjoining bathroom has carpeted floor and formica-covered walls. A baseboard-heating duct (pressed decorated metal) protrudes from the west wall near the floor. The windows, consistent with other windows within the house are double hung with 1" x 6" casings and 1" x 4" sills. The second floor stairwell has seven steps to the first landing and seven steps to the second floor. Beaded paneling adorns the lower half of the stairwell and the upper portion has wallpaper over drywall. The stair railings are 1" x 7" and 1" x 4" fir. A plastered arch ceiling frames the entrance.

The second floor consists of a centered hallway, three bedrooms, and a bathroom. The center hallway has 1" x 4" pine flooring atop the floor joists (T&G?) and 1" x 8" baseboards surrounding the floor/wall juncture. The walls and ceiling have wallpaper-covering drywall. The first bedroom (NE) currently has wood shelves enveloping the entire room from floor to ceiling. The current landowners note that the previous renters utilized this room to store antiques and knick-knacks (Sarah Voas: Pers. Comm., 7 May 1999). The flooring consists of 1" x 4" pine boards and the walls and ceiling are drywall covered with wallpaper. 1" x 8" fir baseboards surround the entire wall/floor juncture and the door casing consists of 1" x 6" fir.

The two bedrooms along the south end of the second floor are nearly identical (mirrored), each with two double hung windows and a small closet. Like most other rooms in the house, 1" x 8" baseboards surround the wall/floor juncture and the flooring is 1" x 4" pine. Additionally, the walls and arched ceilings consist of wallpaper covering drywall. Both bedrooms have pressed decorated metal baseboard heating ducts.

The second floor bath has a carpeted floor, a bathtub, sink and toilet. The double hung window in the bathroom has 1" x 6" casings and a 1" x 4" sill. Both the walls and the ceiling have wallpaper covering drywall. Unlike other rooms in the house, the baseboards in the second floor bath are painted white.

Barn (contributing)

The barn at the Reeves Farmstead Historic District is a typical gambrel-type, braced rafter, light frame structure. The date of construction is unknown. However, a no later-than date can be established – the barn was part of the property inventory when the descendants of the current owners purchased the property in 1917. The architectural

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**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Plymouth County, IA**

style of the house (four square with pyramidal roof) suggests an 1890-1920 construction date (McAlester and McAlester 1998:100-101). This suggests if the house and barn construction dates are somewhat corresponding, the barn likely dates from the late 19th to early 20th century.

The barn rests on a poured non-reinforced cement foundation that is raised ca. 6-8 inches above the ground surface. The barn proper is 40 feet N/S by 30 feet E/W. Attached to the rear (north) end is a 16-foot shed roofed addition. Various contingencies suggest the north addition was a later improvement. These include a cement floor, different roofing material, and rafters that abut the former north wall of the barn.

The outside cladding of the barn is 1" x 4" horizontal simple drop boards covering 2" x 6" studs, spaced 24" on center. In certain areas (e.g., south end of west wall and north wall) wood shingles cover the drop boards. The windows that remain are fixed and sliding doors open to the east and west side of the north-end addition. The barn roof has wood shingles that appear to be three layers thick. The roof of the addition is corrugated metal. 1" x 4" fascia surrounds the outside roof/wall juncture. Along the east and west walls are centered doors flanked by two sets of fixed windows on each side of the door. The front (south) has three entrance doors at ground level for access to the center isle, the horse stalls and the small SW room. A large hay door to the upper loft is located on the front gable. Another smaller access door is situated immediately below and east of the hay door.

With the exception of a small room in the southwest corner and the shed-roofed addition, the remainder of the barn has a dirt floor. The SW corner room was used to store feed grain for animals and the cement floor prevented rodents from gaining access to the grain. All of the wood members within the barn are mill-sawn dimensional lumber; all nails are the wire variety. The wall studs rest on 2" x 6" sill plates atop the raised concrete foundation. The studs are 2" x 6" boards, spaced 24" on center. The vertical support beams (for loft) are primarily 4" x 6" beams, although a few have been replaced by a series of 2" x 6" beams nailed together. The support plates are also 4" x 6" beams. The center isle separates the structure with horse stalls on the east side and an open area that housed calves on the west side. The stalls have horizontal 2" x 10" boards across vertical studs; the tops of the horizontal boards are rounded smooth, suggesting their use as scratch locales for horses.

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**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Plymouth County, IA**

Access to the loft is through a small opening on the north end of the structure. The loft flooring is 1" x 10" mill-sawn dimensional lumber. The roof support for the middle bent is braced rafters. The rafters and floorboards do not display any evidence of rot or decay. Currently, the loft is empty.

