

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1179

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: The Rasmus and Elemine Anderson Homestead Ranch

Other names/site number: Ridley Ranch

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 11753 Anderson Road

City or town: St. Onge State: SD County: Lawrence

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

x A B x C D

<u>Gary D. Vogt</u>	<u>11-17-2014</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>SD SHPO</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <u> </u> meets <u> </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____


Signature of the Keeper

1/16/15
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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture/Subsistence: animal facility, agricultural outbuilding

Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture/Subsistence: animal facility, agricultural outbuilding

Domestic: single dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: Western Feeder Barn

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Stone: sandstone; Stucco; Wood: weatherboard;
Wood: shake

Narrative Description

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

Summary Paragraph

Setting

The Rasmus and Elemine Anderson Homestead Ranch (herein Anderson Ranch) is located in the foothills region of the northern Black Hills. Looking to the west and southwest are views of the Black Hills, heavily forested with coniferous trees. Looking to the northwest, the land is rolling plains. These foothills are directly north of the Black Hills. The land is mostly grass and alfalfa fields with scattered bunches of both deciduous and coniferous trees. To the east and south are rolling grasslands.

The ranch yard is nestled in the rolling hills. It is entered via a gravel road from the north. Deciduous trees grow in the valleys surrounding the yard. An intermittent streambed lies just east of the yard.

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The yard has a variety of trees, shrubs and flowers. Bushes climb the front porches of the house and surround the house in many places. Flower and garden beds lie to the south and east of the house.

The buildings of the homestead are arranged around a central yard with an electrical pole. The barn and hog house sit southwest of the house (an arrangement that incorporates prevailing winds to draw odor away from house). The house sits north of the barn with a garage and meat house to the east. To the west of the house is the shop. Behind the shop is a small well house. Farther west is a windmill and water tank.

Pasture lands surround the ranch yard.

Narrative Description

Barn (1902) Contributing

Exterior

The barn is oriented east to west. The east elevation is the front of the barn. The roof is gabled; however the southern slope is singular while the northern slope of the gable is dual-pitched, with the bottom half having a gentler slope than the upper. This variation in roof shape can occur when sheds are added later, but in this case the barn was originally constructed with its broken-roof form on the north slope.¹

The ridge of the gable is capped with metal flashing. Centered on the ridge is a gabled, wooden cupola or ventilator. The cupola has wooden louvers on the north and south elevations. There is a metal lightning rod on the cupola. There are also four metal lightning rods on the gable ridgeline. Cedar shingles cover the roof.

The foundation and walls of the barn are sandstone quarried from the ranch. The walls are coursed rubble stone, having approximately level beds and continuous course levels. Repointing of mortar has taken place in some areas. The mortar used in repointing appears to be Portland cement, which appears to be damaging the softer sandstone in places.

The east elevation has a large opening on the north half that leads into an interior aisle. This opening measures approximately 10' x 12'. This is where wagons full of hay entered the building. From this aisle, hay would be lifted into the loft. There are two small fixed-pane wood windows and an approximately 4' x 6' wood Dutch door built of vertical planks on the south end of this elevation on the ground level. The door leads

¹ Alan J Noble and Richard K. Cleek. *The Old Barn Book: A Field Guide to North American Barns and Other Farm Structures*. (New Brunswick: NJ, Rutgers University Press, 1996), 33.

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into animal pens. There is also a large fixed-pane wood window in the gable that allows light into the hayloft.

The south elevation has an approximately 4' x 6' central wood door. The door leads to the interior pens. Flanking the door are four, rectangular window openings. These openings face south and do not have glass because they are used for ventilation as well as light. The eave overhang is slight.

The north elevation has four, four-pane fixed wood windows. There is a metal gutter attached to the eave; this is the only elevation with a gutter.

The west elevation has an approximately 4' x 6' wood plank door at the north end and a window opening at the south end. The window is shuttered with wood. The opening in the gable is stuccoed over.

Interior

Danish immigrants built the barn. It is vernacular and appears to be a combination of Old World and turn-of-the-century barn technology in America. Milled lumber, rough-cut lumber, and logs were all used in its construction. The structural system uses a combination of both full-height and half-height stone walls, braced rafters, king posts, and balloon-frame construction. Despite the variety of support systems used, the excellent condition of the barn implies the builders knew what they were doing during its construction.

The barn is divided into four main areas (see map): the livestock pens, horse pens, central room/loft, and the northern rooms.

There are three rooms north of the main entry aisle. The exterior walls are stone and the interior walls are of balloon-frame construction. The studwalls of the balloon frame are faced with 1" x 10" sheathing; the sheathing faces the interior of the rooms while the outside of the studwall exposed to the main aisle is not faced. The west room has direct access to the exterior via a wood door and was used for livestock. The center room housed chickens. The east room is the tack room.

The horse pens occupy a space in between the main aisle and the southern pens. They are located at the east end of the barn. Directly west of the horse pens is the main loft area. The horse pens occupy a relatively small space. The pens are constructed of rough-sawn lumber of various dimensions with 2" x 8", 2" x 10", and 2" x 12" being the most common.

The southern portion is animal pens. The pens are constructed of rough-sawn lumber of various dimensions with 2" x 8", 2" x 10", and 2" x 12" being the most common. Support posts and joists are of rough-sawn lumber and round logs. There is a central aisle between the sets of pens. Pen size varies, with 3' x 6' most common.

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The central room and hayloft rimming it are open spaces. The second level hayloft is L-shaped (east and south elevations). For reference, the L-shaped loft is located above the animal pens (south end) and horse pens (east end). The barn's support system is visible in the loft. Roof rafters rest on the stone walls of the southern end of the central room. Kingposts support the roof on the north side of the central room. Round log tie beams connect the kingposts with the stone wall. Braces extend from the stone wall (that supports the loft) to a ridge beam. These braces of 2" x 12" boards tie into the log joists laid on the stone wall. The western end of the loft is cribbed to support the west wall, which was damaged during a storm.

House 1884; additions 1903 and 1947 Contributing

The house consists of three parts: the original house built in 1884, another full house built to the west and connected in 1903, and a 1947 addition incorporated fully into the east side of the 1884 house.

General characteristics of the house include stucco, wood shingles and primarily one-over-one double hung windows with metal storms.

Original House and 1947 Addition

The original house is front gabled. The 1947 addition is incorporated into the original house on the east side. The addition is not apparent from the exterior, but is noticeable on the interior via ghost wall traces on the floor and ceiling.

The south elevation is the front of the house. From right to left, there is a wood panel door with a single light (a metal storm door protects it), a single one-over-one double hung window and paired one-over-one double hung windows. The paired windows are under the hipped roof of the porch, which extends between portions of the 1884 house and 1903 addition to the west (several bushes and shrubs obscure views of the covered porch). There are paired one-over-one double hung windows in the gable. There is also a small metal vent in the gable.

The east elevation has a wood entry door with metal storm door at the south corner. There are two three-over-one double hung windows separated by a brick chimney. There is a modern wood deck extending from this elevation.

The north elevation has a one-over-one double hung window and three-sided bay window. The bay window is modern with single-pane casement windows. There are paired one-over-one double hung windows in the gable. There is also a small metal vent in the gable.

The west end attaches to the "new" or 1903 house.

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1903 House

The house is side gabled with off-centered gabled dormers on the north and south elevations. There is a chimney on the ridgeline located to the west. A half-hipped roofed porch runs the full length on both the north and south elevations. The porch has square posts with arches.

The south elevation is the front. The first level has two one-over-one double hung windows. The gabled wall dormer above contains paired one-over-one double hung windows. To the east of the gable is a one-over-one double hung window. There is also a metal vent in the dormer gable.

There are no openings on the west elevation.

The north elevation has two one-over-one double hung windows on the first level. There is also a one-over-one double hung window on a small connector between the old house and new house on the first level. The second level has a one-over-one double hung window and paired one-over-one double hung windows in the gable.

Interior

The interior of the old house and new house are connected, though stylistically differentiated. Since the house is an amalgamation of three different additions, the interior has changed over the years. The 1884 section (with the 1947 additions incorporated) has been opened up in the kitchen area to make it more functional. The 1903 section has seen less change on the interior.

The 1903 section retains some features from the historic period such as four-panel wood doors, wood door and window surrounds (some in bulls eye pattern), wood floors (some covered by carpet), and its configuration with the living room on the main level and stairs leading upstairs to the bedrooms.

Overall the house demonstrates a typical pattern of change for successful ranching operations in which buildings were expanded and improved over the years. Interior rooms amongst the additions are connected by wood doors and open arches. The interior space functions as one interior.

