

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Junker, Jens N. and Anna, Farmstead
other names/site number Jepsen, Johnie and Marge, Farmstead

2. Location

street & number Norway Township, Section 6 not for publication
city, town Meckling vicinity
state South Dakota code SD county Clay code SD 027 zip code 57044

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
		<u> </u>	<u> </u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 11/17/88
Signature of certifying official Date

SOUTH DAKOTA
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

[Signature] 12/20/88
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling
AGRICULTURE/Storage
AGRICULTURE/Animal Facility
AGRICULTURE/Agricultural Outbuilding

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling
AGRICULTURE/Storage
AGRICULTURE/Animal Facility
AGRICULTURE/Agricultural Outbuilding

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne
Other: Danish-American folk and vernacular
architecture

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone, concrete
walls Wood
roof Wood, metal, asphalt
other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
ETHNIC HERITAGE/EUROPEAN

Period of Significance

1898 - 1931

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 14 acres

UTM References

A

1	1	4	6	5	1	4	4	0	4	7	4	1	6	0	0
Zone	Easting			Northing											

B

1	1	4	6	5	1	2	1	0	4	7	4	1	6	0	0
Zone	Easting			Northing											

C

1	1	4	6	5	1	2	2	0	4	7	4	1	3	7	0
Zone	Easting			Northing											

D

1	1	4	6	5	1	4	5	0	4	7	4	1	3	8	0
Zone	Easting			Northing											

Quad.: St. Helena, Nebr./S. Dak.

Scale: 1:24000

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carolyn Torma, Historical Survey Coordinator

organization South Dakota Historical Preservation Center date Septmeber 6, 1988

street & number 3 East Main telephone 605-677-5314

city or town Vermillion state South Dakota zip code 57069

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The Jens N. and Anna Junker Farmstead is located in southeastern Clay County in the open prairie surrounding the Danish Trinity Lutheran Church. Situated 3 miles north of the Missouri River, the farmstead is on the north side of the section road and faces south. Arranged in a long rectangle, the farmyard is bisected by a long drive; the house is on the east side and the farm buildings on the west. The house and barn are located approximately 1/8 miles from the section road.

The farmstead consists of 2 buildings and 13 structures:

1. House: (contributing), c. 1906-7. The house is a 2-1/2 story frame structure composed of two, intersecting gable-roofed rectangular units. At the point of intersection is a Queen Anne, semi-octagonal tower. Other Queen Anne details include the projecting, rectangular bay window on the west facade, the irregular massing of the building, fishscale shingles in the 1/2 story gables, and a curving porch trimmed with spare classical revival details.

Resting on a quartzite foundation, the house is constructed of a stud wall or balloon frame system and is covered in horizontal board siding.

On the interior, the first floor is arranged in five, almost square, rooms and a small entryway located in the tower. The mantel in the main parlor is decorated with a painting on glass of the countryside executed by a Danish immigrant artist Oscar Clauson. Several of the painter's framed works, dating between the late 1940s and the early 1960s, hang on walls throughout the house. The woodwork is varnished in a dark oak color and is in a simple classical revival style.

The second floor contains evidence of a Danish-American immigrant tradition. Originally, the rooms were divided between the family's quarters and the farmhands' bedrooms. A separate stair led to the farmhands' quarters. This pattern is seen in other large Danish houses in the area. Originally completely separate living areas, a passageway was opened later between the two sections. The second floor contains six bedrooms.

The attic shows evidence of the original wiring and contains a large, gravity-feed water reservoir.

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2. Barn: (contributing), 1898. The barn is a Danish-American folk building and is one of 4 recorded Danish barns in the area. Several characteristics distinguish all of these barns including the Junker barn. The form consists of a long rectangular or T shape covered with a gable roof(s). The Junker barn is a rectangle measuring 93'9" by 26'10." Entrance to the barns is gained through gable-end entries and through a passageway located approximately 1/4 of the way back from the front (east) wall. Also characteristic of the Danish barns in South Dakota, the interior is divided into separate units for horses and cows. Horses were kept in the smaller front unit, and dairy cows were kept in the rear unit. As many as 16-20 milking stalls are generally found in these Danish barns. In the Junker barn, the stalls have been removed, but evidence of their location remains. In some of the area Danish barns (but not in the Junker barn), a drive-through separates the horse and cow sections. Characteristic of Danish barns, each stall is lit with a small window. The north axial wall has eleven windows, and the south wall has two doors and eleven windows.

