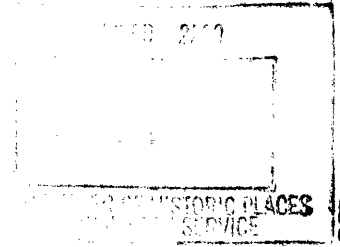


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

319



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

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Holmgren Farmstead

other name/site number Lilac Farm

### 2. Location

street & town 460 North 300 East  not for publication

city or town Tremonton  vicinity

state Utah code UT county Box Elder code 003 zip code 84337

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

W. S. M. A. 2/06/01  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Utah Division of State History, Office of Historic Preservation  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

W. S. M. A. 4/5/2001  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 01000319

Date Listed: 4/5/2001

Holmgren Farmstead

Box Elder

UT

Property Name

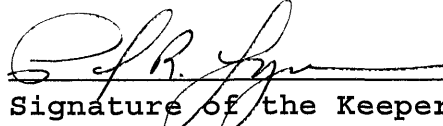
County

State

N/A

Multiple Name

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

  
Signature of the Keeper

4/5/01  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

**Resource Count:**

The verified resource count is 7 contributing resources and 2 non-contributing resources.

[The main house is deemed non-contributing as a result of a loss of physical integrity. The loafing shed is not yet completed and is not counted.]

**Period of Significance:**

The period of significance is: 1932-1950

[This reflects the period within which the farmstead reached its current configuration.]

These revisions were confirmed with the UT SHPO office.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

Holmgren Farmstead  
Name of Property

Tremonton, Box Elder County, Utah  
City, County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
7	2	Total

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Function**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE: processing, storage,  
agricultural field, animal facility, agricultural outbuilding

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Function**

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE: processing, storage,  
agricultural field, animal facility, agricultural outbuilding

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Improvement Era Dairy Barn/outbuildngs

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

**foundation** CONCRETE

**walls** WOOD: weatherboard

**roof** WOOD: shingle

**other** concrete block

**Narrative Description**

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

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

Holmgren Farmstead  
Name of Property

Tremonton, Box Elder County, Utah  
City, County and State

**8. Description**

**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.)

Property is:

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE

INDUSTRY

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1932-1950

**Significant Dates**

1932, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1947, 1949

**Significant Persons**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

David & Wayne Holmgren (builders)

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Holmgren Farmstead  
Name of Property

Tremonton, Box Elder County, Utah  
City, County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 32 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

A 1/2 4/0/3/4/4/0 4/6/1/8/8/8/0  
Zone Easting Northing

B 1/2 4/0/3/8/4/0 4/6/1/8/9/4/0  
Zone Easting Northing

C 1/2 4/0/3/6/8/0 4/6/1/8/4/8/0  
Zone Easting Northing

D 1/2 4/0/3/4/4/0 4/6/1/8/5/2/0  
Zone Easting Northing

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

See map for boundaries.

Property Tax No. 05-042-0037; 05-042-0038; 05-040-0014; 05-042-0040

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are those that were and continue to be associated with the farmstead. This includes not only the land immediately surrounding the cluster of buildings, but the fields and pasture lands as well, which all add to the historical integrity of the site.

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tamara Zollinger and Cory Jensen/Utah SHPO

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date January 19, 2001

street & number 300 Rio Grande telephone 801/533-3559

city or town Salt Lake City state ut zip code 84101

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

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

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

**Photographs:** Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

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

### Property Owner

name/title Claire & Tamara Zollinger

street & number 460 North 300 East telephone 435/257-7696

city or town Tremonton state UT zip code 84337

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

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

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 1

Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

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### Narrative Description

The Holmgren Farmstead consists of a c.1890 residence, a large dairy barn, and several outbuildings, all constructed c.1932-1949. The compact assemblage of the approximately eleven original buildings was established for an economical and organized dairy operation. Of these original buildings, eight still remain. One new structure, a loafing shed, is being constructed and a non-contributing mobile home is located on the grounds as well. Although most of the buildings are no longer used for their original purpose, they remain in good and fairly original condition and are currently employed in other uses. Tremonton, the town where the farm is located remains semi-rural, although residential development has increased over the past half century. The farmstead is surrounded on three sides by fields and pastureland with the Malad River forming a diagonal boundary several hundred feet behind the building group. Little has changed on the farmstead since the 1940s with the exception of the dwelling, which received additions and alterations up to about 1960, resulting in a loss of its historical integrity.