Sawmill/Blacksmith Shop (circa 1900)

Contributing

This building is a long rectilinear structure with a gabled roof. A metal stovepipe extends from the gable ridge at the north end. The building has six-inch wood tongue-and-groove siding. It has wood shingles on the east gable slope and a metal roof on the west slope. Wood shingles remain underneath the metal, which was put on to cover storm damage. The building is cohesive in appearance, yet the interior is divided into three distinct spaces. All three spaces are accessed from exterior doors on the east

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elevation. Doors are wood plank and square wood windows consist of two vertical rectangular lights or four square lights.

Construction of the shop is similar to that of the barn – there is a mix of building techniques. The building has a balloon frame faced primarily with 1" x 10" boards. In the sawmill, both sawed lumber and round logs are used as structural support. This extra support is for the sawmill machinery, which is located overhead as well as at ground level. The equipment is reinforced with a variety of pieces of lumber, including 4" x 6", 6" x 6", and 10" x 10" sawn lumber. Round, stripped logs are also incorporated. Common log size is approximately 8" diameter.

The east elevation has from left to right: a window, a 3' x 6' wood plank door, three windows, paired sliding wood doors measuring 4' x 6', a wood plank door, a window, and a slightly wider wood plank door measuring approximately 3.5' x 6'. The window and door surrounds are 1" x 6" flat boards.

The north elevation has no openings. The south elevation has a small, square wood door in the gable. The west elevation has two boarded openings.

The interior is divided into three spaces: a storage area, blacksmith shop and sawmill. Belt driven machinery remains in the sawmill. The engine that drove the blade remains as well as the belts. The blacksmith shop also retains wooden benches and tools.

None of the interior spaces are finished. Some studwalls are faced with 1" x 10" boards while others are not faced.

Well house (c.1910)

Contributing

Behind the shop to the west is a small 4' x 4' x 5' well house. It has a gable roof covered with 1" x 8" boards. It has the same six-inch tongue-and-groove siding as the shop. There is a wood slat door on the east elevation.

Gardens (c. 1905)

Contributing

There is a sandstone-rimmed flower garden between the house and the barn. The garden is oval-shaped with one to three courses of stone and two levels. There is also a garden to the east of the house. The circa date of 1905 was chosen because that is the era many of the sandstone buildings on the ranch were built. These smaller pieces may have been rubble stones from the larger projects.

Hog House (c.1905)

Contributing

The hog house is of similar construction as the barn. It is believed the hog house was constructed after the barn, hence the circa 1905 construction date.

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The hog house has a gable roof covered in tin. It originally had wood shingles like the barn. It has a long, round rod for the ridgepole. It is constructed of sandstone quarried on the ranch. The walls are coursed rubble stone, having approximately level beds and continuous course levels. Like the barn, it has been patched in places with what appears to be Portland cement. There are openings on the north and south elevation, but none on the east and west.

Windmill (c.1900)

Contributing

To the west of the barn is a metal windmill and tractor tire water tank. The windmill pumps water into the tank. The windmill is approximately 25' tall and the circular tank is approximately 8' wide.

Gravity feeder

Non-contributing

There is a gravity feeder behind the barn to the west.

Garage (c.1980)

Non-Contributing

To the east of the house is a modern gabled garage. It has a metal roof and metal siding. There are two fiberglass doors on the south elevation.

Fuel Tank (c.1950)

Contributing

Next to the garage, at the southeast corner, is a fuel tank. The tank is a round, metal barrel on a metal superstructure that elevates it seven feet off the ground.

Meat House (c.1950)

Contributing

Directly east of the house is the meat house. It is made of concrete blocks and has gabled roof covered in asphalt shingles.

Light Pole (c.1950)

Contributing

Located in the center of the ranch yard is a wood pole with a light, which brought electricity to the ranch.

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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.
- 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 grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Exploration/Settlement

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1883-1964

Significant Dates

1884, c.1900, 1902, 1903, c.1905, 1947

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Rasmus Anderson: Builder

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

Significance of the Anderson Ranch yard

The Anderson Ranch yard is eligible for the National Register under **Criteria A and C**. Its significance is more regional (although local is indicated on the nomination form) as its significance geographically represents the area around the Black Hills of South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana.

It is eligible under **Criterion A** under **Exploration/Settlement** and also under **Agriculture**. Rasmus Anderson homesteaded the ranch in 1883. His descendants continue to operate the ranch today (2014). The ranch also represents agricultural development in South Dakota. It began as a subsistence homestead, then focused on dairying, diversified with limited crop production and other livestock, and then became a typical West River cattle operation.

It is also eligible under **Criterion C** for **Architecture**. The barn, house, sawmill, and other structures represent distinctive characteristics of types, periods and methods of construction. Collectively as a district the ranch yard represents the development of ranching in western South Dakota and specifically in the foothills of the Black Hills.

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

The Anderson and Ridley Families

Rasmus Anderson was born in 1862 in Denmark. He immigrated to the United States in 1883 and settled near St. Onge on the N $\frac{1}{2}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of T6N, R3E, Section 1. St. Onge was a French-Canadian enclave founded in 1881.² It was a typical frontier town, though, with a mixture of immigrants and old-stock Americans.³

Family records indicate Rasmus came in 1883, while the 1920 Federal Census lists an immigration date of 1887.⁴ Census data for this period is not always accurate.

² The South Dakota Association of County Commissioners. "Early History of South Dakota Counties." (Vermillion: SD, State-wide Educational Services), 68.

³ Paul Friggens. *Gold and Grass: The Black Hills Story*. (Boulder: CO, Pruett Publishing, 1983), 100.

⁴ Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. *Fourteenth Census of the United States: 1920 - Population*. South Dakota, Lawrence County, Middle False Bottom, District 0118.

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Translation and recordation errors are common.⁵ The Government Land Office records indicate that Rasmus received the patent on his land in 1897.⁶ Patents were typically issued five, seven or 10 years after homesteading.⁷ However, extensions were also granted. Because of this, both the 1883 or 1887 homestead claim dates are possible.⁸ However, family history also records that Rasmus immigrated when he was 21 years old.⁹ Since he was born in 1862, that makes him 21 in 1883 and seems to support the earlier date.

Rasmus' wife Johanna was killed in an accident on the ranch in 1887, leaving him with two children: Nels and Kari. He married Elemine Wolfsburg on 30 November 1889. Elemine immigrated to Whitewood from Germany in 1883. She worked as a housekeeper at the J.B. Horse Ranch on Big Bottom on Whitewood Creek for one year and then did housework in Deadwood for several families before marrying Rasmus. Rasmus and Elemine had nine children: Andrew, James, Anna, Rosa, Ellen, Mable, Frank, Albert, and Christina.¹⁰

Rasmus operated a dairy consisting of Roan Durham milk cows.¹¹ The Black Hills were ideal for dairy production because the landscape provided grazing room, the cool running creeks stayed the right temperature, and the water was free of deleterious materials which would inhibit the working of butter.¹² Walter Jenney reported in his 1880 "Report on the Geology and Resources of the Black Hills of Dakota" that miners in 1874-76 reported good grass – even in winter when snow had to be shoveled off it – and that the Black Hills were well adapted for dairying.¹³ Also, there was a ready market for butter, cream, and milk in the neighboring mining camps in the Black Hills. Each Friday – rain or shine – Rasmus would load his butter boxes into the spring wagon and head for Deadwood to sell butter.¹⁴ One of the children would go with him to hold

⁵ Virginia Hanson, Genealogist, South Dakota State Historical Society. Personal Correspondence 10 November 2013.

⁶ www.glorerecords.blm.gov Accessed 15 November 2013.

⁷ Hanson, Personal Correspondence 10 November 2013.

⁸ Hanson, Personal Correspondence 15 November 2013.

⁹ Kim Ridley, Personal Correspondence 10 July 2013.

¹⁰ Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. *Thirteenth Census of the United States – 1910*. South Dakota, Lawrence County, School District 50, District 0036.

¹¹ Ridley, Personal Correspondence 10 July 2013.

¹² Kajia Swisher. "Supplying South Dakota Cream." *BHPioneer.com*. Posted 20 July 2012. Accessed 2 January 2014.

¹³ Walter Jenney and Harry Newton. *Report on the Geology and Resources of the Black Hills of Dakota*. (Washington: DC, Government Printing Office, 1880), 317-320.

¹⁴ Ridley, Personal Correspondence 10 July 2013.

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the horses at the many different stops along the way.¹⁵ The children who didn't go along stayed and helped with the milking and butter-making chores.¹⁶

Rasmus and Elemine moved to California in 1923.¹⁷ The two youngest boys, Frank (age 18) and Albert (age 16), took over operation of the ranch at this time.¹⁸ Frank married Vivian Rainville in 1926 and Albert married Grace Rainville in 1933.¹⁹ Frank and Vivian had one daughter, Roselyn.