The Junker barn is a modified version of the fully articulated Danish framing system, seen at the nearby Sylvester Fargo barn (Danish builder). It is suspected that one builder, Junker's neighbor Calle Nissen Johnsen, designed or erected all of the barns. If this is the case, Johnsen was equally adept at timber frame and brick masonry construction. The present owner has indicated that the lumber for this building, and possibly the house and granary too, was cut at a small saw mill once located on the farm site.

In contrast to the Fargo barn, the Junker barn uses a simpler Queen post truss system to support the roof. These posts rest on the loft floor and are in turn supported by large timber uprights in the ground floor. Unique to this barn is the use of wide, 15 1/2" diagonal boards for the wall skin.

The large loft over the ground floor is one open space used for hay and feed storage. A half wall creates a larger and taller loft than found in the other ethnic folk barns of the Finns, Czechs and German-Russians in South Dakota. Built of wood frame, the interior of the barn contains abundant evidence of the handmade gates, mortar joints and hardware used throughout the building.

Originally, the foundation of the barn was constructed of wood posts. In recent times a concrete and stone foundation was laid beneath the walls.

3. Loafing shed: (non-contributing) Wood frame construction, after 1936.

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4. Artesian well: (non-contributing), n.d., Poured concrete construction. An interesting feature of this small rectangular trough is a shower for cooling hogs.

5. Garage: (non-contributing), 1950s, Wood frame construction. The structure has a gable roof and gable-end entrance.

6. Chicken Coop: (contributing), c. 1920-1929, Wood frame construction. Rising from a concrete foundation and covered with a gable roof, this frame structure has a bank of windows under the eave along the south, axial wall. An off-center door is located on the east, gable-end facade.

7. Corncrib: (non-contributing), c. 1936-1941, The frame corncrib is a large structure with diagonal board walls. Typical of corncribs, wide interstices between the boards allow the the air to circulate and dry the corn. In the center of the gable roof is the head for the elevator, which is also covered with small gable roof. A shed roof extends off the west wall providing an open shaded area below. A concrete foundation supports the structure.

8. Farrowing house: (non-contributing), c. 1970s-1980s, metal, pre-fabricated.

9. Granary or drier: (non-contributing), c. 1970s-1980s, metal, pre-fabricated.

10. Granary: (contributing), c. 1890-1920, Wood frame construction. This large granary is one of several in the area. Although the form is not unique to the Danes, a nearly identical granary is found on the Richard Andre Farm (Danish builder). Covered with a gable roof, the granary has a prominent elevator shaft head rising above the roof. The interior is divided into two large storage areas with the elevator and sorting apparatus in the middle. Large, diagonal planks form the walls which are covered with a smaller exterior horizontal board siding. Similar to the Andre granary, this one on the Junker Farmstead is located near the section road some distance from the house and barn.

A shed roofed addition is attached to the north wall. The entire structure rests on a concrete foundation.

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11. Hog feeder: (non-contributing), n.d., Wood frame construction with metal roof.

12. Hog loafing shed: (non-contributing), n.d., Wood frame construction with metal roof.

13. Loafing shed: (non-contributing), n.d., Wood frame construction.

14. Garage: (contributing), c. 1920s, frame. Located between the house and the barn, the older garage appears to have been built in the 1920s. It retains its original hinged doors in the gable-end wall. The rectangular structure is covered in a gable roof and opens to the south. Covered in horizontal board siding, the structure rests on a concrete foundation.