### Dwelling

The original house was a simple one-story, wood-frame hall-parlor house on a stone foundation (see historical photo). Its fenestration consisted of coupled double-hung, one-over-one windows on the primary (west) façade and similar windows in a single format on the secondary facades. A rear ell was added c.1917 to house hired farmhands; a tax photo dating from c.1945 shows this addition as well as new front windows showing a period revival influence. In 1950 the house was renovated to its present configuration with an in-line addition that was added to the ell to enlarge the house even more. Also at this time, the entire house received a bump-out on the front portion of the roof to accommodate a room in the attic; windows were enlarged or rearranged, a porch and portico were added to the front, and an interior wall was removed in the hall-parlor portion. The aluminum siding was added in 1960 completing the house's transformation to its current appearance. Because of all the changes much of the historical fabric and appearance has been obscured.

### Barn

The principal and most significant building of the farmstead is the fairly large (36' X 66') Improvement-Era dairy barn. Located on a bank east of the house at the rear of the building group, the barn is a wood-frame, Gothic-roof structure (with the ridge running north/south) that rests on a nine-foot high concrete foundation. The foundation is located below grade from the primary façade, with exposed walls on the north, south and east elevations that enclose the dairy operation.

The barn entrance from the yard is on the west façade, which enters through a small, one-story frame appendage that houses the milk cooling tank and milk canister elevator. Proceeding east through this room, one enters the large, open haymow with its board-and-batten floors, which occupies the entire upper floor. The arched roof, which retains the original wood shingles, is supported by an elaborate system of trusses, each composed of multiple pieces of 2 x 6" lumber that form the Gothic arch. In

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 2

Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

order to achieve the unique shape, the boards for the trusses were soaked in the nearby pond and then bent around pegs attached to the floor of the haymow until they dried. They were then assembled and lifted into position by horses and block-an-tackle.<sup>1</sup> Hay is loaded through a large opening on the north end of the building. The original Jackson Fork, used for loading hay, has been retained in the structure although it is not currently used. The hay is loaded from this floor into the feeding area and a pen below through chutes located in the northeast corner and south-central end.

The main floor is constructed of poured and formed concrete walls. This floor comprises the dairy operation and is separated into various pens with a poured-concrete floor. The north end of this level contains the area where the cows are milked. It is comprised of two parallel rows of seven stanchions running north/south. The mangers are along the outside walls of each of these rows, where the cows feed while being milked. The central aisle where the cows stand when being milked contains two gutters where waste is collected, making the area easier to clean. The cattle enter this area from an exterior holding pen through a doorway and aisle on the east wall. Directly opposite this aisle, on the west side of the interior is a stairway providing access to the upper haymow and milk house.

The south end of the main level contains holding pens, including a calf pen, a bull pen, a calving pen, and a chicken coop (converted from a tack room). A large bucket connected to a single overhead rail was once used to collect manure and transport it to the manure pen east of the barn. The rail system runs the length of the building and also extends out the east doorway; the bucket has recently been removed. A large holding pen area for sequestering the cows before milking is located on the east side of the barn, and a corral is adjacent to this and also runs along the south side of the barn. These areas are separated by a metal rail fence.

### Outbuildings

The other outbuildings in the farmstead include (chronologically, see site plan for location):

#### Contributing

- 1) A machine shop (1932) of wood-frame construction with a wood-shingle, gable roof and exposed rafters. The walls are of beveled, tongue-and-groove siding. Large sliding doors are located on the west gable end and the south elevation. Currently used for storage and shop work.
- 2) A garage (1940) of wood-frame construction with a gabled, corrugated-metal-covered roof. The walls are of tongue-and-groove siding, and the front, south-facing elevation has recently been enclosed with similar siding. Currently used as a crafts gift shop.
- 3) A round granary (1941) of wood-frame and concrete construction with an octagonal peaked, roof. The wooden, top section is constructed "inside-out" fashion, with the

<sup>1</sup> Interview with Tamara H. Zollinger by Cory Jensen, December 6, 2000.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

horizontal planking attached inside the vertical framing members in order to provide a smooth surface and eliminate areas where grain could be captured when dumping. This sits atop a circular concrete foundation under which a concrete drive descends, which allows trucks to back underneath the granary portion for loading. Currently not in use.