Frank and Albert added sheep to the ranching operation in 1928.²⁰ Many ranchers were reluctant to add cattle during the 1920s due to depressed prices. Cattle that went for around \$54 a head in 1919 were closer to \$15 a head during the 1920s and 1930s.²¹ Frank and Albert mimicked that trend sticking to sheep and dairy cows. All grains for the milk cows were grown on the ranch including corn and oats. The creamery and dairy business started to decline in the Black Hills after 1945 due to centralization of production and modern technologies that changed the industry.²² In the mid-1940s, they sold the sheep and dairy cows and began raising beef cattle.²³ They started with Hereford and began raising Black Angus. They sold the steer calves and kept the heifer calves while they built up their herd numbers.²⁴ When their focus switched to beef cattle, the ranch's corn and oat fields were planted into alfalfa and grasses for hay.²⁵

Frank and Vivian's daughter Roselyn married Bat Ridley in 1950. They had a son, Andrew, in 1952. Andrew and his wife, Kim, took over operation of the ranch in 1981. Andrew was the fourth-generation on the ranch his great-grandfather Rasmus' homestead. Andrew passed away in 2012.

The Settlement Era of the Anderson Ranch: Early Black Hills Settlement and the Era of the Large Cattle Operators, 1876-1900. Excerpted from *The History of Agriculture in South Dakota: A Historic Context*

Non-native settlement in the Black Hills region of South Dakota can be attributed to the thirst for gold. While gold was discovered in 1874, even prior to that, gold discoveries in other parts of the West, including Pikes Peak Gold Rush in Colorado in 1858 and gold

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Bert Hall. *Roundup Years: Old Muddy to the Black Hills*. (Pierre: SD, State Publishing Co., 2000), 81.

²² Swisher, *BHpioneer.com*.

²³ Ridley, Personal Correspondence 10 July 2013.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid.

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discoveries in Montana, put indirect pressure on the West River region. Thousands of miners, merchants, and others swarmed the central plains of the American West, opening supply lines and demanding government protection from Native Americans whose territorial rights were increasingly violated. The Lakota, whose lands included all of the area west of the Missouri River in what would become South Dakota (as well as other neighboring states) under the terms of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie, defended their lands with vehemence. In 1874, the federal government sent the Custer Expedition into the reservation with the intention of locating a military post there. But there was another motive as well: on the heels of the Panic of 1873, investors believed that more gold in circulation would alleviate the national recession, and so gold prospectors were allowed to accompany the expedition, already 1,000 men strong. On August 2, 1874, these prospectors discovered gold on French Creek in the Black Hills, and by the following summer more than 1,000 prospectors had invaded the area, mostly by way of the Cheyenne.²⁶

Along with towns and other mining settlement came the cattle herds, driven in from the neighboring territories like Wyoming and Nebraska to meet local demand for beef. In 1876, cattle could be purchased elsewhere for around \$15 a head, then sold to butchers in the Black Hills for upwards of \$100.²⁷

The U.S. government was unwilling and unable to control the settlement of the Black Hills which belonged to the Lakota. The Lakota did not want to give up their land. In response, Congress halted food and rations until the Lakota faced starvation. The Lakota conceded and signed the agreement.²⁸ The Sioux Agreement of 1877 opened the region surrounding the Black Hills to settlement, although most of the West River country was still part of the reservation. Although a few small ranches proceeded them, with the cessation of hostilities, cattle operators moved into the territory in earnest, coming from Wyoming, New Mexico, and Texas. This era of open range ranching in the Black Hills region saw large ranches sharing range with a few smaller family ranches that began to dot the grassy valleys in the area.²⁹

By the early 1880s, the area around the Black Hills was a well-stocked cattle range, with large herds owned by cattle companies that were oftentimes based elsewhere. As with other parts of the West, English and Scottish interests had substantial control over open range ranching, and were adept at procuring government contracts to supply the reservations. Other companies, locally owned and not, shipped beef from the Black Hills to eastern markets. Despite tension with cattlemen, who were unwilling to share

²⁶ Steely, Witt, Corbett, and Norton, 12.

²⁷ Ibid, 12-13.

²⁸ Ibid, 13.

²⁹ Ibid, 13.

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their range, some ranchers in the area of the Black Hills herded sheep, and sheep ranching took hold in the area in the mid-1880s.³⁰

Throughout the early and mid-1880s, the weather in Dakota cattle country was welcoming and mild, storms were not severe, and stock losses were few. The winter of 1886-1887, however, took on an entirely different character. Hard blizzards began in November, and continued almost until spring. Snow froze on the faces of cattle, blinding and stranding them. Smaller ranchers, who kept their cattle closer to the ranch headquarters and had fewer cattle to maintain, did not suffer the extensive losses suffered by the big operators, who were accustomed to overwintering their cattle unattended on the open range. With losses as high as 90 percent, and a poor calf crop the following spring, many of the larger operators were driven out of business. Stockmen learned the hard lesson that grass alone could not sustain herds through the winter, and hay would be needed to supplement. Smaller ranches recovered more quickly, and began to diversify breeds, importing Hereford and Angus cattle to the region.³¹

Homesteading Times of Rasmus Anderson

Rasmus Anderson homesteaded at a time when the open range was closing in the northern Black Hills as settlers took up claims on the land. Beginning in 1877, the Black Hills Meridian became one of the last tracts of land in the nation to be surveyed.³² Homesteaders, armed with the 1874 invention of barbed wire, began carving up the foothills surrounding the Black Hills engaging in limited farming, livestock raising, and dairying. The extension of the state's herd law in 1911 to the West River country – which required ranchers to put up fences to protect against stray cattle wandering off their land – further partitioned off the foothills region.³³ This agricultural development surrounding Spearfish in the northern Black Hills became the lifeblood of mining operations in the interior of the hills.

The most productive farms were small, seldom exceeding 100 acres in size.³⁴ The land was well-suited for a variety of agricultural practices, and was noted by George Baldwin in a review of Black Hills agriculture around the turn of the century that “to be an owner of 160 acres of land in any of the valleys of the Black Hills means the owner is independent for life.”³⁵ Settlers like Rasmus made good on Baldwin's assertion.

³⁰ Ibid, 13.

³¹ Ibid, 14.

³² Sarah Brey. Kudrna Homestead National Register Nomination Draft. 2014, 7.2.

³³ Herbert S. Schell. “Widening Horizons of the Turn of the Century: The Last Dakota Land Boom.” *South Dakota History*. (v2 1982), 109.

³⁴ Bob Lee. “It Started With a Mining Boom.” *Gold Rush: The Black Hills Story*. (Pierre: SD, South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 2001), 93.

³⁵ Ibid, 93.

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Rasmus's primary operation in the early years was dairying, though the homestead was diverse. Homesteads during the initial years of arrival followed a similar model in all regions and climates.³⁶ Varied activities, including raising milk cows, chickens, and pigs as well as breaking sod, sowing fields, planting gardens, and putting up hay, were all part of most homesteading activities. This pattern is reflected in some of the features still present in the ranch yard – hog house, gardens, well, etc.

Rasmus focused early on dairying, but practiced other agricultural pursuits to aid and compliment this activity. Food for the dairy cows – like alfalfa, corn, and oats – was planted in the fields surrounding the homestead. These crops were also used to feed chickens, hogs, and eventually sheep as the ranch diversified into the 1920s as the next generation took over.

Over the years the original homestead of 160 acres grew. Additional fields and pastures were added as money and land became available. It was not uncommon for other homesteaders to fail or give up and move on. When this occurred, neighbors purchased the land or had family, often a son or daughter, file a homestead claim on the land. This practice started during the settlement period and continued on through the 1930s, which was the last great movement of people off the land. Lots of land changed hands in the trying years of the 1920s and 1930s in South Dakota.

South Dakota's agricultural-economy crashed in the 1920s. The war years from 1914-1920 had given farmers and ranchers great incentives to expand. With Europe at war and not producing enough crops to feed itself, prices for commodities increased with the vast demand and farmers and ranchers made record profits. They used those profits and the credit they generated to buy more machinery and more land, often at inflated prices. Improvements in farm technology and cooperative weather allowed South Dakota farmers to produce higher yields than ever before. These high yields also fetched record prices because demand was so high.

When the war ended and European farmers began producing food again, the bubble burst. For example, in 1920 a bushel of wheat sold for \$2.96; by 1922 that number dropped to \$.92 because of a severe drop in demand. High prices and the government's encouragement during the war years to grow on the one-crop system further weakened farmers' power as the market continued to collapse. Adequate moisture allowed many farmers to hold on, but failures were eminent and continued into the 1930s.

The loss of some was often the gain of others. Those in a position to grow during hard times did, even if at slow rates. Coming out of the 1930s, another paradigm switch was occurring in western South Dakota. The era of subsistence homesteading was over

³⁶ Brey, 7.2.

