

NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS FORM 10-900 (Rev. 8-86) OMB No. 1024-0018 [SD-SHPO # ECA-OH-597-1/89]
[use paper with at least 25% cotton rag content, use NLQ or LQ printer]

**United States Department of the Interior -- National Park Service
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 "NA" 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: Jones, Tom, Ranch
other name/ site number: T-J Ranch

2. Location

street & number: 5-1/2 miles south of Midland /NA/ not for publication
city, town: Midland /XX/ vicinity
state: SOUTH DAKOTA code: SD county: Jackson code: SD 071 zip code: 57552

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property:		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
/XX/ private	/ / building(s)	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
/ / public-local	/XX/ district	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
/ / public-state	/ / site	<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	structures
/ / public-federal	/ / structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
	/ / object	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

11. Form Prepared by

name/title: Faye B. Jones, owner; with technical assistance by John Rau, SHPO staff
organization: date: June 28, 1990
street & number: P. O. Box 118 telephone: 605-843-2155
city or town: Midland state: SOUTH DAKOTA zip code: 57552

page 2: Tom Jones Ranch
property name

, Jackson
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA
state

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]
Signature of certifying official

9/22/90
Date

South Dak SHPO
State or Federal agency or 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 or 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) _____
- _____
- _____

Beth Boland 10/25/90

Signature of the Keeper Date

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property name

, Jackson
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA
state

6. Function or Use (enter categories from instructions)

Historic functions:

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

Current Functions:

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

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

(enter categories from instructions)

No Style

Materials:

(enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Wood

roof Asphalt

other NA

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

/XX/ see continuation sheet

8. Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria /XX/ A /XX/B / /C / /D

Criteria Considerations / /A / /B / /C / /D / /E / /F / /G

Areas of Significance (enter from instructions)

Exploration/Settlement

Period of Significance

1898-1940

Significant Dates

NA

Significant Person

Jones, Tom

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations,
and periods of significance noted above /XX/ see continuation sheet

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Situated on a small rise along Brave Bull Creek in north-central Jackson County, South Dakota, the Tom Jones Ranch is a collection of historically related ranch buildings and structures. Established in the 1890s by prominent pioneer resident Tom Jones, it is one of the oldest ranching operations in the region. Over the years, it has prospered, but it still retains the character and feeling of an early-20th-Century central South Dakota ranch. The property is still a working ranch under the ownership and proprietorship of the Jones family.

The resources are:

1 & 2. House: (1898-1915) Contributing. The House is a T-shaped, log and wood frame, one-story building rising from a concrete foundation. It is capped by an intersecting gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Two chimneys project above the roof peak. Fenestration is generally symmetrical, featuring several elongated two-over-two and two-over-one double hung windows. Interior finishes are plain plaster walls with a short wainscot and wood floors.

The house is a compilation of several phases of construction from 1898 to 1915 and counts as two contributing resources. Originally, it was a two room log building purchased by Tom Jones in 1898 and moved up from a location on nearby Bad River. In the winter of 1899 and 1900, a log room was added onto the south facade creating a three-bay linear building. After sustaining some water damage in 1905 due to a spring flood on Brave Bull Creek, the house was repaired and added onto again. This time a three-bay log section perpendicular to the first three bays was added to the south facade, now creating a T-shaped dwelling. Wood floors, plaster walls, and wainscoting were added to the older part of the house. The front door was located in the center of the new south facade. In about 1913, a freestanding, detached wood frame bunkhouse measuring 16-feet by 28-feet was constructed over the cellar just a few feet from the north facade of the house. Mr. Jones thought that this new building might be used as a school, so it is lighted with seven windows. Siding was added to the rest of the house at this time. Finally, in 1915, the bunkhouse and the house were connected forming a single dwelling. See diagram on continuation sheet 7.4.

In the 1950s, a pressure water system was added to the ranch facilitating running water and a bathroom. Also at this time rural cooperative electricity replaced the old 32-volt gasoline powered electric plant. Concrete foundations have been poured to replace the old rotted log sills.

Although the house is mainly used for storage at this time, five generations of the Jones family have called it home.