- 4) An implement shed (1947) of wood-frame construction with corrugated-metal siding and gable roof. Similar to the garage, this four-bay structure also has an open, south-facing elevation and is currently used for farm vehicle storage.
- 5) A granary/wheat cleaning facility (c.1949) located adjacent to the round granary. This building is of concrete-block construction with a gable roof. The east half of the building is enclosed and has a raised wood floor that supports a large wheat-cleaning machine. The west half of the building is open, with a drive-through providing access for vehicles. The building is attached to the round granary via a tall, narrow frame structure housing an auger elevator (still in place), which feeds grain to the upper portion. This building is currently used for storage.
- 6) A hammer mill/granary (1949) of wood-frame, "inside-out" construction with horizontal wood planking inside a lumber frame and a gable roof with exposed rafters. On the north façade is located a sliding door used to access a motorized hammer mill. The mill was used for the pulverization of grain, which was fed to the animals. The mill is still in place in the center of the building to which is attached a long chute that would send the grain outside the building once it was processed. The mill is no longer in use and the building is used for storage.

### Other Noncontributing

- 1) A mobile home (c.1990s) of vinyl siding construction.
- 2) A lumber loafing shed used for holding cows in the holding area south of the barn. This is currently under construction.

All of the outbuildings are in use, though not for their original purposes (they are used primarily for storage). They are all in fair to good condition and all have seen little non-historic alteration. Two buildings have been removed over the last several years. These were a bunkhouse for hired-help and a row of pigpens. A manger and holding area are located where the pigpens once stood and a large concrete pad has been poured in this area.

The fairly tight cluster of buildings is set back several hundred feet from the main road and comprises an approximately four-acre area atop a semi-circular bluff. The house is at the center of the complex with the barn directly behind to the east about one hundred feet. The other buildings are aligned on both the north and south sides of the complex. Fronting the property just off the main road are two ponds, between which the driveway ascends a rise to the complex. A large row of lilac bushes and another of trees somewhat demarcates the yard of the house. A circular row of conifers is located southwest of the complex and a long row of mature deciduous trees runs along the north side, just out side of the property boundaries, but still a part of the historic landscape. The remaining



## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

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approximately twenty acres is located to the east and south of the complex below the bluff. This contains pasture and marshland along the Malad River, which marks the eastern and southern property boundary.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 1

Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

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## Narrative Statement of Significance

The Holmgren Farmstead, with barn and outbuildings constructed beginning c.1932, is significant under Criteria A & C. Under Criterion A the farmstead is significant for its association with the dairy and farming industry of northern Utah and the development of the city of Tremonton as a farming community. Tremonton was first settled in 1888, but didn't see real growth until the turn of the twentieth century. Although there are a few other dairy or former dairy farms in or near Tremonton, only a portion of these are still working dairies, and none have a dairy barn like the Holmgren farm. Dairy barns were a result of early twentieth-century efforts to increase quantity and quality of dairy products through scientific experimentation at agricultural schools. Because of its uniqueness in the area, the farmstead, and particularly the barn, is architecturally significant under Criterion C. While the c.1890 hall-parlor house has been altered and no longer retains its integrity, the large Improvement-Era barn and nearly all associated outbuildings remain intact. The barn is unique in the area in that it contains the hay storage and dairy operation under one roof. Most dairy operations in the state either had separate buildings for each use, or had constructed a milking parlor as an appendage to a barn. Although some modifications have been made to the dairy machinery in the barn, the farm has been in almost continuous use as a dairy production facility since its construction and has remained under ownership of the Holmgren family.

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## History of Tremonton

Tremonton is located in extreme northern Utah in what is known as the Bear River Valley. By the late nineteenth century, the entire Bear River Valley had been at least partially settled, but a portion in the center of the valley, along the west bank of the Malad River had been left untouched. This particular place was known as Sandridge Flats and Sagebrush Flats and would later be given the name of Tremonton. By 1892 the Bear River was tapped and an extensive canal system constructed which opened the possibility of agriculture in the area.

Tremonton is unique to Utah because, unlike most cities, it wasn't settled by Mormons. Though first settled in 1888, the first real organized effort did not come until the late 1890s, when land agents induced people from the Midwest, particularly Nebraska and Illinois, to move here. These farming families were encouraged by the idea of irrigated farming (the town is located near the Bear and Malad rivers). One of the first settlers in the area were Germans who came from the town of Tremont, Illinois, and settle in the Bear River Valley around 1900-1901. The town then adopted this same name, but because of the confusion between the new Tremont and the existing town of Fremont, Utah, the post office persuaded the people of Tremont to revise the city's name to Tremonton.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

The dry, rocky climate of Utah made growing crops difficult until irrigation canals were built, but even with that addition, raising cattle became the major occupation of Box Elder County farmers. The climate mostly precludes agricultural use except for animals capable of foraging. In the thirty years between 1870 and 1900 the number of cattle in Utah nearly quadrupled with dairy cattle gaining particular importance. By 1930, one-eighth of all farms in Utah were dairy farms, which were viewed as sure signs of prosperity.