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and only limited cultivation of the land was occurring. In the 1940s, cattle raising returned as the primary economic activity.

Cattle had dominated the open range before homesteading, but were curtailed as land was settled and wired off. Homesteads, even larger claims of 640 acres under expanded claim rules, were not enough to sustain a profitable herd in many areas of western South Dakota. After the economic troubles of the 1920s and 1930s, those who stayed were able to acquire more land as it was abandoned.

When settlers became tax delinquent or pulled up stakes and simply quit their land, neighbors often purchased that land. Or, they simply used it. Sections not purchased were incorporated into grazing practices. These lands often escaped oversight, as the government or outside speculators who owned it did not pay attention.³⁷ Grass was valuable, and cattle were routinely turned out into this free grass. Neighbors often cooperated with each other to take advantage of this and increase their economic standing. With more land, herds were increased and farming was further abandoned as small homesteads grew into ranches all across western South Dakota. It was through this trend that the descendants of Rasmus Anderson increased the ranch over the years.

The transitions of the Anderson Ranch represent the development of agriculture in the foothills region of the Black Hills. The ranch has remained in the same family for generations, another hallmark of a disappearing ranch culture in western South Dakota.

Architecture of the Anderson Ranch

The buildings in the ranch yard don't represent any particular architectural styles, but embody distinctive characteristics of the early settlement period of the Black Hills and foothills region. The buildings represent front-gable and side-gable forms predominant in the period. The use of sandstone, sawn and rough lumber, stucco, clapboard siding, etc. demonstrate a mixture of resources and construction methods that influenced the built environment during settlement. Homestead and settlement sites, when considered as a class of resources, are an increasingly rare property type. Time and modern agricultural practices have altered this class of resources greatly. The Anderson Ranch yard, and its individual buildings and structures, are great examples of the vernacular architecture of this period.

Most farm and ranch yards consist of tightly bunched buildings. They're spaced far enough apart to prevent the spread of fire, but close enough to reduce travel time when

³⁷ Brey, 7.1.

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moving between them.³⁸ Closeness of buildings also had other advantages, like convenience in colder climates and ease in deterring predators like wolves or coyotes.³⁹ Farm and ranch layouts were continually being improved through extension agents and university studies.

The Anderson Barn

Rasmus Anderson was an accomplished carpenter, stonemason, and blacksmith. He built everything on his ranch, including the barn. The barn took two years to build and was completed in 1902. It upgraded an earlier barn built nearby. The barn cost about \$1,450 in cash for wages and materials that did not come off the ranch.⁴⁰ Rasmus kept a ledger book detailing construction expenses from 1901-02.

Rasmus led the crew that built the barn. The crew consisted of two men in the quarry cutting rock, one man hauling the rock with a four-horse team to the building site, three men laying rock and one man mixing the mortar.⁴¹ The sandstone foundation and walls were quarried on the ranch. Quarrying foundation stone, excavating, leveling ground and hauling stone to the building site were laborious and time-consuming tasks.⁴² When the crew wasn't working on the barn, they stayed at the ranch and did chores for room, board and tobacco.⁴³ The crew wasn't paid wages if they weren't building the barn.⁴⁴

The wood for the Anderson Barn was cut from the nearby hills on the ranch. Ponderosa pine was the most sought after wood in the Black Hills and was used widely for support poles, beams, and also sawn for balloon-framing. Boards milled from Ponderosa pine and Black Hills spruce were often preferred over other woods in the West River country because they were naturally resistant to warping and did not require as much drying as yellow pine or fir.⁴⁵ However, lodgepole pine, timber pine and western red cedar were also valuable lumber trees in the Black Hills.⁴⁶

General Characteristics and Significance of the Anderson Barn

³⁸ Susan Granger and Scott Kelly. *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-1960s*. (Minnesota Department of Transportation, 2005), 6.175.

³⁹ Ibid, 6.175.

⁴⁰ Ridley, Personal Correspondence 10 July 2013.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Robert Vogel. *Common Farm Barns of South Dakota, 1857-1958*. (Pierre: SD, South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, 2007), E-22.

⁴³ Ridley, Personal Correspondence 10 July 2013.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Vogel, E-20.

⁴⁶ Edward Patrick Hogan and Erin Hogan Fouberry. *The Geography of South Dakota*. (Sioux Falls: SD, The Center for Western Studies, 1998), 50.

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No other rural man-made structures are more distinct than the great barns of the American countryside.⁴⁷ It's also true that not all barns conform to a type, especially for barns erected by immigrants.⁴⁸ As immigrants moved to new countries and communities, they took their designs and traditions with them. These designs often resulted in traditional templates that were adapted to the conditions and agricultural tendencies of the new area.⁴⁹ The various barn designs in an area indicated not only its ethnic tendencies, but also types of agriculture practiced in the region.⁵⁰ Because a geographic area typically produces the same types of crop and livestock, similar barns are constructed within that area and are modified, abandoned or razed when agricultural habits change.⁵¹

A Danish immigrant built the Anderson barn. It is most closely associated - by type - with Western Feeder barns. The use of native sandstone is atypical, but the otherwise short sidewalls, rectilinear footprint, one-and-a-half story height, broad low-pitched gable roof with a broken gable on one side and plank-framed core area are all typical elements of a Western Feeder barn as identified in the *Common Farm Barns of South Dakota, 1857-1958*.

The typical feeder barn has a central storage space for hay and feed that is usually about 24 feet wide; with the side feeding sheds, the barn is usually between 48 and 60 feet wide. The foremost authority on Iowa farm barns has identified three distinct sub-types of "beef cattle feeder barns" in that state: an early, broad, gabled-roof form; a three-bay "extended gable" variant dating from the 1890s; and a monitor gable roof form that was popular between 1900-1920.⁵² The main floors of these barns are sometimes partitioned off with separate rooms for storing grain, farm machinery space, horse stalls, cattle pens, feed rooms, and wagon sheds.⁵³

The Western Feeder Barn was built to "finish" beef cattle or sheep on hay, grain, and other rations after they had grown to maturity – in some parts of the state, especially the West River region, it also functioned as a dairy barn. In the nineteenth century, West River livestock ranchers fattened their beef cattle and sheep on grass and sold them directly to the packers, so they had little need for cattle barns. At the turn of the century, feeder barns were built primarily in the East River counties where large numbers of western livestock were "finished" before slaughter. The feeder barn was also well

⁴⁷ Allen G. Noble and Hubert G.H. Wilhelm. *Barns of the Midwest*. (Athens: OH, Ohio University Press, 1995), 1.

⁴⁸ Ibid, 15.

⁴⁹ Drake, 105.

⁵⁰ Drake, 105.

⁵¹John Fraser Hart. "Barns of the Midwest." *Geographical Review*, (April 1996), 296-298. 296.

⁵² Vogel, F-45.

⁵³ Vogel, F-45.

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suited to the West River country, where a number were built in the 1920s and 1930s when some of the large cattle outfits began to feed out their breeding stock over the winter months and desired shelter for valuable saddle and draft horses.⁵⁴

Barn writers have argued with authority that German-Americans created the traditional, multi-level, wood-framed American farm barn, so it is perhaps not surprising that they also credit the Western Feeder Barn to Teutonic folk architecture, along with the inevitable blending of Dutch and English elements. In its South Dakota context, the Western Feeder Barn is an architectural carry-over from the Corn Belt, where large numbers were built; the same basic form is built throughout the Great Plains and the Intermountain West. The plans for beef cattle barns illustrated in nineteenth-century plan books do not appear substantially different in form and structure from conventional farm barns. The Western Feeder Barn was widely promoted by agricultural extension in the early twentieth century. Farmers generally liked its strong lines and broad expanse of roof. Its chief advantage over other common farm barn forms was its commodious stable and large hayloft, which provided handling room and feed for a larger number of animals than could be accommodated in any of the standard general-purpose barns.

Other Characteristics of the Anderson Barn

Starting at the top, the barn has a wooden cupola centered on the ridgeline of the gable roof. The cupola serves as both a lantern and ventilator.⁵⁵ The cupola functions as a chimney of sorts, drawing warm air upwards from the stable through flues or holes cut in the haymow floor, then venting it through the roof.⁵⁶ Although the cupola serves an important function by cooling the barn, it can also be an expression of beauty. Wooden cupolas were historically built in a variety of shapes and sizes, with louvered walls and gabled, cross-gabled, or gambrel roofs.⁵⁷ The cupola on the Anderson barn matches the architecture of the rest of the barn while adding an aesthetic and functional component.

