

PH0690937

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED SEP 9 1976

DATE ENTERED DEC 22 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Belle Fourche Experiment Farm at Newell

AND/OR COMMON
Newell Field Station

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
NW of Newell SD

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Newell

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
2nd

XX VICINITY OF

STATE
South Dakota

CODE
046

COUNTY
Butte

CODE
019

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Black Hills Workshop School

STREET & NUMBER
3603 Range Road, Box 2104

CITY, TOWN
Rapid City

VICINITY OF

STATE
South Dakota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Butte County Courthouse - Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER
839 5th Street

CITY, TOWN
Belle Fourche

STATE
South Dakota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
South Dakota Historic Sites Survey

DATE
September 1975

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS Historical Preservation Center

CITY, TOWN
Vermillion

STATE
South Dakota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Newell Field Station occupies 360 acres of semi-arid lands in an area just north of the Black Hills and a mile and a half northeast of the city of Newell. It consists of nine structures that were used for either residences or agricultural buildings. Most of the structures have been unoccupied since 1973 when the United States Department of Agriculture closed the station. Since then only a caretaker has lived at the site. Therefore, the major change of the property is through neglect. A few of the major structures show signs of deterioration, and native grasses and weeds have reclaimed the once attractive farm yard.

Most of the buildings are one to one and one-half story tall with gable roofs and clapboard siding; however, other materials like asbestos shingles and stucco appear on individual structures. The latter covers an adobe walled house. The buildings are simple in design, lack ornamentation, and all but one are painted white. Upon entering the premises, there is a feeling of uniformity and that the station gradually grew to its present size.

The area nominated consists of the seven houses that surround the parade ground and the firehouse and the barn or shop building. Individual descriptions of the buildings are as follows:

- Building 1: This is the main office built in 1924; it has an L shape gable roof and clapboard facing.
- Building 2: The agronomist's cottage built in 1931 is a one and one-half story house with a gable roof and a screened porch.
- Building 3: This is the superintendent's cottage, built in 1917 with a gable roof, shed dormer and a screened porch.
- Building 5: The teamster cottage, built in 1938, is a one story building with asbestos shingles for facing, an enclosed entry and a gable roof.
- Building 6: This one story structure known as the adobe cottage was built in 1940. It has a stucco facing that covers adobe brick walls. It has a gable roof with the main entry at the central axis of the building's lengthwise side.
- Building 7: This 1920 bunk house is one and one-half stories tall with a gable roof, screened porch and shows damage from being struck by lightning.
- Building 8: The herdsman cottage, built in 1909, is also a one and one-half story dwelling with a gable roof and screened porch but it has an addition to its left side.
- Building 10: This 1926 barn-like structure was called the shop. It is two stories tall with an English gambrel roof, clapboard facing, and corrals are to the rear.
- Building 11: The 1926 Firehouse has a gable roof, clapboard facing and a small vehicle entry.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1907

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

South Dakota's most important business is agriculture; farms such as this one near Newell have enhanced its development through various experimental projects conducted there. Not only is the Newell farm significant agriculturally but also scientifically, as it relates to a systematic study of crops and livestock. For these reasons, and the hope to encourage the recent buyers to maintain and restore the historic appearance of the property, the site is submitted for nomination.

Although four of the nine buildings have construction dates newer than fifty years, the site still warrants consideration. First, the site is significant in the development of dryland farming and various other agricultural experiments. Second, because the program was successful and important, the Agriculture Department had new buildings constructed. Third, the structures are almost all similar in design to the older ones. Fourth, like prosperous farms, field stations must grow and change with the development of new trends in agriculture and the end result is new buildings.

The creation of this station began with the passage of the Reclamation Act of 1902 which helped establish the Belle Fourche Reclamation Project, one of the first of its type. Eventually, this led to the construction of the Belle Fourche Experiment Farm at Newell. In 1950 its name changed to Newell Irrigation and Dryland Field Station, and in 1957 it became Newell Field Station. This experimental farm closed in 1973, and a special education group purchased the area for the purpose of establishing a vocational school.

One of the main purposes of the station was to find, through various methods and techniques, better ways to farm in semi-arid plain regions. Study of this type had not yet occurred but was desperately needed for parts of the country. Over the sixty-six years of operations, agronomists conducted various experiments on many agricultural subjects. Among the most important studies were shelter belts, various methods of irrigation and tillage, climate, soil-crop adaptation, wind erosion, and fertilizer. They also experimented with various crops such as flax, corn, alfalfa, wheat, and livestock. Overall, the project helped immensely in a large variety of fields and definitely is an important site for South Dakota agriculture. It also is significant to other farming areas that have a similar climate and soil.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Weakly, H. E., et al., "Fifty Years of Agricultural Research at the U.S.D.A. Newell Field Station, Newell, South Dakota."

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3 1/2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

	Longitude	Latitude
N.W.	103° 27' 05"	44° 43' 57" 53
S.W.	103° 27' 05"	44° 43' 43" 37
N.E.	103° 26' 57"	44° 43' 57" 53
S.E.	103° 26' 57"	44° 43' 43" 37

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Scott Gerloff, Historic Preservation Assistant II

ORGANIZATION

Historical Preservation Center

DATE

December/February 76

STREET & NUMBER

USD Alumni House

TELEPHONE

605/677-5314

CITY OR TOWN

Vermillion

STATE

South Dakota

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

John J. Little

TITLE Director/Historical Preservation Center

DATE 9/3/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 12/22/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 12/21/76

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Belle Fourche Experiment Farm Butte County, SOUTH DAKOTA

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVED

Keeper Beth Boland 2/4/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

JAN 06 1989

Section number _____ Page 1 of 1

NATIONAL REGISTER

AMENDMENT TO NOMINATION: CHANGE OF GEOGRAPHICAL DATA [ACREAGE]

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: Belle Fourche Experiment Farm (Newell Field Station).
NRIS Reference No. 76001722.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA: It has recently come to the attention of the South Dakota SHPO that the acreage of the Belle Fourche Experiment Farm was not recorded accurately in the original nomination of that property. Given the Verbal Boundary Description and after recalculating the longitude/latitude readings of the original nomination, the acreage should be 25 acres.

All other items of the original nomination should remain unchanged.

11. FORM PREPARED BY:

John E. Rau, National Register Coordinator
South Dakota State Historical Preservation Center
P. O. Box 417, Vermillion, SD, 57069
phone: 605-677-5314.

December 20, 1988.

4. 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets / / does not meet the National Register criteria / / See continuation sheet.


Signature of certifying official

12-21-88
Date

Deputy SHPO
State or Federal agency or bureau

BELLE FOURACHE EXPERIMENT FARM

BLD. 11

BLD. 10

BLD. 5

BLD. 6

BLD. 1

PARADE GROUND

BLD. 0

BLD. 7

BLD. 3



BLD. 2