The interior support beams and animal stalls prohibited storage of heavy machinery in the barn proper. The north end addition, with its cement floor and sliding tract doors on each side served as a storage facility for farm machinery.

Other Structures and Features (see site overview plan drawing)

Currently, there are 13 extant buildings or structures on the RFHD. Additionally, there is a barn foundation, a cistern and a pump well.

Cob House and Wash House (contributing)

Immediately west of the house is a 19' x 24' cob house and wash house. This building was moved directly west of its original location during the 1940s. The poured cement foundation that marks the original location can be seen immediately in front (east) of the building. The extant building is a side-gabled structure that rests atop a poured cement foundation. The wall cladding is 1" x 6" simple drop horizontal boards covering wall studs 24" on center. 1" x 4" fascia surrounds the roof/wall juncture. The roofing is green asphalt composite shingles in a coursed pattern. A shed-roofed addition to the west has galvanized metal covering the roof and walls. The south end of this addition is open.

Garage (non-contributing)

North of the cob house is a 28' x 30' garage that has been added within the past 20 years. Some of the lumber used in the construction may have been from the now dismantled milk barn. The garage is less than 50 years old and is not a contributing resource to the RFHD. The low front gable garage is 28' x 30' with 1" x 6" simple drop horizontal boards covering wall studs. Two sliding doors on the front (east side) allow access to the structure. The roofing is galvanized metal.

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Plymouth County, IA****Hen House (contributing)**

North of the garage is a 12' x 30' hen house. This front gable structure has a saltbox roofline and rests on a poured cement foundation. The wall cladding is 1" x 6" simple horizontal drop boards over 2" x 4" wall joists that are 24" on center. 1" x 4" fascia covers the wall/roof juncture; the roof is galvanized metal. The galvanized metal roof is a secondary application as the original roofing material (seen from the interior) is a combination of 1" x 6" and 1" x 12" horizontal boards covering rafters. Dilapidated cedar shingles cover the horizontal boards. Along the north wall, chicken wire secures packed straw for insulation.

Outhouse (contributing)

Immediately west of the hen house is a small (6' x 5') 3-hole outhouse. Interestingly, one toilet seat is half the height as the other two and likely acted as a child's seat. The outhouse is side gabled with wood shingles covering the south half; the north half of the roof has collapsed. The wall cladding is horizontal simple drop boards covering 2" x 4" wall joists.

Machine Shed (contributing)

North of the hen house is a 12' x 16' two-story front gable machine shed with a side gable addition to the north. The structure rests on a raised poured cement foundation. The wall cladding is simple drop horizontal boards covering 2" x 4" wall joists, 24" on center. The entrance doors (east side) are vertical 1" x 6" boards with 1" x 4" casings. The interior has a vertical bridge plank support beam in the center. The first floor ceiling is 93" high; the ceiling boards are a combination of 1" x 8", 1" x 10" and 1" x 12" horizontal boards (milled). Attached to the west is a shed roofed addition with 8" diameter posts acting as vertical support beams. 1" x 12" boards cover 2" x 4" rafters. The roof is galvanized metal.

Corn Crib (contributing)

East of the barn is a corncrib with an attached lean-to. The corncrib is a front gabled structure with an additional that forms a saltbox design. The crib rests on a poured cement foundation. The wall cladding on the E ½ of north end and the south and east side is 1" x 4" horizontal boards over 2" x 4" studs and are spaced 1" apart to facilitate air

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Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 8**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Plymouth County, IA**

circulation. The W ½ of the north end and the entire west side cladding is galvanized metal. The west roof is covered with 2+ layers of wood shingles; the east end (including the addition) has a galvanized metal roof. 1" x 4" fascia surrounds the wall/roof juncture. A loft is over the center section of the crib. The gabled addition has 1" x 6" horizontal simple drop boards nailed to studs 24" on center. The crib measures 32' x 40'.

Hog House (contributing)

South of the corncrib is a 20' x 40' hog house. The building rests on a poured cement foundation. The structure's design is somewhat unique, as it resembles a split front gable. That is, the front gabled rooflines do not meet in the center. Rather, the south gable intersects ca. 2' below the north gable. Within this 2' section are a series of seven fixed windows that are currently blocked shut. The lower gable also has seven fixed windows. 2" x 4" tie beams connect the two gables and offer support; vertical 2" x 4" posts support the tie beams to the floor. The wall cladding is 1" x 6" horizontal simple drop boards covering 2" x 4" wall joists spaced 24" on center. The roof is wood shingles. The building has a double door 36" wide. The top door is 36" x 36" and the bottom is 42" x 36". 1" x 8" boards serve as casings.