The doors and windows on the Anderson Barn are typical. Because windows were important both for light and ventilation, several openings were incorporated into the sidewalls. The lack of windows on the northwest facing gable end is common for this area given that most severe storms approach from this direction (there are also no windows on the northwest facing elevations of the house and shop). The window openings on the south side have no glass and are right below the roofline to allow maximum ventilation from the animal pens. Windows on the north side are four-pane fixed windows whose primary purpose was to let light in and keep rain out.

⁵⁴ Vogel, F-45.

⁵⁵ Eric Arthur and Dudley Witney. *The Barn: A Vanishing Landmark in North America*. (Ontario: Canada, MF Feterley Arts Press, 1972), 234.

⁵⁶ Vogel, E-37.

⁵⁷ Vogel, E-37.

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Stables

The stables in the Anderson Barn are typical and remain intact. The stables are the main production, processing and storage component of a barn and are usually located on the lowest level. The basic requirements for stables are that they be strongly built, durable and keep the animals contained and dry.⁵⁸

Floor plans for stables varied greatly. Small-scale early barn stables were often a single room. In contrast, large-scale livestock barns provide two or more rows of stalls separated by feeding passages with specialized rooms for processing, storage, and equipment.⁵⁹ The Anderson Barn has two rows of stables with a feeding passage that are located in the southern one-third of the barn.

By the end of the nineteenth century, it was common to stable cattle and horses in box stalls, usually on opposing sides of the barn. Many older general-purpose barns have only one aisle as well as cross alleys anywhere from four to eight feet wide.⁶⁰ Although interior walls of the stables in most general-purpose barns were left unfinished, stables for horses or sheep were sometimes rendered snug and warm by a double thickness of boards, creating a dead space between the interior and exterior walls that could be packed with straw for insulation.⁶¹

Nineteenth-century barns were notorious for their poorly ventilated stables, many of which were veritable dungeons.⁶² Loose-fitting windows and doors and cracks in the siding allowed a certain amount of fresh air, but many stables were left damp and foul-smelling.⁶³ Multiple windows and other ventilation systems were used to improve the health and safety of the animals stabled in large barns.

Hay Loft

The Anderson Barn's hayloft is L-shaped, which is not that common. However, it was constructed that way because the livestock and horse stable form an L-shape on the main level. The loft area in the Anderson Barn is on the south and east sides.

Multi-level farm barns usually have sturdy wood floors, often of quarter-sawn oak or hard pine boards.⁶⁴ The Anderson Barn uses a combination of sawn lumber which

⁵⁸ Vogel, E-33.

⁵⁹ Ibid, E-33.

⁶⁰ Ibid, E-33.

⁶¹ Ibid, E-33.

⁶² Ibid, E-33.

⁶³ Ibid, E-33.

⁶⁴ Ibid, E-34.

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rests on log joists. Hay was brought into the loft through the hay door in the gable (now infilled) and also through the alley on the north side of the barn.

Overhead tracks and carriers for moving hay and straw are typically found in barns built after 1900, but they were also retrofitted into older barns.⁶⁵ This made it easier to put up hay for winter. When the hay was needed for feed in the stables, it was thrown down the chutes. Both hay and grain were stored in the loft and farmers eventually began building lofts big enough to store 50-100 tons of roughage.⁶⁶ The need for more space eventually led to the adoption of the gambrel roof form and framing systems that eliminated the need for interior posts.

Robert Vogel described the function of the hay loft in *Common Farm Barns of South Dakota, 1857-1958* as:

“The primary objective in hay-making is to dry the green plants (which may be alfalfa, clover, prairie grass, or oat hay) sufficiently so that the hay can be stored safely without heating or becoming moldy. Nineteenth-century homesteaders often cut and stacked their hay by hand with sickles and scythes, although horse-drawn mowers, rakes, loaders, and stackers were available by the 1870s. The labor-saving hay fork and hay carrier were in wide use throughout the north-central states by the early 1900s. Although green hay cures rapidly in the swath, it was usually raked into windrows or stacked in large conical hay cocks to cure. After the hay cured, it was gathered up and loaded into specially-built wagons, called *hay ricks*, for transport to the barn. If it was not stacked in the field, hay was hauled from the windrow using a buck rake, generally regarded as the most efficient method of handling hay until the introduction of the pick-up hay baler in the 1940s. Fully automatic, one-man hay balers were not widely seen in South Dakota until after the Second World War, when some farmers also began using field choppers, which allowed them to produce large amounts of loose hay that was more convenient to feed to livestock and took up less space than baled hay. The traditional small rectangular hay bale was bound with sisal twine and weighed about seventy pounds.”⁶⁷

“Before the modern farming era, the transfer from hay rick to haymow was usually made inside the barn, where the loose hay was lifted up into the haymow using a hay sling or grapple fork. Baled hay became common in the late nineteenth century with the adoption of the stationary hay baler or hay press, and several models of horse-powered hay forks and hay stackers were available for loading and unloading baled hay. South Dakota farm barns built after 1880 were usually equipped with some form of the bale spear, pulley, and track system that hoisted baled hay into the barn loft through a large door in the gable-end. Once the hay had been placed in the mow, it caused more worry, anxiety, and

⁶⁵ Ibid, E-34.

⁶⁶ Ibid, E-34.

⁶⁷ Ibid, E-34.

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disappointment than any other crop. No matter what method is used in handling and storing the hay, the farmer needed to carefully judge how to arrange the mow so that the various kinds and qualities of hay are available when needed. For example, late-cut hay, which is put in the barn last, is usually of a poorer quality than early-cut hay. Hay is also very sensitive to weather conditions at the time of harvest; hay that is too dry has lower nutritional value, but if it is stored too wet it can quickly become rotten or moldy. The most serious hazard associated with hay storage is fire caused by spontaneous combustion in the haymow. If the moisture content of the hay is too high when it is put in the mow, rapid fermentation can occur in which a large amount of heat is produced within the mass. If the mass of hay becomes hot enough, it will smolder or burst into flames, often with catastrophic results. Various steps are taken to prevent haymow fires. To allow better air-flow in the pile of hay bales, farmers will usually stack the bales on-edge in crisscross fashion in order to leave small spaces between the layers of bales. In the nineteenth century, farm advice books recommended building barns with over-sized haymow doors or leaving small gaps between the boards in the gable-wall siding to provide air flow.⁶⁸

Sawmill/Blacksmith Shop

The sawmill and blacksmith shop (1904) are typical for outbuildings of this period. It is balloon-framed with horizontal boards nailed to the frame and covered with tongue-and-groove siding. This was the most common siding option used by South Dakota farmers, though some used board-and-batten siding.⁶⁹

Workshops were a common feature of the agricultural landscape.⁷⁰ They were necessary because most farmers and ranchers were constantly repairing and maintaining their equipment.⁷¹ There were many systems to maintain on a ranch – water, sewage, power, heating – all of which required regular maintenance and tools. A shop was viewed as an investment that eventually paid for itself and profited the operation.⁷²

Shops were built to be well-lit and comfortable. They were also built to be large enough to handle whatever a rancher may be working on.⁷³ Common shop equipment included a forge and anvil, benches, grinders, drill press and full array of hand tools.⁷⁴

⁶⁸ Ibid, E-34

⁶⁹ Ibid, E-35.

⁷⁰ *Outbuildings and Other Domestic Resources*, 172.

⁷¹ Susan Granger and Scott Kelly. *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-1960s*. (Minnesota Department of Transportation, 2005), 6.137.

⁷² Ibid, 6.137.

⁷³ Ibid, 6.137.

⁷⁴ Ibid, 6.139.

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Sawmills were also valuable on the ranch. By the 1880s, the small sawmill had become a reality thanks to steam-traction engines, which provided a manageable power source.⁷⁵ Sawmill technology was advertised in farm-related publications encouraging farmers to also become lumbermen.⁷⁶

The shop is painted the characteristic red of barns and outbuildings. Red paint has been popular since thrifty New Englanders first started painting farm buildings. Red paint's primary component is ferrous oxide (rust) – which was plentiful and cheap. Some also say Scandinavians used red paint to simulate brick, which they considered a sign of wealth.⁷⁷ Well-built and well-maintained outbuildings were also seen as a reflection of the owner's pride and prosperity.⁷⁸

Hog House

The hog house is once again atypical, but not uncommon for the area. Given the availability of local sandstone, additional outbuildings on the surrounding ranches incorporated this durable and available building material. Of course, local timber was also incorporated in its construction.

From its appearance, the substantial looking structure appears like a small dwelling. However, the lack of windows on some elevations and its location 300 feet from the farmstead confirm that it was designed and located to house hogs. Hog houses were commonly located away from the primary industry on the farm and the house due to the smell. Progressive farm ideologies recommended a hog house be located at least 200 feet from the main core of farm buildings.⁷⁹

Hog houses were typically better ventilated. Ventilation openings in the roof may have been covered with metal over the years, after its use as a hog house subsided.