### History of the Farmstead

The property known as the Holmgren Farmstead was officially obtained by John G. E. Larsen in 1896 (the year Utah was granted statehood) as part of the Homestead Act. Prior to this, in autumn 1889, Larsen moved with his family to this site. All of his children were raised on this farm, including the last five who were born here.

In 1916 David and Hilda Holmgren purchased the land from Larsen, which contained a small frame and adobe brick hall-parlor-type house; the farm has remained in the Holmgren family since then. David added on the rear of the house a couple of times to accommodate families he hired to assist on the farm. When his son and daughter-in-law, Wayne and June Holmgren, purchased the farm from him in 1937, they constructed several agricultural outbuildings, including granaries, machine and implement sheds, and a shop, all of which are extant. In 1940 they built the large, distinctive dairy barn. Although the house has been altered throughout the years, the barn has retained its original form and usage.

The barn on the Holmgren Farmstead is a unique structure in the county. David and Wayne Holmgren apparently traveled throughout the state to find a model after which to pattern their barn and finally found what they liked in the basic design of the Peterson Brothers Herefords barn in Roy, Utah. (Now the "Hayloft Restaurant," this barn was used only for hay storage for beef cattle.) The milking parlor in the basement of the Holmgren barn (or "Lilac" as the farm was known at the time because of the many lilac bushes planted by the Holmgrens) was the latest in technology, and the loft of the barn was made to take advantage of maximum storage capacity. To bend the trusses, each one was soaked in the pond on the property and forced into a wooden frame nailed to the floor (which served as the roof of the milking parlor).

The Holmgren Farmstead has remained a working farm up to the present. Wayne and David operated the dairy for approximately fifteen to twenty years, starting out with about twenty cows. Then the dairy operation ceased for a number of years until Wayne's sons began operation again in the early 1970s. Clair and Tamara Holmgren Zollinger then moved into the house on the farmstead and continued the dairy operation. The dairy production has slowed the past couple of years. Bruce, son of the Zollingers, updated the milking system in 1997 to meet regulations, but most of the cattle were auctioned off in 2000 because of low milk prices. But the Zollingers continue to hold animals

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 3

Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

on the farm and operate the dairy as much as they can. Currently there are approximately sixty dairy cows and thirty beef cattle on their farm, and the land is used primarily to feed these animals; only a few of the cows are currently milked in this facility.

### History of the Holmgrens

David Holmgren was the son of Mormon immigrant parents, Heber O. and Johanna W. Holmgren, who made their way from Sweden and across the country in a wagon. They settled in nearby Bear River City, where David was born on June 25, 1870. It was here that he met another Swedish immigrant, Hilda Marie Nelson. They eventually married in 1903, in the Salt Lake City Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS or Mormon church).

David was an influential man before and after Tremonton's incorporation as a city. He built the Midland Hotel, which marked the beginning of permanent growth of the town; was instrumental in organizing the Tremonton Drainage and Sewerage Co.; organized the Farmers Cash Union and served as its president for 25 years; was president and director of the Crop Improvement Association; was a member of the University of Utah Emeritus Club; served on the city council; and served three terms as mayor. The barn that David designed and helped build is evidence of his ingenuity and progressive attitude.

Wayne David Holmgren was born May 6, 1909, in Bear River City, Utah. The family lived there until Wayne was in his teens. After his father built the Midland Hotel in nearby Tremonton, the family lived in an annex to the building. Wayne and his brother Lyle had rooms in the hotel complete with maid service. David's wife, June Norr, was born June 10, 1916, in Logan, Utah. Wayne and June lived on the Holmgren farm from 1938 to 1988 when their daughter Tamara and her husband Clair Zollinger purchased the one-acre area containing the residence. Over the past several years the Zollingers have purchased most of the remaining farm acreage from other family members, which includes the farmyard, pastureland, and area containing the ponds in front of the farm.