Hog House (contributing)

To the south is another hog house. This 16' x 24' structure is front gabled and rests on an elevated (16") poured cement foundation. The inside also has a poured cement floor. The wall cladding is 1" x 6" horizontal simple drop boards covering 2" x 4" studs, spaced 24" on center. 1" x 4" fascia surrounds the wall/roof juncture. The building served as a hobby shop and as such, the interior has been modified. Beaded paneling covers the N/E/W and part of the south wall. The ceiling is drywall. A 22' x 22" crawl space in the roof allows entry into the attic. The roof rafters are 2" x 4", spaced 24" on center with 1" x 10" and 1" x 12" attached horizontal boards. The outside roof is covered with wood shingles. Fixed windows are on the S/E/W sides of the building; no windows are on the north side. 1" x 4" boards serve as window casings.

Garage (contributing)

South of the hog house and NE of the house proper is a saltbox-type structure resting on a cement foundation that served as a garage. The saltbox designed structure rests on a poured cement foundation. The front (west side) has two double doors. The first (north)

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**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Plymouth County, IA**

is 48" x 92" and the second (south) is 60" x 108". 1" x 4" boards serve as door casings. The wall cladding differs from other buildings within the complex – 1" x 3" false bevel drop horizontal boards cover 2" x 4" wall studs. Two small fixed windows are on the north and south ends. The rafters are covered with 1" x 6", 1" x 8" and 1" x 12" horizontal boards. Wood shingles cover the boards and likely represent a former roof covering. Currently, the roof is clad with galvanized metal. The structure is 20' x 20'.

Windmill (noncontributing)

South of the extant barn is a galvanized metal windmill. While the rotor blades are missing, the tower and gearbox remain. The current owner and former resident notes that the windmill acted as a pump to supply water to the farmstead into the 1940s (Sarah Jane Voas, Pers. Comm: 30 March 2000). The windmill (minus the blades) is approximately 15 feet high.

Other resources within the complex include a cement and brick-lined cistern near the NW corner of the house, a well pump at the NW corner of the house, and a foundation to the dairy barn west of the current barn.

Integrity

Today, the buildings associated within the Reeves Farmstead Historic District (RFHD) remain virtually undisturbed since the farm was a working agricultural enterprise up to the 1950s. The original design and historic fabric are in a high state of preservation. Although the house displays some modern amenities such as vinyl wall cladding and beaded paneling, the structure retains the "feel" of an early to mid 20th century rural Iowa farmhouse. Further, the layout of the buildings represents a fully integrated farm complex. Unlike many farm complexes in the Midwest, the RFHD does not have modern "pole buildings" or other recent additions that affect the visual continuity, and hence the historical integrity of the complex.

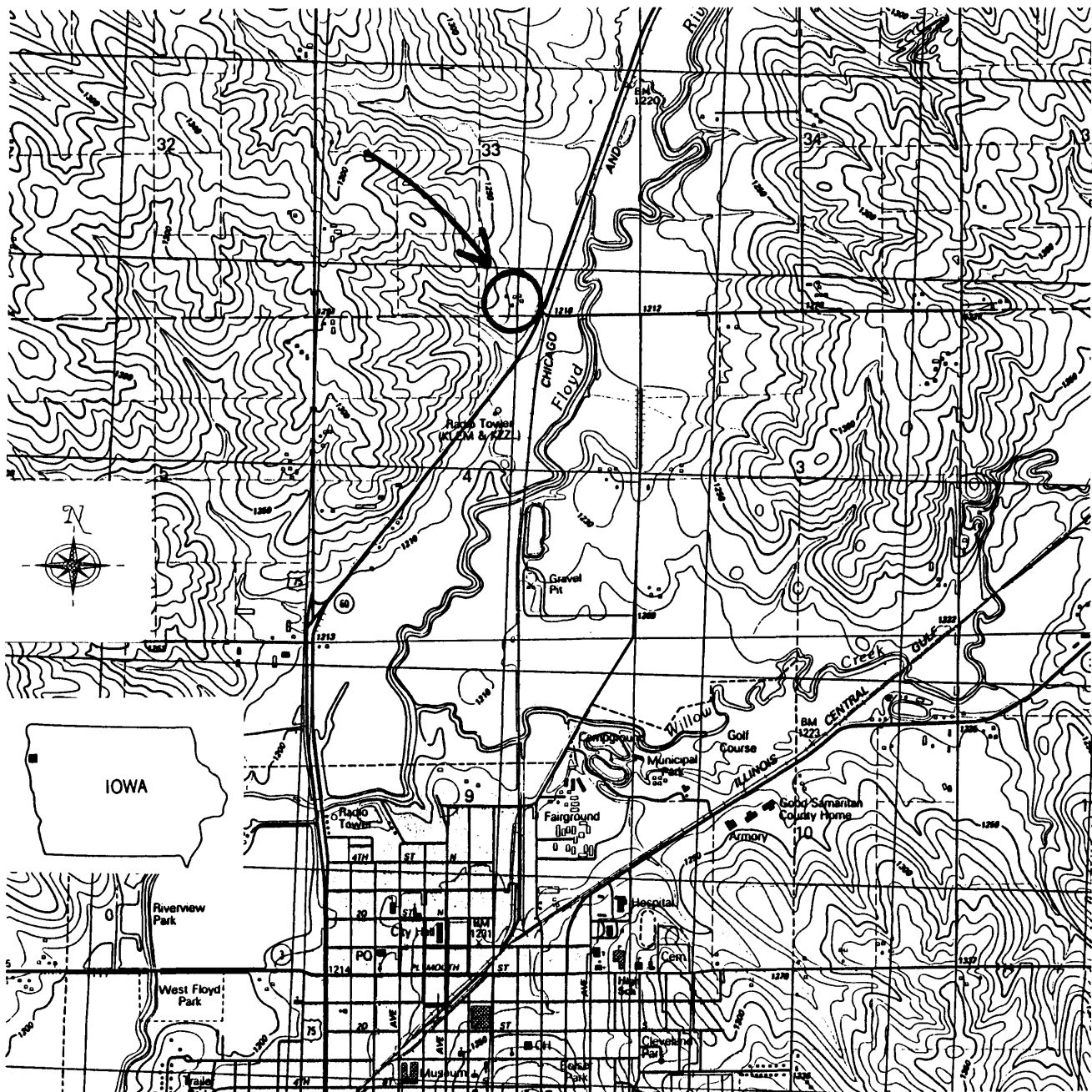
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Reeves Farmstead Historic District Plymouth County, IA