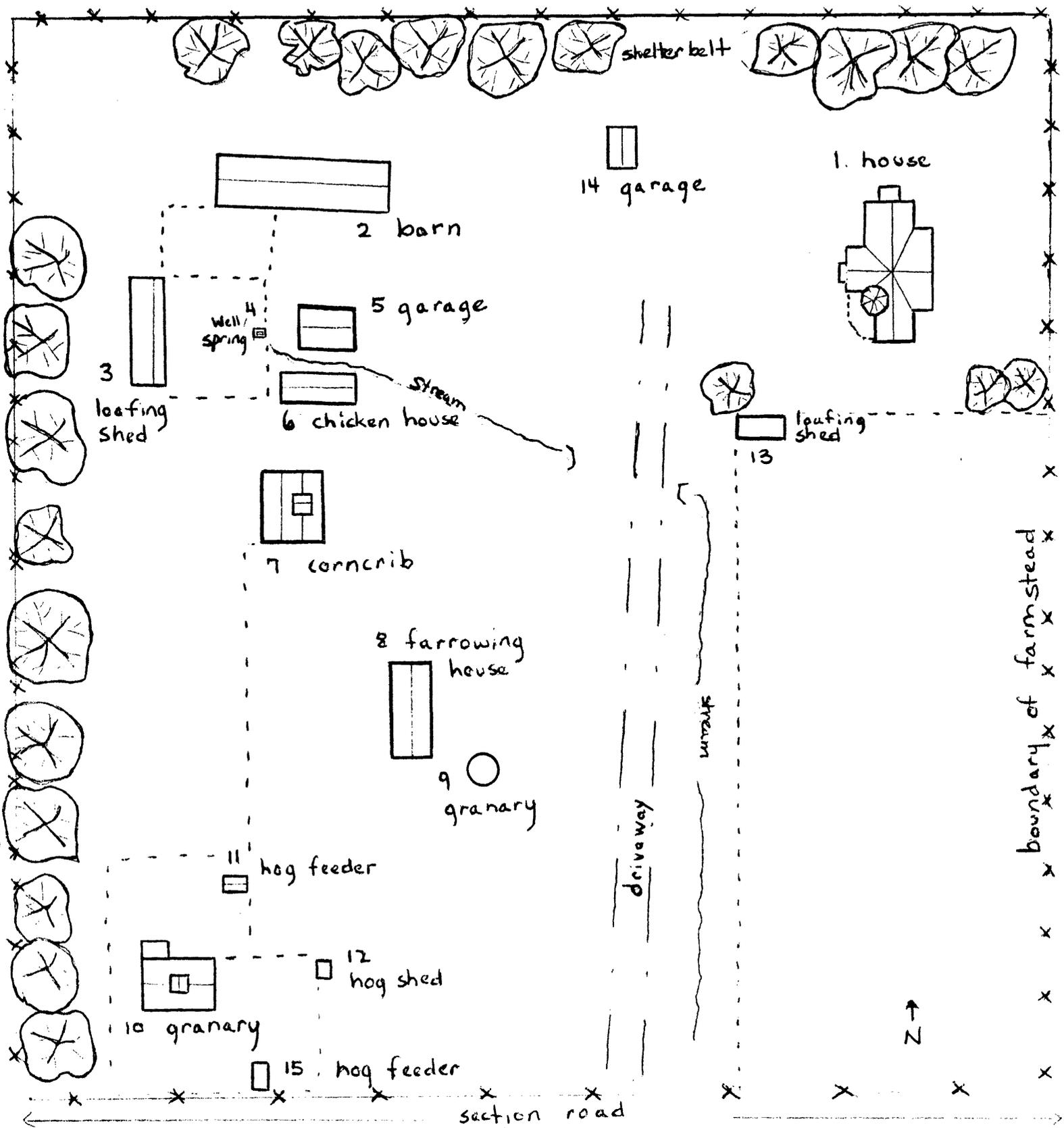
15. Hog feeder: (non-contributing), n.d., Wood frame construction with a metal roof.

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see reverse for sketch of site plan



shelter belt

14 garage

1. house

2 barn

5 garage

4 well/spring

3 loafing shed

6 chicken house

stream

13 loafing shed

7 corncrib

8 farrowing house

9 granary

11 hog feeder

10 granary

12 hog shed

15 hog feeder

driveway

stream

boundary of farmstead

section road

N ↑

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see reverse for sketch of site plan with photo numbers