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3. Cattle Shed: (1927) Contributing. The cattle shed is a long wood frame building rising from concrete footings and a dirt floor. It is capped by a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. It was constructed in 1927 after another disastrous flood washed away the outbuildings for a second time.

4. Ice House/Garage: (circa 1910) Contributing. The Ice House/Garage is a square wood frame building rising from concrete footings and a dirt floor. It is capped by a pyramidal roof covered with deteriorating asphalt shingles. At the center of the roof is a square wooden cupola louvered to provide ventilation for the ice room. The ice room is a double-walled square room in the center of the building. It is surrounded by four alleys used for automobile and equipment storage. Sliding doors at the corners of the north (front) and south facade provide drive-through access to the building. A small door for walk-in access is located in the center of the north facade. There are no other openings in the building. See floor plan on continuation sheet 7.5.

5. Privy: (circa 1900) Contributing. The privy is a small wood frame building capped by an asphalt-shingled gable roof.

6. Chicken Coop: (circa 1915) Contributing. The Chicken Coop is a wood frame building rising from a concrete floor. It is capped by a half monitor roof covered with asphalt shingles.

7. Machine Shed: (modern) Noncontributing. The Machine Shed is a modern steel clad pole construction building.

8. Modern House: (1970s) Noncontributing. The new house is a wood frame ranch style dwelling capped by an asphalt-shingled gable roof.

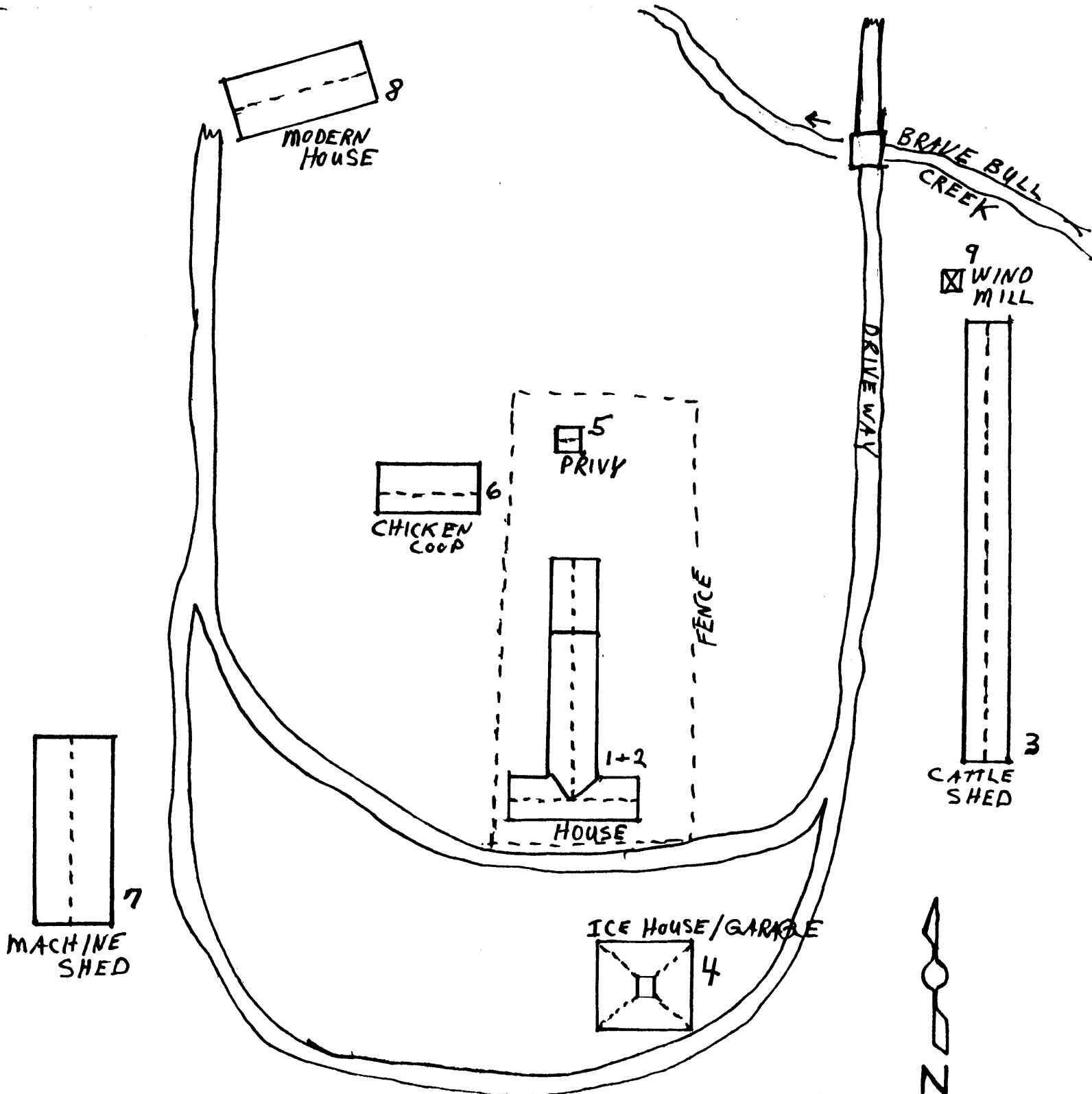
9. Windmill: (circa 1915) Contributing. The windmill is a typical galvanized steel tower with a wind generator atop to provide mechanical power for a water pump above the ranch well. It is in unusually good condition for a windmill of its vintage. It has not been in full-time use since electrification of the ranch.