House

The house is an amalgamation of the original home and two additions. This is not uncommon as dwellings were frequently expanded as family size and space needs increased. The original 1884 house was one to one-and-a-half stories with a front gable. In 1903, a side-gable two-story house was constructed adjacent to the 1884 house and connected. In 1947, an addition was added to the east side of the 1884 house; this addition and the 1884 house were incorporated under one gable roof. Stucco was also applied to all portions of the house around this period.

⁷⁵ C.H. Wendel. *Encyclopedia of American Farm Implements and Antiques*. (Iola: WI, Krause Publications, 2004), 375.

⁷⁶ Ibid, 375.

⁷⁷ Sara Begg. "Why Are Barns Red?" *Country Journal*. (March/April 2000), 10.

⁷⁸ Barbara Klein. "Barns of Western Pennsylvania: Vernacular to Spectacular." *Carnegie*. (Spring 2006), 34.

⁷⁹ Steely, 38.

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It was common for houses to be built incrementally with multiple additions. Frugality and necessity dictated how and when houses were expanded.⁸⁰ Less money was often spent on the house, leaving more money to improve the barn and outbuildings. The old adage “the house doesn’t pay for the barn” reflected farmers’ and ranchers’ predisposition to plow their money back into the land.⁸¹ Plain exteriors were also coupled with reserved interiors. Farmhouses also served as workspaces – with areas used for preserving food, feeding work crews, drying seeds, bottle-feeding lambs, and other farm chores.⁸²

Electric Pole

Water, wind, and gasoline were the first generators of electricity in rural areas.⁸³ The Rural Electric Association began during the Depression and soon began electrifying farms. By 1950, South Dakota still only ranked 47th in the nation for rural electrification, though it increased steadily from that point forward.⁸⁴

Starting around 1900, rural electrification began influencing farm layout. Typically, a farm or ranch’s main electrical service line entered from the nearest public road to a pole-mounted transformer and main-line switch.⁸⁵ Poles were recommended to be centrally located to keep secondary distribution lines as short as possible.⁸⁶ Poles were specified to be 20’ tall and strung with eight to 12 gauge wire.⁸⁷

Meat House

Meat houses were built to prevent the spoilage of meat and vegetables in rural areas. The term “meat house” refers to buildings that may be used to salt or smoke meat for preservation.⁸⁸ They were typically located near the back of the house, close to the cellar and kitchen.⁸⁹ Meat houses were used to preserve and store leftover meat after slaughter.

Windmill and tank

European style windmills, with their large blades and broad bases, have been in use since the Colonial times. The familiar “American” style windmill, with a turbine, wheel mounted on a tall, lightweight tower and governor to regulate the wheel speed, was

⁸⁰ Granger and Kelly, 6.144.

⁸¹ Ibid, 6.143-6.144.

⁸² Ibid, 6.145.

⁸³ Ibid, 6.503.

⁸⁴ Ibid, 45.

⁸⁵ Ibid, 6.503.

⁸⁶ Ibid, 6.503.

⁸⁷ Ibid, 6.503.

⁸⁸ *Outbuildings and Other Domestic Resources*, 165.

⁸⁹ Ibid, 166.

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invented in New England in the 1850s.⁹⁰ While the original European style was intended to crush grain, the American version was designed to pump water and produce electricity.⁹¹

There were two basic types of American-style windmills. The sectional wheel had adjustable sections or blades, which folded inward as wind speed increased to protect the wheel and gears from damage.⁹² Solid wheels did not fold, but were instead governed by a side vane that turned the wheel out of the wind when velocity grew too great.⁹³

In 1912, “self-oiling” steel windmills with enclosed gears were developed. This signaled the end of both wooden and open-gear steel windmills, neither of which were produced after World War II.⁹⁴ By 1930, the Aerometer Company out of Chicago was the most popular brand of American windmills.⁹⁵ Many other companies also manufactured windmills.

The primary components on the windmill are the staves, or blades, which are mounted on the derrick to catch wind and convert it to electricity or mechanical energy. Early windmills on the Great Plains were used to pump water for both domestic and agricultural use.⁹⁶ Windmills used for watering livestock can be found in pastures and not necessarily by structures.⁹⁷ The heyday for windmills was approximately 1880-1920.⁹⁸

Windmills used to pump water were set directly over driven or drilled wells.⁹⁹ The associated pumping equipment – such as stock tanks – were located next to the windmills. Stock tanks were made out of a variety of materials including wood, cements, tile, metal, and repurposed items like used tractor tires.

Well house

Well houses were simple structures, often wood, built to shelter a well or pump. They were typically located above or on higher ground than the barn or other contamination

⁹⁰ Granger and Kelly, 6.553.

⁹¹ Ibid, 6.553.

⁹² Ibid, 6.553-6.554.

⁹³ Ibid, 6.553-6.554.

⁹⁴ Ibid, 6.554.

⁹⁵ Ibid, 6.554.

⁹⁶ James Steely, Thomas Witt, Kathleen Corbett, and Holly Norton. *The History of Agriculture in South Dakota: A Historic Context*. (Pierre: SD, State Historic Preservation Office, 2013), 85.

⁹⁷ Ibid, 85.

⁹⁸ Ibid, 85.

⁹⁹ Granger and Kelly, 6.553

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sources.¹⁰⁰ University specialists recommended that privies be located 150 to 200 feet from the well.¹⁰¹ Ultimately, wells were located wherever water could be most easily and conveniently accessed.¹⁰²

Gardens

Vegetable gardens accompanied almost every homestead and were often necessary for survival. Almost every farm and ranch had a garden, and farmstead plans beginning in the 1890s almost always included gardens and orchards.¹⁰³ In the early years, gardens were frequently the responsibility of women and were often located near the house.¹⁰⁴

Garage

Garages were built separately on farms to help isolate the risk of fire because they stored flammable liquids. They were commonly located at the edge of a domestic yard. Garages were often altered or razed and rebuilt over the years as the size of trucks and machinery changed.

Integrity of the Anderson Ranch

The Anderson Ranch possesses great integrity. Most of the original buildings remain in the ranch yard and have been altered little over time. The barn and house retain their original wood shingles; the house, shop, barn, hog house, and well house all retain their original exterior cladding; and the orientation of buildings around the yard has not changed. Integrity of materials, design, and workmanship are present in the built environment.

Sandstone barns and outbuildings are found frequently in this region. However, many of these structures have seen diminished use over the years, which has led to physical deterioration. The sandstone buildings on the Anderson Ranch are in excellent condition and some of the best representatives in the area. The barn, in particular, is rare because of its large size. The only documented sandstone barns in this region similar to the Anderson barn are the National Register Listed Frawley Ranch barns and the Walsh Barn. All of these barns are in Lawrence County.

Finally, integrity of setting, feeling and association is high for this property. The ranch is nestled in the foothills and retains a view shed and landscape that has seen little encroachment. The combination of historic buildings and setting allow the Anderson Ranch to possess the required integrity for it to convey its architectural and homesteading significance.

¹⁰⁰ Ibid, 6.518.

¹⁰¹ Ibid, 6.518.

¹⁰² *Outbuildings and Other Domestic Resources*, 172.

¹⁰³ Ibid, 6.219.

¹⁰⁴ Ibid, 6.219.

Rasmus and Elemine Anderson Homestead
Ranch
Name of Property

Lawrence County, SD
County and State

Rasmus and Elemine Anderson Homestead
Ranch
Name of Property

Lawrence County, SD
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Rasmus and Elemine Anderson Homestead
Ranch

Name of Property

Lawrence County, SD

County and State

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Rasmus and Elemine Anderson Homestead
Ranch
Name of Property

Lawrence County, SD
County and State

Websites

www.glorerecords.blm.gov. Accessed 15 November 2013

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property approximately four acres

Rasmus and Elemine Anderson Homestead
Ranch
Name of Property

Lawrence County, SD
County and State

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 13 | Easting: 603607 | Northing: 4929462 |
| 2. Zone: 13 | Easting: 603680 | Northing: 4929467 |
| 3. Zone: 13 | Easting: 603700 | Northing: 4929312 |
| 4. Zone: 13 | Easting: 603659 | Northing: 4229304 |
| 5. Zone: 13 | Easting: 603583 | Northing: 4929374 |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary is denoted by UTM points – see map.

Rasmus and Elemine Anderson Homestead
Ranch

Name of Property

Lawrence County, SD

County and State

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary contains the area historically associated with the Anderson Ranch yard.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: CB Nelson

organization: SD SHPO

street & number: 900 Governors Drive

city or town: Pierre state: SD zip code: 57501

e-mail: chrisb.nelson@state.sd.us

telephone: 605-773-3458

date: 21 July 2014

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Rasmus and Elemine Anderson Homestead
Ranch

Name of Property

Lawrence County, SD

County and State

Photographs

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

Photo Log

Name of Property: Anderson Ranch

City or Vicinity: St. Onge vicinity

County: Lawrence

State: SD

Photographer: CB Nelson

Date Photographed: 1 May 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 15.

SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0001	W
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0002	NW
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0003	NE
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0004	SW
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0005	SE
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0006	W
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0007	N
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0008	NE
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0009	S
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0010	W
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0011	W
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0012	W
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0013	W
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0014	W
SD_LawrenceCounty_Anderson-RidleyRanch_0015	N

Rasmus and Elemine Anderson Homestead
Ranch

Name of Property

Lawrence County, SD

County and State

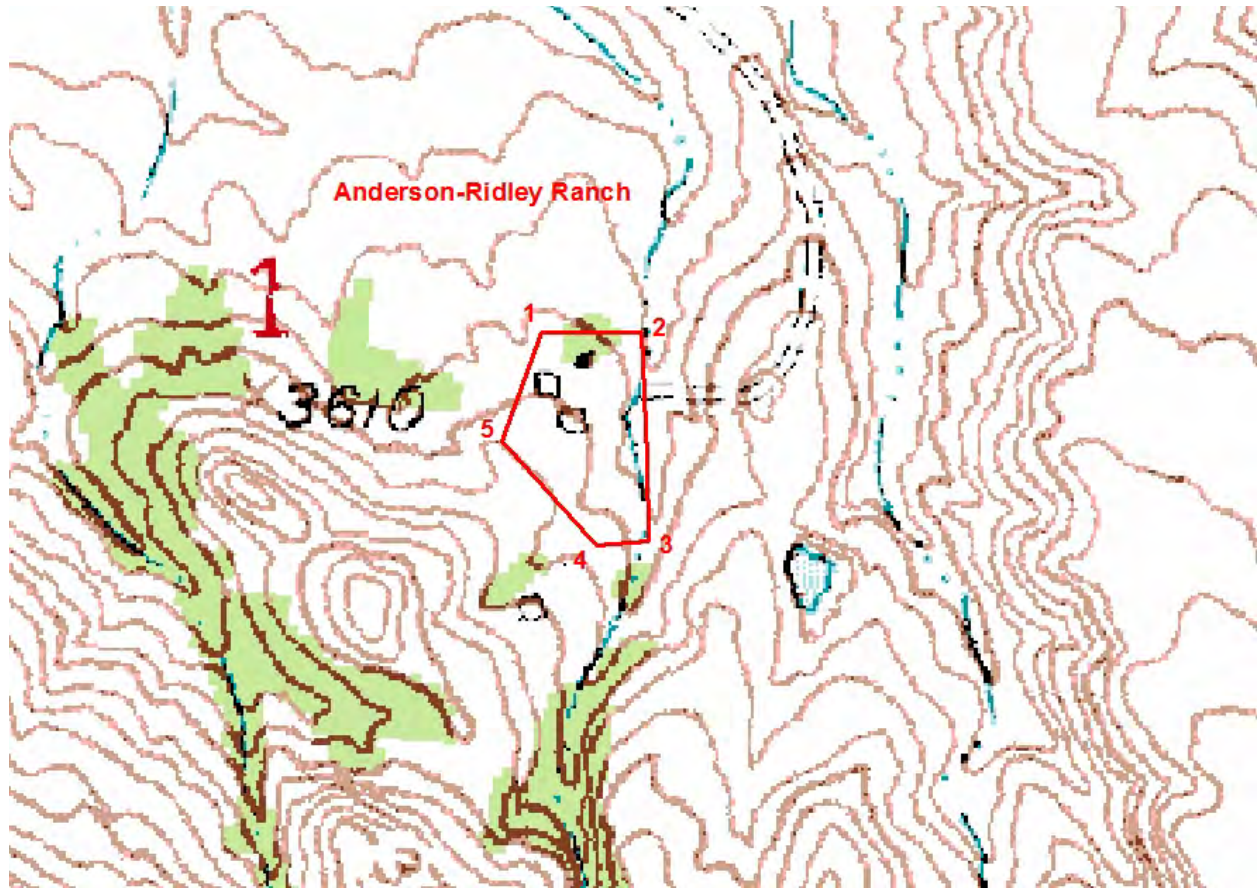
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1



SD_LawrenceCounty_RasmusandElemineAndersonHomesteadRanch: SW¼, NE¼, S1, T006N, R03W ;
UTM Z=13 1.E=603609 N=4929459 2.E=603681 N=4929462 3.E=603702 N=4929304 4.E=603658
N=4929298 5.E=603578 N=4929374. 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map, 1:24,000. Produced in ArcMap 10
June 2014.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 2



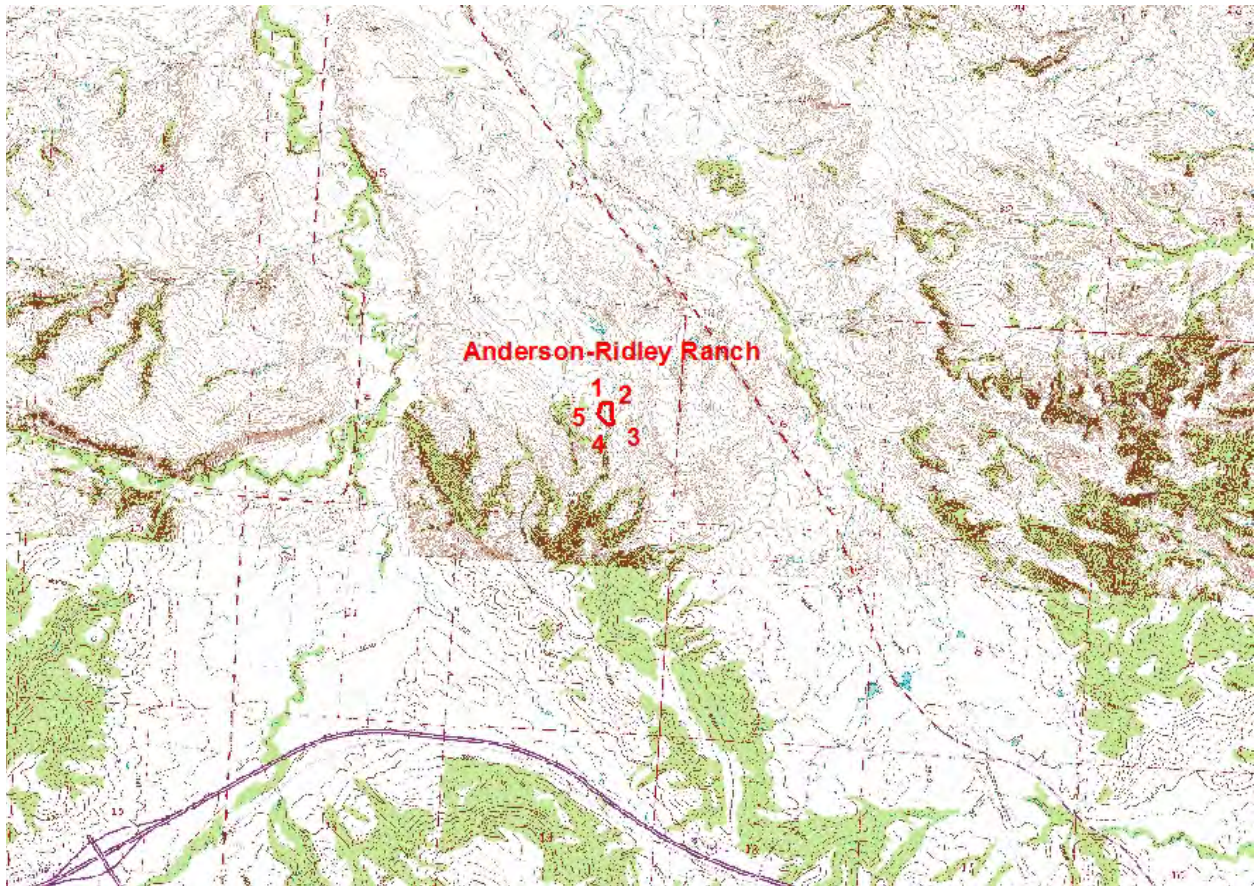
SD_LawrenceCounty_RasmusandElemineAndersonHomesteadRanch: SW¼, NE¼, S1, T006N, R03W ;
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N=4929298 5.E=603578 N=4929374. 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map, 1:24,000. Produced in ArcMap 10
June 2014.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10