NUMBERS ENCLOSED IN CILCLES INDICATE PHOTO NUMBER AND DIRECTION CAMERA FACING

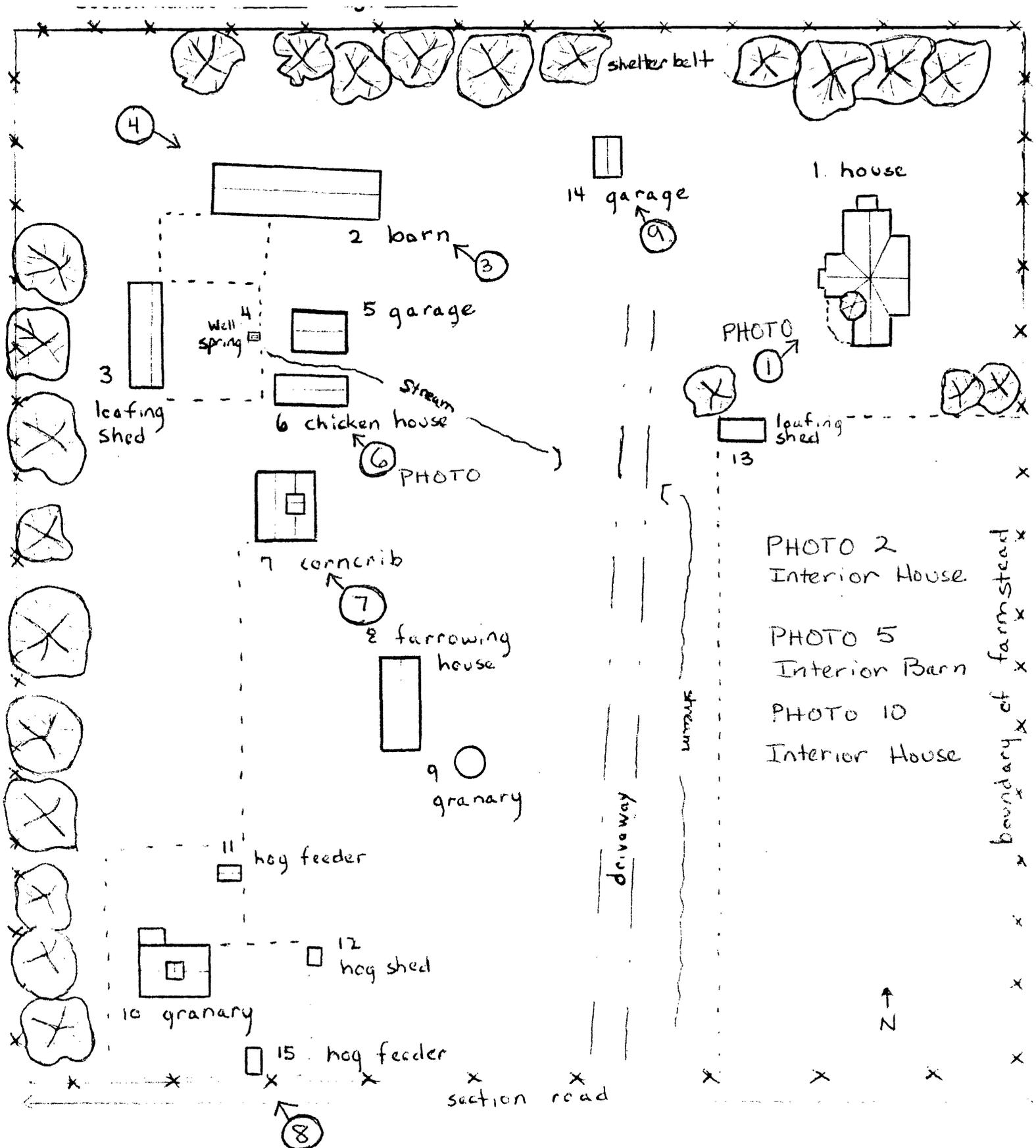


PHOTO 2
Interior House

PHOTO 5
Interior Barn

PHOTO 10
Interior House

boundary of farmstead

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Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Norway Township
Clay County, South Dakota