The house and privy are surrounded by a light woven wire fence. Numerous deciduous and evergreen trees are found about the place.

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Section number 7 Page 3 Tom Jones Ranch/ Site Map

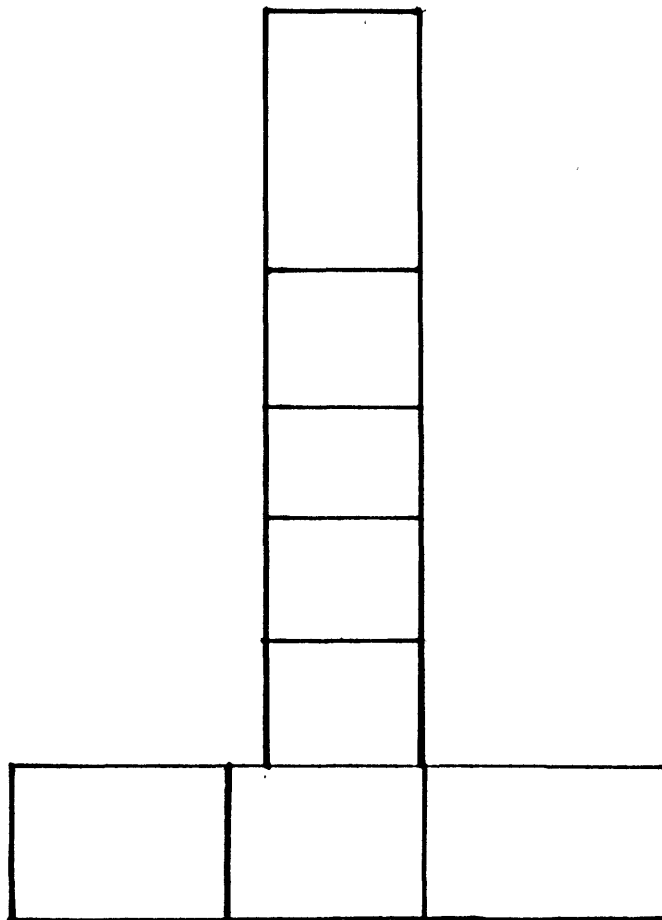


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Diagram of House showing phases of construction