Reeves Farmstead Historic District. USGS 7.5' (70%)
SW ¼, SE ¼, Section 33, T93N-R45W, LeMars, Iowa 1985. Scale: 1" = 2,600 feet



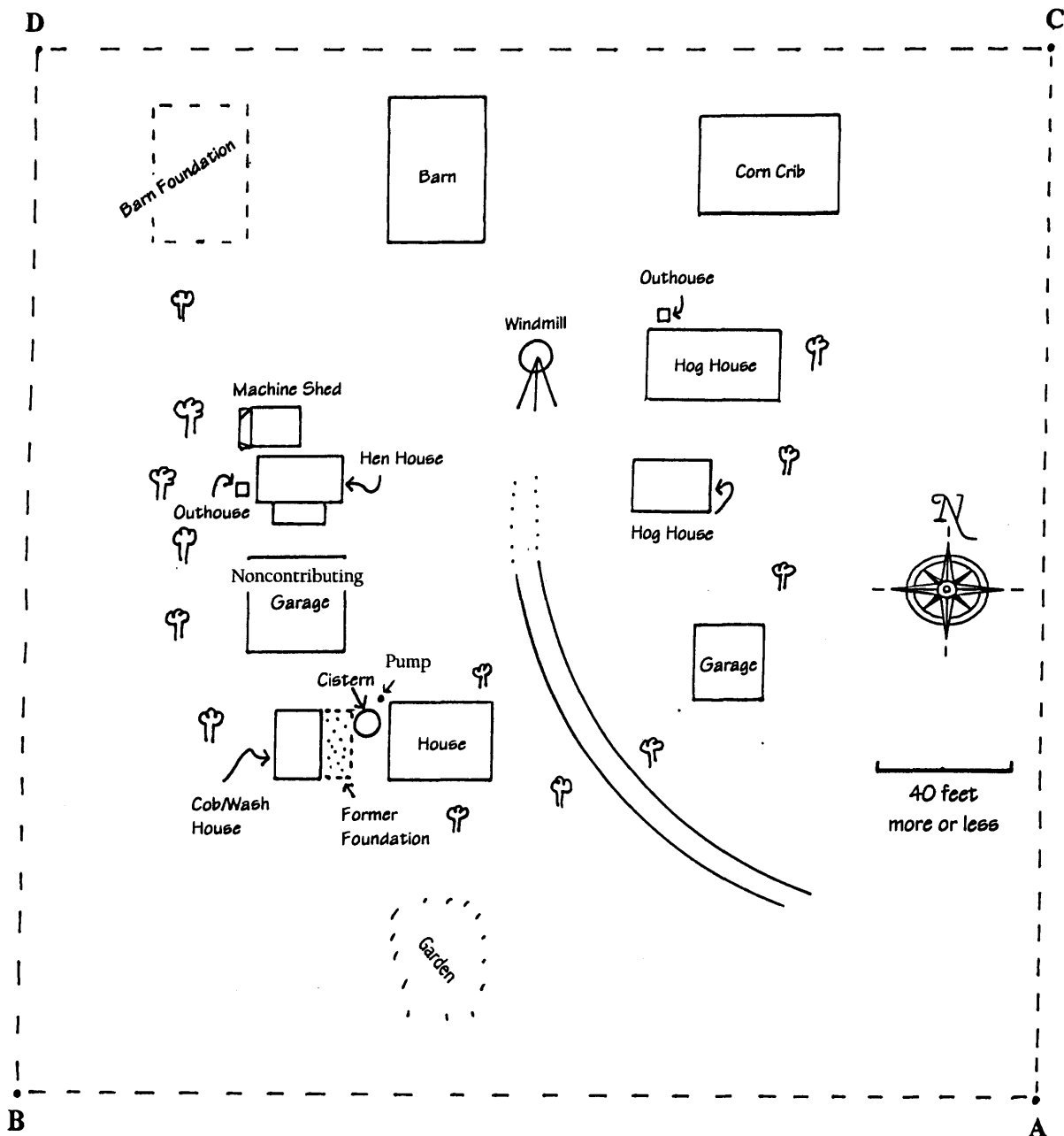
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National Park Service