At present, besides operating the farm, the Zollingers have a non-profit organization that features events on the farm including the Farm Folk Festival, and the Old Farm Quilt Festival. The garage has been turned into a gift shop where products from the farm are sold. The farm is open six days a week for school and public tours.

### Improvement-Era Barn Architecture

By the first couple of decades of the twentieth century, the dairy and agricultural industries were conforming to exacting scientific practices and sanitary operating conditions. Dairy production and crop raising were becoming more productive, due to the demands of a consumer society, which was

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

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becoming decreasingly self-sustaining. Auxiliary structures on farms were not immune to design tinkering by scientific minds, as everything from chicken coops to barns became an agricultural laboratory.<sup>2</sup>

No longer were barns just for storing hay and livestock. Now the barn had to enclose the entire dairy production line as well. Agricultural schools, particularly the University of Wisconsin, provided information and guidance in the form of bulletins for dairy farmers on how to get the most out of what they had. The barn on the Holmgren Farmstead is a textbook example of a well-conceived dairy barn. Following many of the ideas presented in the 1921 bulletin *Dairy Barns*, published by the University of Wisconsin's Agricultural Experiment Station, the Holmgren barn is a compact and efficient "factory."

The approximately 60' x 30' barn, though not as large as some dairy barns throughout the state, makes good use of its space. The Gothic roof allows the most storage area of any roof type, and because it uses no posts for support, the entire floor is open, usable space. The concrete "basement" area of the barn is divided in half with one end used for milk production and the other for holding pens. An attached shed is used for sanitary storage and cooling of the milk, which is lifted from the basement level by a small mechanical elevator. The two parallel rows of stanchions used to hold and feed the cows as they are being milked are situated so that the cows face out from the center. This allows for ease of cleaning and inspection, making one center aisle.

Early barns in Utah basically consisted of the English-style, with a centrally placed door on the broad side, and the Intermountain, which has gable end doorways. These were constructed using a variety of materials, including round and hewn logs, stone, and wood plank. Not until after the turn of the twentieth century did the barn usage and design begin to change. An increasingly urban population with fewer family farms placed a demand on dairy sales. Along with this demand came regulation requiring greater sanitary conditions. To conform, many older barns were modernized with concrete floors for better sanitation and ease of maintenance. The dairy operation, where the cows were milked and where the milk storage and cooling system was contained was housed in a milk parlor that was adjacent or attached to the barn. Those who could afford to constructed new barns, which usually housed the entire operation under one roof. This added efficiency to the process as well as comfort to both the animals and the farmer.

Dairy barns are not as common in Utah, where cattle raising is better adapted to the geography, as they are in many states. Improvement-Era dairy barns are found mostly in the north half of the state, particularly in the northernmost portion, where dairy farms have passed down through several

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<sup>2</sup> The University of Wisconsin's Agricultural Experiment Station put out numerous publications for farm building construction during this era.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

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generations and where major dairy companies have established operations. The Holmgren farmstead is significant for its locale, in that the unique sixty-year-old barn houses the entire dairy operation under one roof and is still in use for dairy production. All other former dairy operations either have operations divided into separate buildings, or are no longer in use as dairies.

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 9 Page 1

Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. PHOTOS Page 1

Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

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### Common Label Information:

1. Holmgren Farmstead
2. Tremonton, Box Elder County, Utah
3. Photographer: J. Cory Jensen
4. Date: December 2000
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO.