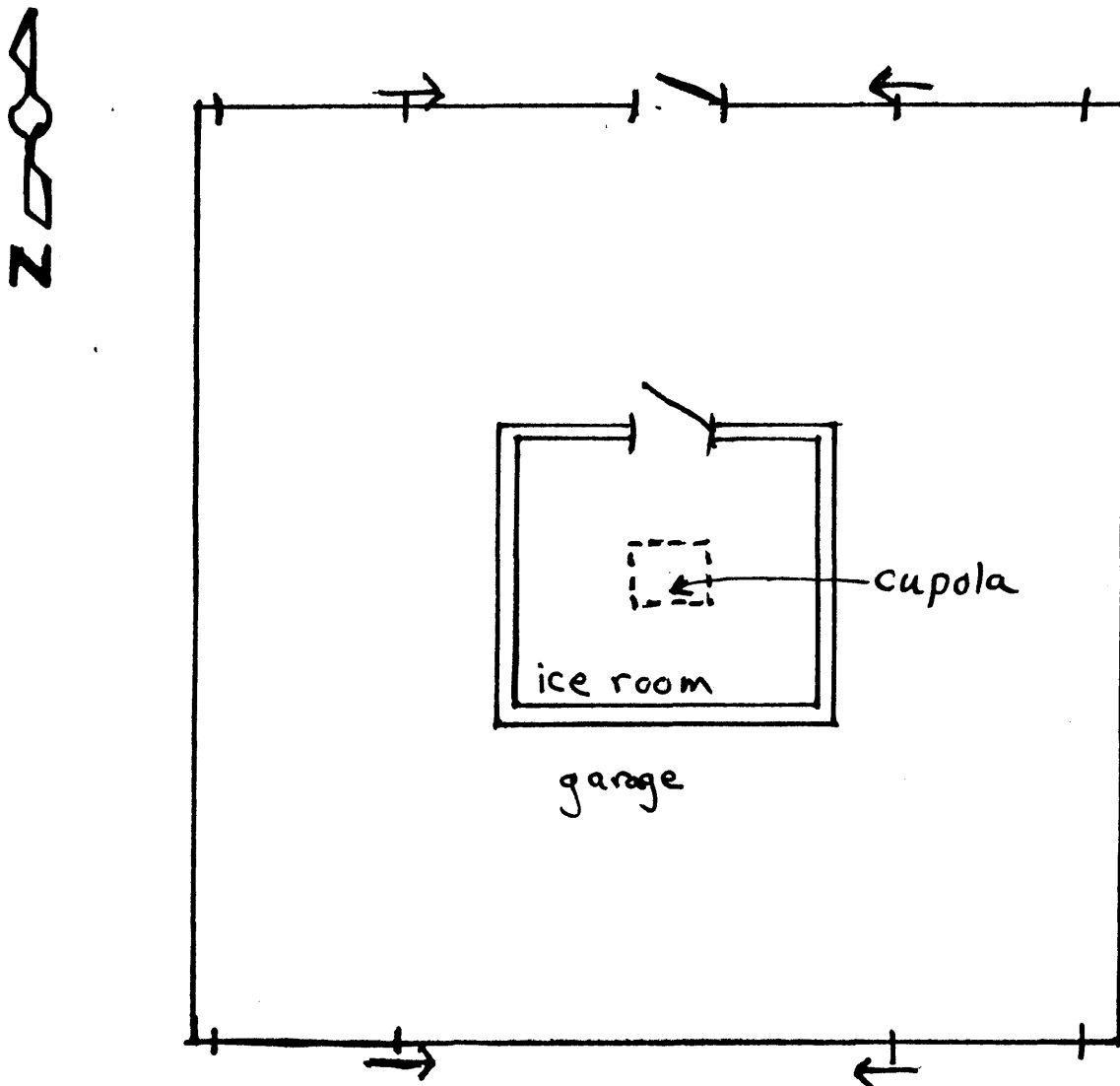
- 1913
Bunk house
separate
construction
- 1915
connection
- 1898
original
2-room house
- 1899-1900
addition
- 1905
addition

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Floor plan of Ice House/Garage



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Under Criteria A and B of the National Register Criteria, the Tom Jones Ranch is significant in the area of Exploration/Settlement. One of the oldest intact ranches in the region, it is a good representative of early ranching in central South Dakota. It is also associated with prominent pioneer rancher and businessman Tom Jones, who founded the ranch in the 1890s and nurtured his interests here until his death in the 1940s. Under the South Dakota State Historical Preservation Plan, the property relates to the historic context labeled: IV. Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement, C. 2. Permanent Farm and Ranch Settlement/Ranch Settlement.