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Reeves Farmstead Historic District Plymouth County, IA

Sketch Map of Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Todd Kapler
2000



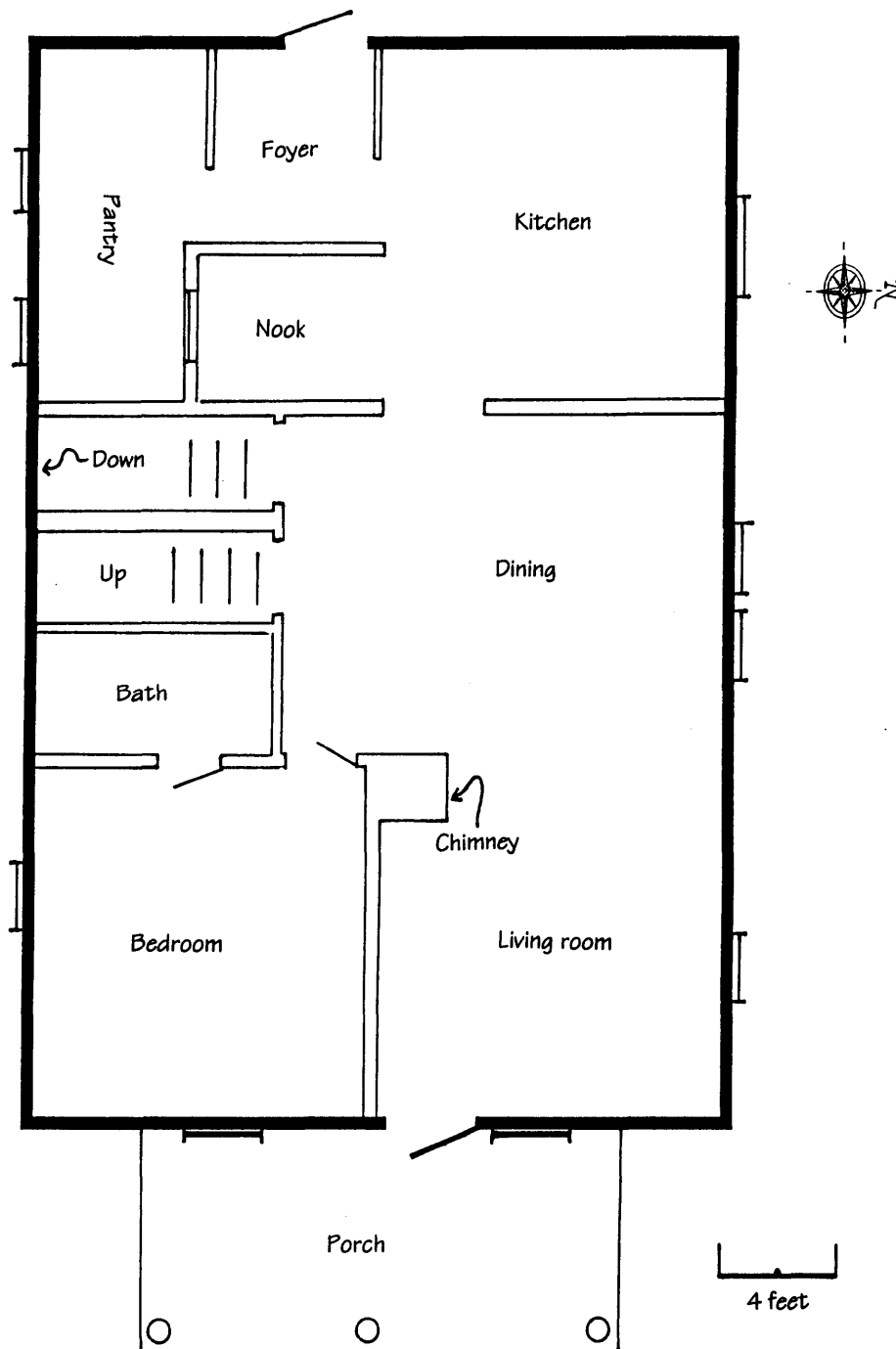
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Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Plymouth County, IA