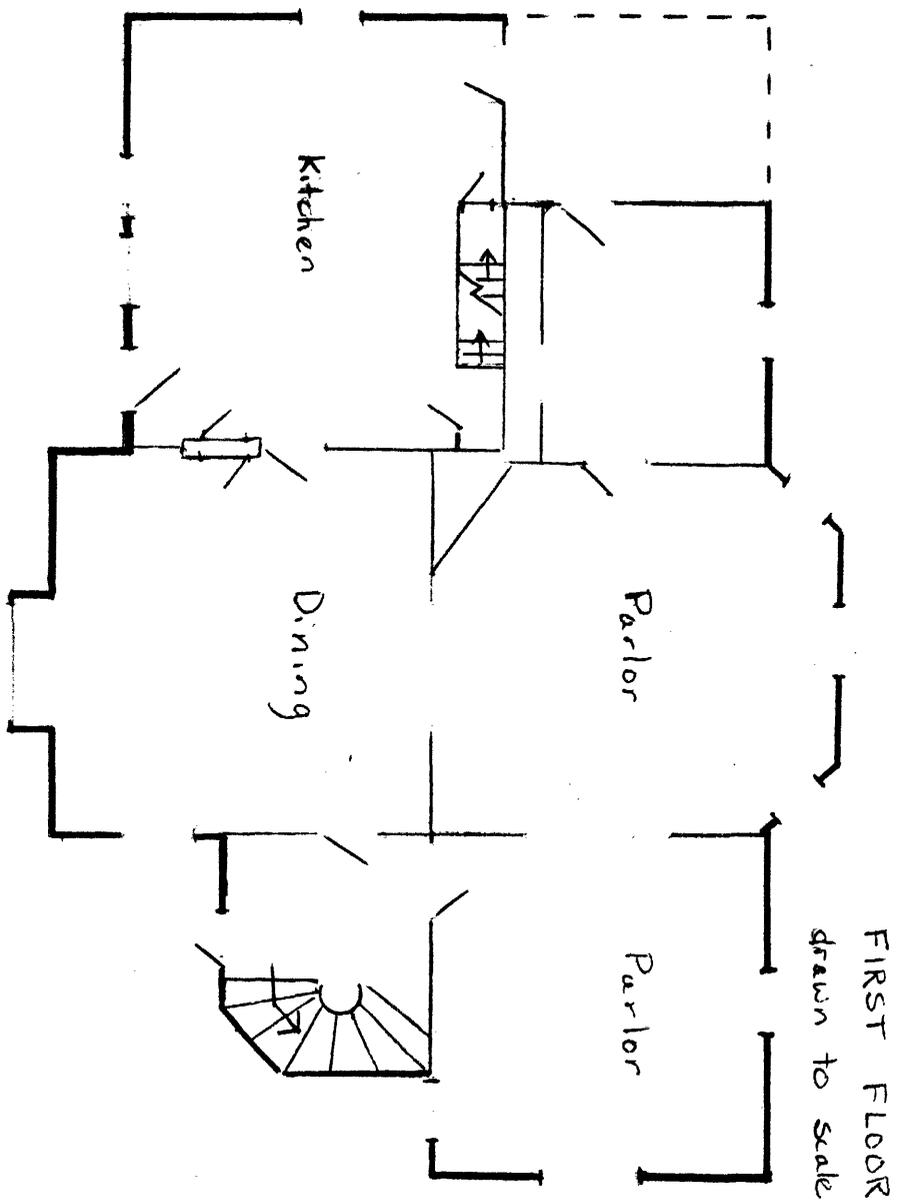
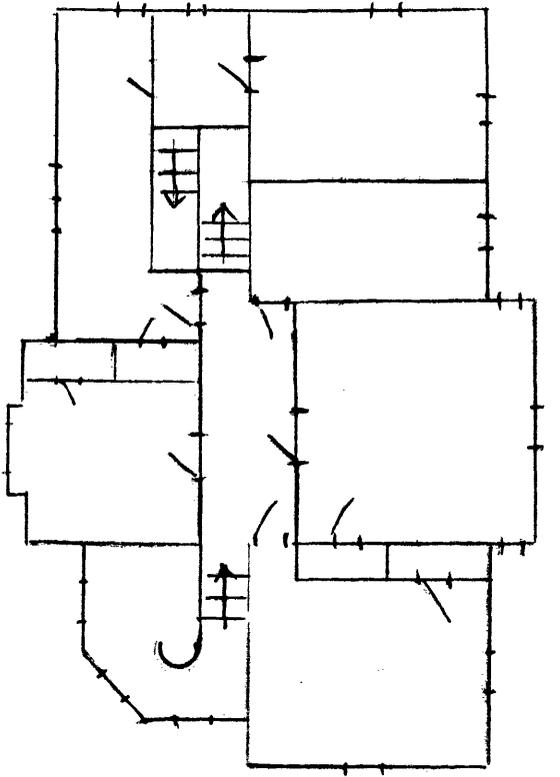
Measured Drawing of House Plan