All of present-day western South Dakota was set aside as the Great Sioux Reservation in the Laramie Treaty of 1868. However, rumors of gold in the Black Hills aroused the interest of non-Indian fortune seekers. In 1874, the U. S. Government dispatched a large, flamboyant force under the command of Lt. Col. George A. Custer to explore the region and to find ways to expel White intruders. Prospectors working for the expedition discovered gold near French Creek, and news of the find spurred a revival of illicit entry. By 1877, through negotiations by two successive controversial commissions, the government ceded the Black Hills region and opened it for settlement. Yet, the central part of the territory remained closed until subsequent negotiations and enactment of the Dawes Severalty Act of 1887. With this final break up of the reservation, white settlers started running herds of cattle on the open range and slowly began staking claims for farms and ranches.

Tom Jones was one of these early ranchers to come to the region. He was born in 1868 in Lafayette County, Wisconsin. His family, the William D. Jones family, had emigrated from Wales earlier that same year. A year later, the family moved by covered wagon to Red Oak, Iowa, and in 1882, they moved on to Washington Territory where Tom grew to maturity. As a young man, he learned to drive cattle and horses and worked for a time on a steamboat. In 1889 and 1890, Tom began running horses for the U. S. military from around Lewiston, Idaho, to Ft. Robinson, Nebraska. He sold horses as far east as St. Paul, Minnesota. In the mid-1890s, he sold horses to Indians and homesteaders around Sisseton in the northeastern corner of South Dakota. As the recession of the 1890s set in, he was unable to sell all his horses, so he decided to settle down in central Dakota bringing the remainder of his herd to the mouth of Ash Creek near Midland.

For a time he lived in a dugout and operated a round-up wagon on the open range. By about 1895, he bought a place along Brave Bull Creek. In the Spring of 1895, his bride-to-be Clara Ann Asman came from Washington state. They were married that March in Pierre and settled onto the new ranch. Their enterprise grew steadily. Several times between 1898 and 1915, Tom improved

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and added onto the original log house he moved up from the Bad River. Despite at least two disastrous floods in 1905 and 1927 and drought of the 1930s, the Jones family persevered and rebuilt if necessary. Three children were born to Tom and Clara, and eventually five generations have called the ranch house their home.

In 1906, Tom Jones was a charter stockholder of the Bank of Midland (listed in the National Register in 1986), which became the First National Bank. By 1916, he became vice president of that bank. He was an early member of the South Dakota Stock Growers Association and served on its board of directors. He was also a charter member, past president, and director of the Rapid City Production Credit Association. During the Depression years of the 1930s, the state instituted a program to sell unused state parcels to private owners to get those lands back onto the tax rolls. Governor Tom Berry appointed Tom Jones to serve as an appraiser for that program. Over the years as the open range became settled, he helped to organize counties, to establish a system of roads, and to create a much-needed telephone network.

Tom Jones died in a car accident in 1949.

Over the years, he accumulated a large parcel of land and became one of the most respected cattlemen in the region. In 1961, he was elected to the National Cowboy Hall of Fame. In 1968 his son and daughter said of him:

Tom never sought a public office and was vitally interested in the welfare of the whole country. He had a happy disposition, was soft spoken, a good mixer, who was always ready if called upon to give from his long experience, advice to younger stockmen, or to reminisce about the early days. (Prairie Progress in West Central South Dakota, p. 202)

The ranch he established on Brave Bull Creek is a tribute to his foresight and toil. The current ranch complex, composed of the old house, a cattle shed, windmill, ice house/garage, and other modern and historic buildings, is an fine collection of central South Dakota agricultural features. It typifies a prosperous ranch of the early 20th Century and shows changes in ranch operation as the century progressed. All of the features are in good to excellent condition.