First Floor Plan, House, Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Todd Kapler
2000



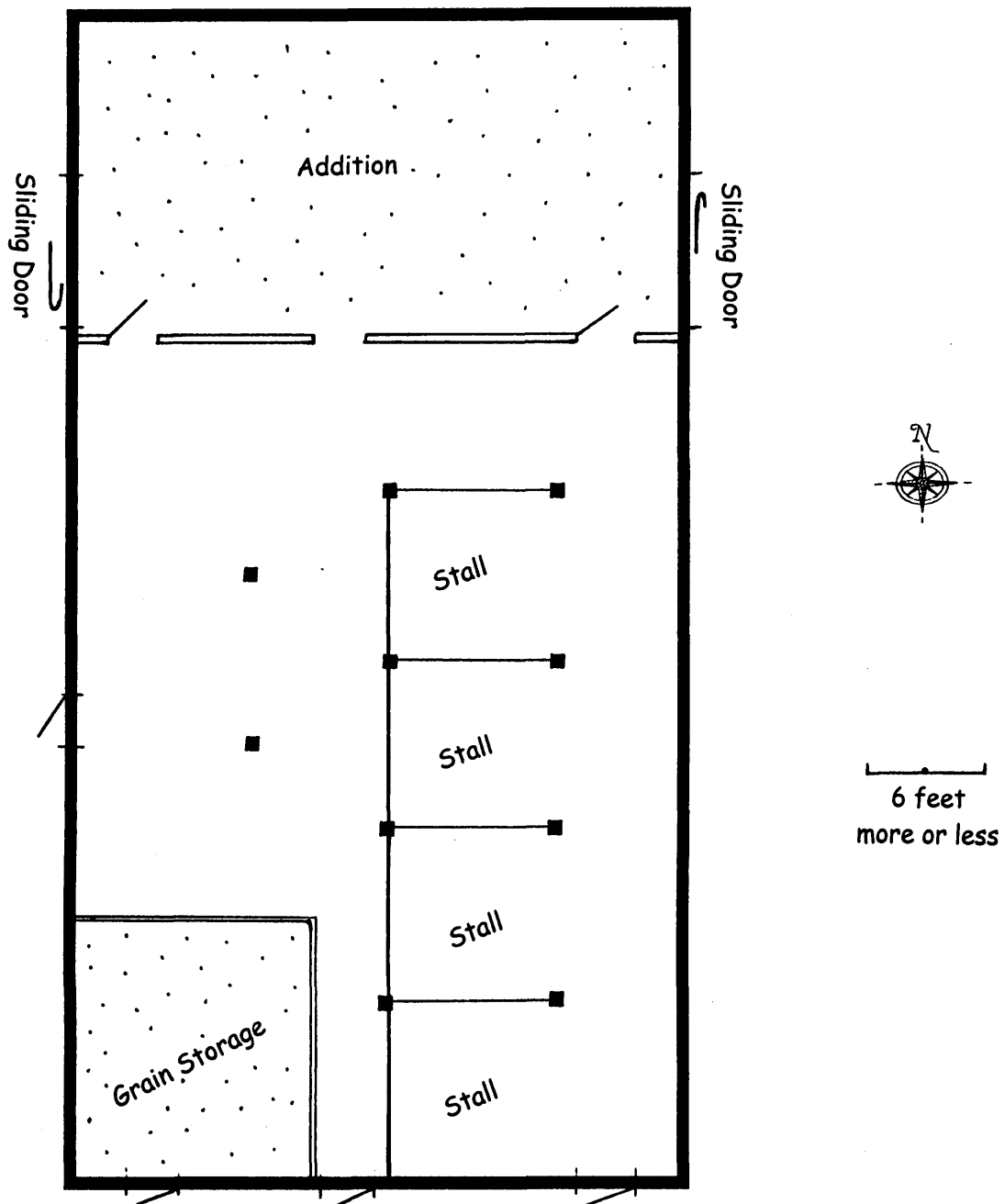
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Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Plymouth County, IA