(see reverse side)

Scale 1" = 4' 6"

JENS & ANNA JUNKER HOUSE
CLAY COUNTY, SD
c 1905 - 1907

SECOND FLOOR
Sketch



Clay County 2/18/08

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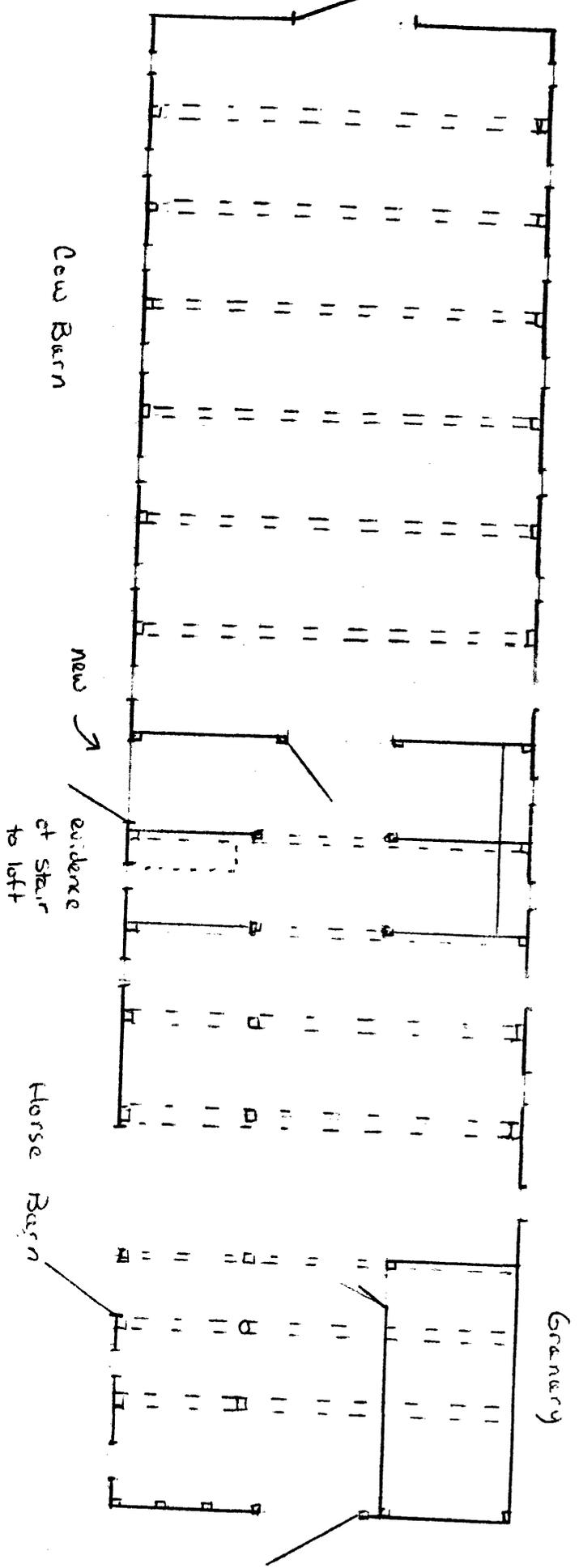
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Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Norway Township
Clay County, South Dakota

Measured Floor Plan of Barn

(see reverse side)




 2' 4' 6' 8' 10'
 Scale

JENS I ANNA JUNKER BARN
 Clay Co, SD
 c 1898

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Under Criteria A and C of the National Register Criteria, the Jens N. and Anna Junker Farmstead is significant in the areas of Ethnic Heritage/European and Architecture, because of its association with both Danish immigrant history in Clay County and Danish-American folk and vernacular architecture. The site represents the transplanting of European building traditions and the adaptation of new American forms by these Danish newcomers. Further, the site illustrates the history of the earliest wave of Danish settlement in the State of the South Dakota. Under the South Dakota State Preservation Plan the nominated property relates to the historic context labeled: IV. Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement, B.4. Ethnic Enclaves/Danes.