The period of significance of the nominated property extends from the date of construction of the oldest extant resource in 1898 to 1940, the established 50-year cut-off date for the National Register. Although the house was relocated to the ranch, it was moved prior to the beginning of the period of significance of the nominated ranch complex and derives its significance from

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its association with Tom Jones and its historically distinguished role in the settlement and development of the regional ranching industry at its present location. It does not need to meet Criteria Consideration B. (see National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, Revised Draft, (Washington, NPS, Interagency Resources Div., 1989), p. 44).

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property name

, Jackson
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA
state

9. Major Bibliographical References

/XX/ see continuation sheet

Previous documentation by NPS:

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository:

South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: 23.5 acres

UTM References:

A = /14/	/324-820/	/4873-340/	B = /14/	/325-150/	/4873-340/
C = /14/	/325-130/	/4873-040/	D = /14/	/324-820/	/4873-020/
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

Quad: Stamford N.W.

Scale: 1:24000

/ / see continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description:

/XX/ see continuation sheet

Boundary Justification:

/XX/ see continuation sheet

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Hall, Bert L. Round-up Years, Old Muddy to the Black Hills. Pierre, SD: State Publishing Co. 1954. pp. 2, 8, 13, 159, 404.

Historical Society of Old Stanley County, comp. Prairie Progress in West Central South Dakota. Sioux Falls, SD: Midwest Beach, Inc. 1968. pp. 197-209.

Jones, Faye B. Historic Midland, 1890-1986. Pierre, SD: State Publishing Co. 1986. pp. 7, 89, 117.

Kadoka Centennial Committee. Jackson-Washabaugh Counties. Pierre, SD: State Publishing Co. 1989. p. 113.

Larson, Mrs. John and Mary Thorson. Pioneers of the Open Range. Marceline, MO: Walworth. 1905. pp. 25-8.

Lee, Bob and Dick Williams. The Last Grass Frontier: The South Dakota Stock Grower Heritage. Sturgis, SD: Black Hills Publishers, Inc. 1964. p. 277.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nominated property is bounded by a set of imaginary lines that intersect to form a polygon around the ranch complex. The northern boundary line lies 100 meters north of the north wall of the Cattle Shed (Resource No. 3) and runs parallel to that wall. The eastern boundary line lies 100 meters east of the east wall of the Cattle Shed and runs parallel to that wall. The southern boundary line lies 90 meters south of the south wall of the Machine Shed (Resource No. 7) and runs parallel to that wall. The western boundary line lies 40 meters west of the west wall of the Machine Shed and runs parallel to that wall. The ranch is located in the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 6, Township 1 South, Range 25 East and in the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 1, Township 1 South, Range 24 East (Black Hills Meridian), in Jackson County, South Dakota. Resources referred to in the verbal boundary description are as shown on the accompanying U. S. G. S. topographic quad. map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The boundaries of the nominated property are set to include all features of the ranch complex, excluding pasture land and roadways. Sufficient land around the buildings has been included in order to retain the open feeling of the Great Plains environment.

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1.

Tom Jones Ranch
Midland Vicinity, Jackson County, South Dakota
by John Rau
May 1990
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
House (Resource No. 1 & 2), Privy (Resource No. 5) in background,
south and west facades, camera facing northeast
Photo No. 1

2.

Tom Jones Ranch
Midland Vicinity, Jackson County, South Dakota
by John Rau
May 1990
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
House, south and east facades, camera facing north
Photo No. 2

3.

Tom Jones Ranch
Midland Vicinity, Jackson County, South Dakota
by John Rau
May 1990
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
Chicken Coop (Resource No. 6), south facade, camera facing north
Photo No. 3

4.

Tom Jones Ranch
Midland Vicinity, Jackson County, South Dakota
by John Rau
May 1990
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
Ice House/Garage (Resource No. 4), north and east facades,
camera facing south-southwest
Photo No. 4

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5.

Tom Jones Ranch

Midland Vicinity, Jackson County, South Dakota

by John Rau

May 1990

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

Cattle Shed (Resource No. 3), Windmill (Resource No. 9) in background,
west facade, camera facing east

Photo No. 5

6.

Tom Jones Ranch

Midland Vicinity, Jackson County, South Dakota

by John Rau

May 1990

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

Overview of ranch, camera facing west

Photo No. 6