First Floor Plan, Barn, Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Todd Kapler
2000



United States Department of the Interior
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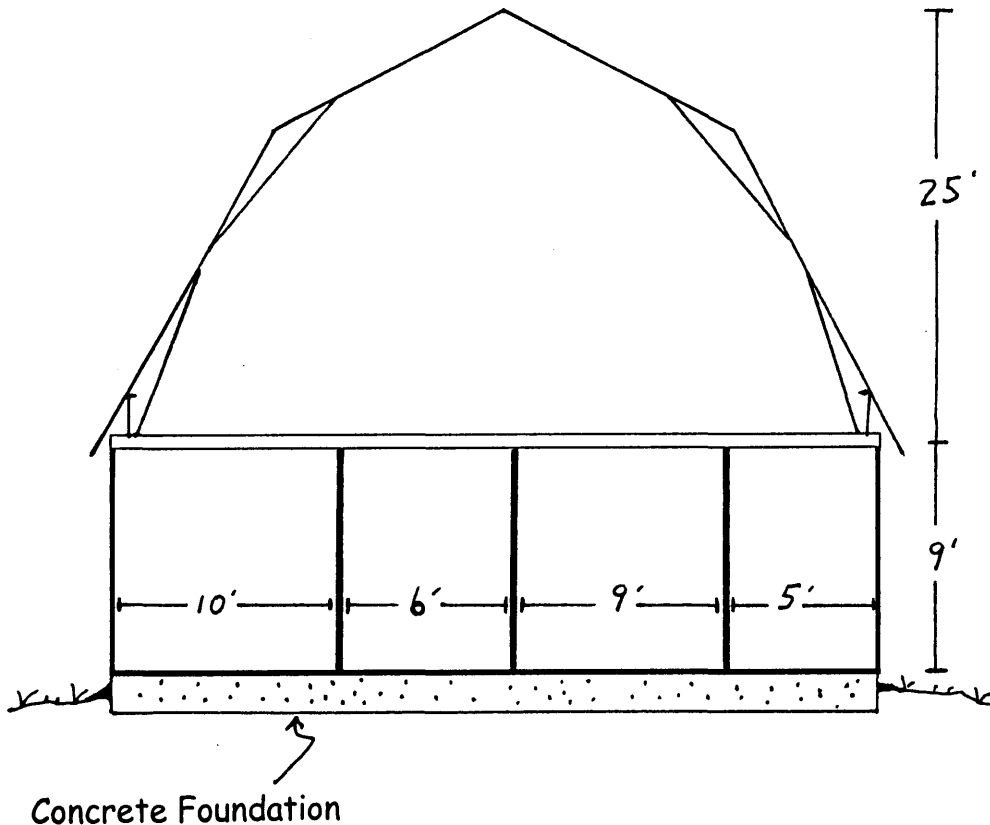
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Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Plymouth County, IA

Barn Truss Configuration, Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Todd Kapler
2000

6 feet
more or less



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**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
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Narrative Statement of Significance

The Reeves Farmstead Historic District (RFHD) is locally significant under Criterion C as a fully integrated farm complex from the early to mid 20th century. While none of the extant structures represent especially unique building designs or construction materials, taken as a whole, the complex visually depicts a small family-owned farming enterprise of that time. The RFHD is a well-preserved example of the simple architecture of necessity, employed by scores of settlers who moved to Plymouth County, Iowa during the late 19th and early 20th century.

Historical Significance

What is currently the Reeves Farmstead Historic District (RFHD) was first deeded to the Iowa Falls and Sioux City Railroad Company in 1871 under the aegis of a Congressional Act (1856) that granted certain lands for construction of a rail line from Dubuque to Sioux City. In 1876 Herman Groetken obtained the land via a Warranty Deed and in 1917 the Groetken family sold the farmstead to the Reeves family (Bert Reeves). In 1971 the Reeves family sold the 10-acre tract that contains the buildings to Harry and Dollie Bonnema. Following the death of Mr. Bonnema in 1998, a Reeves descendant (Larry and Sarah Jane Voas) purchased the 10-acres tract from the Bonnema family (above-referenced information supplied through Abstract of Title, Plymouth County, Iowa).

In 1917, Wilbert (Bert) Reeves purchased what is now the RFHD. Today, the buildings associated with the RFHD complex are the only original buildings standing (i.e., not dilapidated) associated with the original Reeves brothers and their families that emigrated to northwest Iowa in the 1860s.