This nomination is based on information gathered during an ongoing statewide survey of Danish-American architecture in South Dakota.

Criterion A. Broad Patterns of History.

The area surrounding the Danish Trinity Lutheran Church in rural Clay County is one of the earliest settlements of Danes in South Dakota and the one settlement which has the most visually distinctive Danish immigrant character. The Trinity settlement started in 1869 and was spearheaded by master builder, Calle Nissen Johnsen and his family, who settled just to the north of the Junkers.

Between 1869 and the 1920s a Danish settlement grew around Johnsen's farm. Most of the settlers were Lutheran and at first joined their Norwegian neighbors in worship at the Bergen Lutheran Church. This building is located to the east and outside the Danish settlement area. In 1893 the Danes built their own church, Trinity, in the center of the settlement. Today the church and cemetery are the focal point of the rural community. The Junkers were members of this church.

Approximately 300,000 Danes emigrated from Denmark by 1930. Many of the early South Dakota Danish immigrants came from the province of Schleswig and were prompted to leave when Germany took control of the area in 1864. Of the 300,000 immigrants, 5983 came to South Dakota by 1920. Among the European immigrants in the state, the Danes were the 5th largest group, following the Norwegians, Germans, Russians (German-Russians) and Swedes.

Nissen Junker (also called Jens Nissen Junker), born 1820, and married to Karen Jensdatter, born 1812, emigrated from Kolsnop, Denmark in 1870. The Junkers and three of their children arrived in Dakota Territory in July of that year. Living first in a neighbor's barn, they moved onto to this site

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when their house was finished in the fall. Nissen Junker lived here until his death in 1898 and Karen survived him by one year. The original Junker house was moved onto another farmstead when the current house was completed in 1907.

The oldest extant feature on the farm is the barn, built in 1898. In April of 1891, Nissen and Karen Junker sold the farm to their son, Jens Nielsen Junker (b. 1854). Apparently, Jens and his wife, Anna Logan, were operating the farm by that date. Therefore, the major buildings which exist today date from the years Jens and Anna owned the farm. The second and present house was erected in 1906-1907.

Jens N. Junker died in 1918 and the property passed to his widow and children. The son, Nissen, managed the farm between 1918 and 1930. Another son, Arthur, assumed the responsibility from 1930 to 1931, when tax records show that the State Security Bank took control of the property. During the Great Depression, many farms in South Dakota were lost. John Snyder worked the land until 1936 when Hans Jepsen, also a Dane, purchased the farm. When he retired in 1984, the farm was purchased by his son, Johnie Jepsen who continues to operate it to the present day.

Criterion C. Embody Distinctive Characteristics of a Type ...
Method of Construction.

The Junker House represents a Danish-American architectural tradition. Although the major architectural features of the house are standard American Queen Anne style, the subdivided second floor resulted from a pattern of living characteristics of the Danes in the Trinity area. Many of these farmers were well-to-do and therefore, in order to obtain farmhands, they would pay the passage of young Danish men and women to come to America. In return, these young people, lived on the farm in the hands' quarters and worked to pay off their passage. Jens Junker's daughters each married one of the farmhands. At least four other houses in the area have this pattern of the separated second floor and double stairs. However, the other houses are all traditional Danish pair or parstuga houses. The Junker House, therefore, represents a carry-over of this tradition into a more American form of house.

The barn is a more straightforward folk building, whose plan, method of construction and use were carried over from Denmark. Plans, virtually identical to the Trinity settlement barns, have been recorded among 16th and 17th century barns in Denmark. Characteristic of European ethnic adaptation in the New World, the American Danish buildings are generally smaller and simpler than their Old World antecedents, and they are freestanding. A more detailed discussion is found under the description section (Item 7).

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Altogether, the Junker farm illustrates the evolution of building among European immigrants in America. The earliest features adhere fundamentally to Old World forms; the second generation of features employ mostly American architectural practices, yet adapts the architecture to fit culturally unique needs; and finally, the later generation of buildings follow exclusively American patterns.

The period of significance of the nominated property extends from 1898, the date of construction of the oldest extant building (the barn, feature no.2), to 1931, the date that the Junker family lost the farm to foreclosure.

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Warranty Deed Record, Vol. 11, Pg. 217, Clay County, South Dakota, 5 May 1891.