Page 3

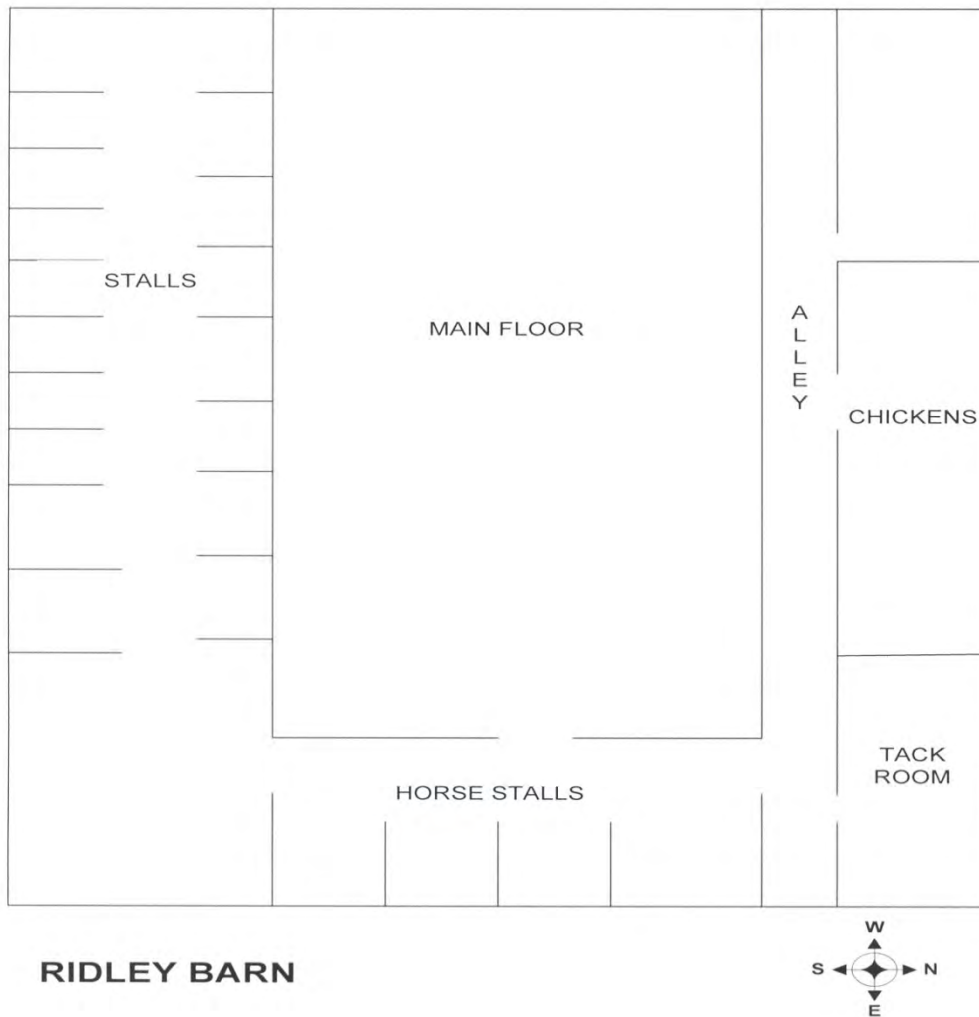


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UTM Z=13 1.E=603609 N=4929459 2.E=603681 N=4929462 3.E=603702 N=4929304 4.E=603658
N=4929298 5.E=603578 N=4929374. 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map, 1:24,000. Produced in ArcMap 10
June 2014.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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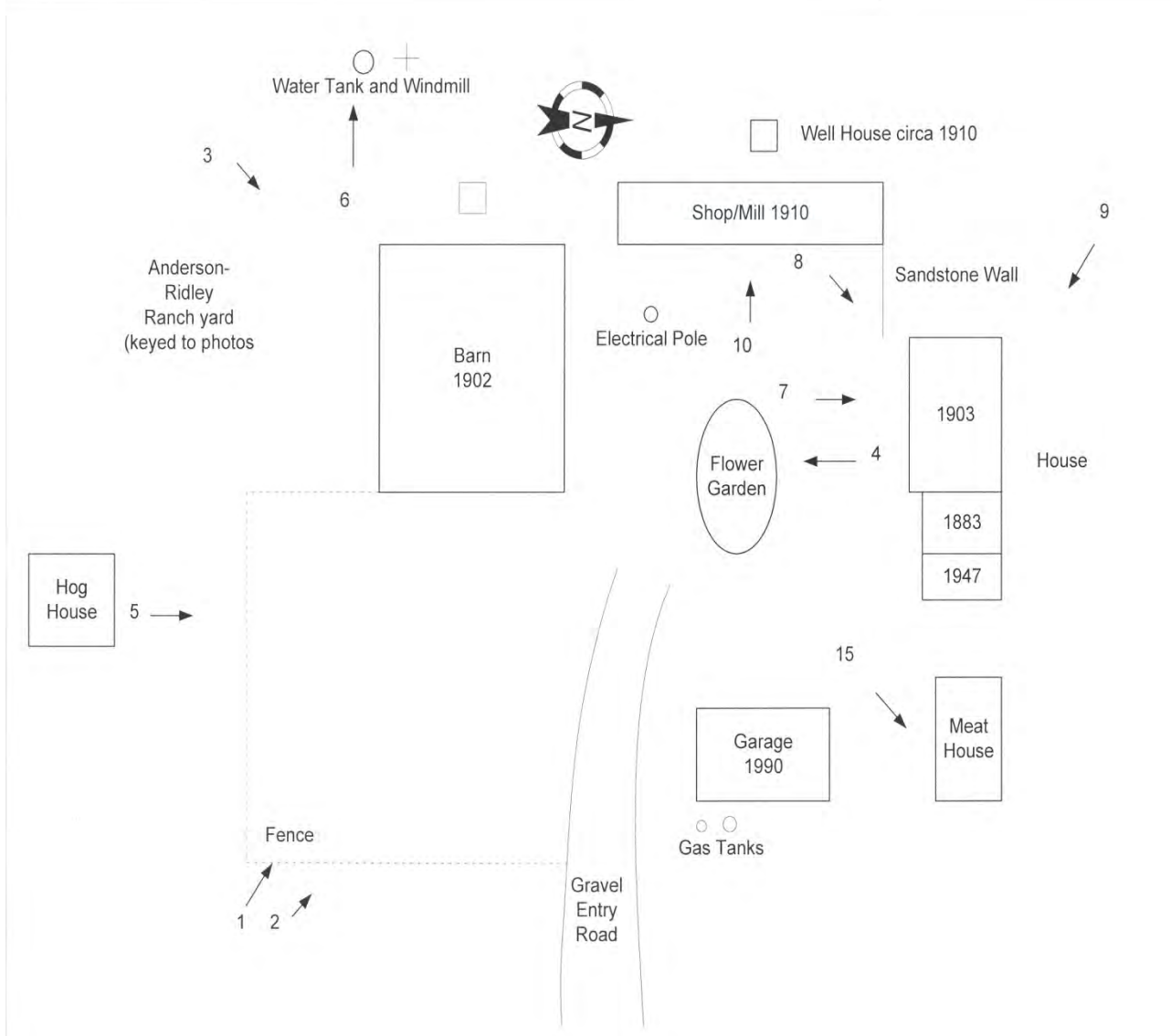


Barn first floor plan.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 5



Ranch Yard Sketch Keyed to Photos





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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Anderson, Rasmus and Elemine, Homestead Ranch

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: SOUTH DAKOTA, Lawrence

DATE RECEIVED: 12/05/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/05/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/20/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/21/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14001179

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA AIC
REVIEWER Rya Reed DISCIPLINE Historic
TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

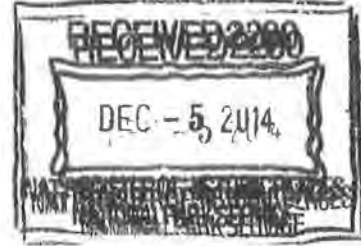
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



28 December 2013

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



Dear Keeper of the National Register:

Enclosed are six new National Register nominations and one multiple property submission with nine submissions. The nominations are *Josef and Marie Kudrna Homestead and Ranch*, *Ole Quamman House*, *Murdo State Bank*, *Frank and Sarah Drake Claim House*, and *Norbeck-Nicholson Carriage House* and *Rasmus and Elemine Anderson Homestead Ranch*. The multiple property submission is Concrete Interstate Tipis of South Dakota. The submission under the mpl are *Chamberlain Rest Stop Tipi*, *Spearfish Rest Stop Tipi*, *Salem Rest Stop Tipi – Westbound*, *Salem Rest Stop Tipi – Eastbound*, *Wasta Rest Stop Tipi – Eastbound*, *Wasta Rest Stop Tipi – Westbound*, *Valley Springs Rest Stop Tipi*, *New Effington Rest Stop Tipi*, and *Junction City Rest Stop Tipi*.

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

Sincerely,

Chris B. Nelson
Historic Preservation Specialist