The location of the RFHD contributes to the interesting history associated with the property. Several factors, including the farm's location roughly halfway between LeMars and Seney, a few hundred feet from a major road (Highway 60), and in close proximity to rail lines, all combined to produce a setting for many interesting events. According to Sarah Voas, who grew up on the property, the farm was a popular stopping point for travelers going to and from LeMars and Seney. The farm was "out of town," yet close enough for family gatherings, even wedding receptions (Sarah Jane Voas: Pers. Comm., 18 March 2000).

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During the fall harvest, when neighbors combined their labors to more efficiently gather their crops, the farm was a buzz of activity as women prepared meals, children played in the yard and men returned in the evening to eat their dinner. Additionally, church members frequently gathered at the farm for picnics following Sunday services. These types of public gatherings, where local news was collected and disseminated among neighbors and friends, were important to the development of "community" and a mutual sense of shared experiences. In a time before mass media, social interaction among neighbors also provided one of the few outlets for family leisure activities. The location of the farmstead in close proximity to a major road (i.e., solid and dependable) also contributed to its role as a central gathering place for friends and neighbors.

Some visitors to the farm, however, were not local and offered little in the way of shared mutual experiences. Transients, some displaced during the Great Depression and others, including hobos "riding the rails" that passed just east of the farm, would appear at the house asking for food. As a young girl growing up on the farmstead, Sarah Jane Voas remembers that the transients were told to wait on the cistern and food would be passed through the kitchen window – the door was to remain locked (Sarah Jane Voas: Pers. Comm., 18 March 2000). The increasing number of hobos that came to the house asking for food suggests that the farm may have been "marked" with some sort of encrypted symbol to other passing hobos to denote a friendly farmstead.

When the Bert Reeves family moved to the farmstead in 1917 the complex consisted of the house, a barn, a hog house and hen house. Thereafter, family members note that a new building was added every two or three years until the total unit was completed. With the exception of the modern garage added within the past 20 years, all of the buildings are older than 50 years. Today, with the exception of the dismantled dairy barn and recent garage, the farmstead closely resembles the working farm that operated during the first half of the 20th century.

Property types such as the RFHD are a depleting resource on the rural landscape. Many have been abandoned and the valuable land utilized for row crops. Still others have been modified to the point where they retain little of their integrity as farmsteads. As singular buildings, the structures on the Reeves farm do not overwhelm the visitor. Many are plain and their uses strictly utilitarian. However, combined, the structures represent a slice of rural Americana; it is precisely this plainness that gives the complex its authenticity, character, and significance. Most farm buildings in Iowa (and the rest of the U.S.) were not architectural works of art. The design of most early 19th century farm

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**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
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buildings adhere to the adage of "form follows function." This was not only cost effective and efficient, the designs typically followed standards established by the community.

The Reeves Farmstead Historic District embodies a visual representation of continuity, of a culture and lifestyle that in many ways defined the lives of many rural Iowans. There is a synergy to the farm -- each building within the complex is a contributing resource to the next; together the farmstead district encapsulates the rural lifestyle that was farming in Iowa.

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**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
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Plymouth County, IA

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**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
Plymouth County, IA**

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Reeves Heritage Farm is shown as the dotted line on the accompanying map entitled "Survey, Reeves Heritage Farm."

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the farmhouse, gardens, yard and associated outbuildings that have historically been part of the Reeves Heritage Farm and that maintain historic integrity. Areas within the original farmstead that are currently utilized as cultivated fields have been excluded.

Acreage of Property: 2.07

UTM References

	Zone Easting Northing			Zone Easting Northing	
1	15	732025 4744800	3	15	732025 4744892
2	15	731933 4744800	4	15	731933 4744892

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**Reeves Farmstead Historic District
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Photographs

1. Photographer: Unknown
1933
Larry and Sarah Jane Voas
House and Cob House, Looking SW
2. Photographer: Unknown
1933
Larry and Sarah Jane Voas
Hen House, Machine Shed, Dairy Barn (now gone) and Horse Barn, Looking NW
3. Photographer: Unknown
1933
Larry and Sarah Jane Voas
Hen House, Dairy Barn (now gone), Horse Barn, Looking North
4. Photographer: Unknown
1933
Larry and Sarah Jane Voas
Corn Crib and Hog House, Looking NE
5. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
Site Overview, Looking NW
6. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
Corn Crib, Looking N/NE
7. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
Extant Barn, Looking NE

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Photographs (continued)

8. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
Hog House, Looking East
9. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
House Front (east), Looking West
10. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
House Side (south), Looking North
11. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
House Interior, Eating Nook, Looking South
12. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
Front Porch Entablature, Looking South
13. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
Barn Profile, Looking NW
14. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
Windmill, Looking North

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Photographs (continued)

15. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
Barn Center Isle, Looking North

16. Todd Kapler
2000
Cultural Heritage Consultants
Barn Loft With First Bent, Looking South