Warranty Deed Record, Vol. 33, Pg. 9, Clay County, South Dakota, 9 Aug 1919.

Homestead Certificate Filing and Application, #343 and #2836, Clay County, South Dakota, 20 Oct 1921.

Property Evaluation Records, Norway Township, Clay County, South Dakota, 1930 and 1931.

Hay Country History: A Story of the Pioneers of the Gayville and Meckling, South Dakota Area. n.p., n.d. pp. 61, 92.

Stoklund, Bjarne. Bondegard og Byggeskik for 1850. Kobenhavn: Dansk Historisk Faellesforenings Handboger, 1969.

Langberg, Harald. Danmarks Bygningskultur: En Historisk Oversigt, Bind I (and) Bind II. Kobenhavn: Glydenalske Boghandel (and) Nordisk Forlag, 1955.

Christensen, Thomas P. "The Danes in South Dakota." South Dakota Historical Collections, Department of History Collections VIV (1928).

Johansen, John P. Immigrant Settlements and Social Organization in South Dakota. Brookings, South Dakota State University: South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin, 13 (1937): 17-23.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Consisting of the entire farmstead, the nominated property is bounded by a set of imaginary lines that intersect to form a rectangle that measures 220 meters by 215 meters. The southern boundary line lies along the north edge of the east-west section road as indicated on the U.S.G.S. topographic map. The western boundary line lies along the west edge of the north-south shelterbelt as indicated on the U.S.G.S. topographic map. The northern boundary line lies along the north edge of the east-west shelterbelt as indicated on the U.S.G.S. topographic map. The eastern boundary line lies 20 meters east of the easternmost wall of the house and is parallel to that wall. The property is located in the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 6, Township 92 North, Range 53 West, 5th Principal Meridian, in Clay County, South Dakota.

JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the nominated property include all features of the farmyard; therefore, the physically defined edges of the yard mark those boundaries. On the north and west shelterbelts serve as boundaries. On the north the edge of the section road defines the edge of the farmstead. On the east, the end of the cultivated lawn corresponding with a fence line marks the border. The boundaries specified above are set to include the entire farmyard and to exclude crop land and public roadways.

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PHOTO DOCUMENTATION

1. Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Meckling Vicinity, Clay County, South Dakota
Carolyn Torma
September 1987
Neg: State Historical Preservation Center
South and west facades, camera facing N.E.
Photo No. 1
2. Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Meckling Vicinity, Clay County, South Dakota
Carolyn Torma
September 1987
Neg: State Historical Preservation Center
Interior detail, newel post, hallway
Photo No. 2
3. Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Meckling Vicinity, Clay County, South Dakota
Carolyn Torma
September 1987
Neg: State Historical Preservation Center
Barn, south and east facades, camera facing N.W.
Photo No. 3
4. Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Meckling Vicinity, Clay County, South Dakota
Carolyn Torma
September 1987
Neg: State Historical Preservation Center
Barn, north and west facades, camera facing S.E.
Photo No. 4
5. Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Meckling Vicinity, Clay County, South Dakota
Carolyn Torma
September 1987
Neg: State Historical Preservation Center
Interior detail of barn, queen posts in loft
Photo No. 5

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6. Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Meckling Vicinity, Clay County, South Dakota
Carolyn Torma
September 1987
Neg: State Historical Preservation Center
Chicken house, south and east facades, camera facing N.W.
Photo No. 6

7. Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Meckling Vicinity, Clay County, South Dakota
Carolyn Torma
September 1987
Neg: State Historical Preservation Center
Corn crib, east and south facades, camera looking N.W.
Photo No. 7

8. Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Meckling Vicinity, Clay County, South Dakota
Carolyn Torma
September 1987
Neg: State Historical Preservation Center
Granary, south and east facades, camera facing N.W.
Photo No. 8

9. Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Meckling Vicinity, Clay County, South Dakota
Carolyn Torma
September 1987
Neg: State Historical Preservation Center
Garage, south and east facades, camera facing N.W.
Photo No. 9

10. Jens and Anna Junker Farm
Meckling Vicinity, Clay County, South Dakota
Carolyn Torma
September 1988
Neg.: State Historical Preservation Center
Interior, parlor fireplace, Danish painting
Photo No. 10