### Photo No. 1:

6. South west elevations of residence. Camera facing northeast.

### Photo No. 2:

6. North and east elevations of residence. Camera facing southwest.

### Photo No. 3:

6. West elevation of barn. Camera facing east.

### Photo No. 4:

6. South and west elevations of barn. Camera facing northeast.

### Photo No. 5:

6. North and east elevations of barn. Camera facing southwest.

### Photo No. 6:

6. North and west elevations of barn. Camera facing southeast.

### Photo No. 7:

6. Interior of barn showing truss detail. Camera facing northeast.

### Photo No. 8:

6. South and west elevations of round granary. Camera facing northeast.

### Photo No. 9:

6. North and east elevations of granary/wheat cleaning facility . Camera facing southwest.

### Photo No. 10:

6. North and east elevations of hammer mill/granary. Camera facing southwest.

### Photo No. 11:

6. South and west elevations of machine shop. Camera facing northeast.



## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. PHOTOS Page 2

Holmgren Farmstead, Tremonton, Box Elder County, UT

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**Photo No. 12:**

6. South and west elevations of garage and implement shed. Camera facing northeast.

**Photo No. 13:**

6. Entry to farmstead/driveway. Camera facing northeast.

**Photo No. 14:**

6. View of southeast portion of farmyard showing holding areas. Camera facing northeast.

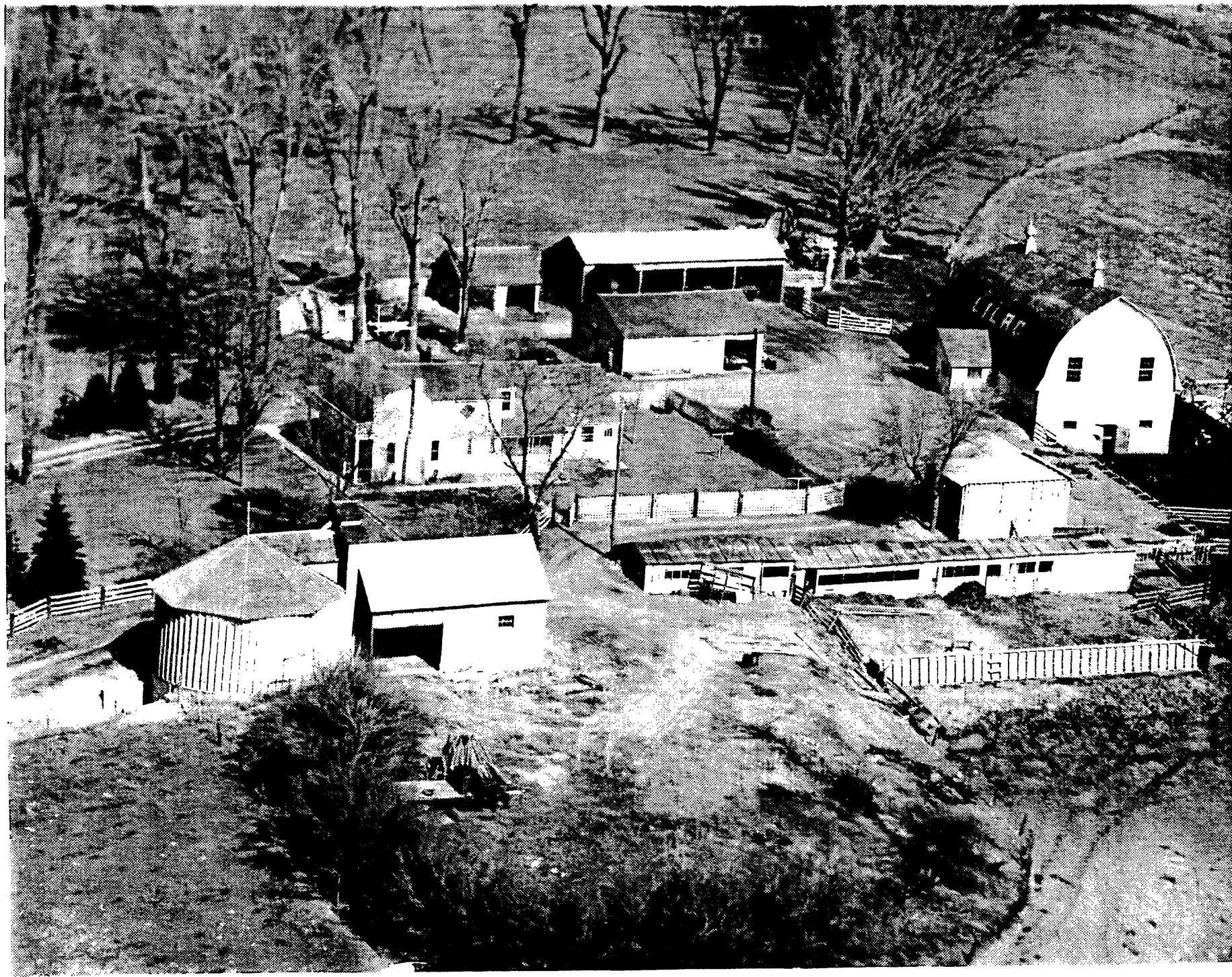
**Photo No. 15:**

6. View of pastureland east of farmyard. Camera facing northeast.

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Holmgren Farmstead c. 1940s





• Holmgren Farmstead c. 1960's

SECTION 2 TOWNSHIP 11N RANGE 3W

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