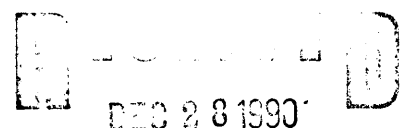


2209



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: Ayres, Lonnie and Francis, Ranch other name/ site number: Fox Ranch, CU-SA-4

2. Location

street & number: 2 mi. SE of Fourmile junct. on U.S. 16 /NA/ not for publication city, town: Custer /XX/ vicinity state: SOUTH DAKOTA code: SD county: Custer Code: SD 033 zip code: 57730

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property:		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
/XX/ private	/ / building(s)	6		buildings
/ / public-local	/XX/ district			sites
/ / public-state	/ / site	1	2	structures
/ / public-federal	/ / structure			objects
	/ / object	7	2	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: Rolene Jungemann, Consultant organization: Custer County Commission street & number: 3205 W. 43rd St., No. 21 city or town: Sioux Falls

date: October 22, 1990 telephone: 605-361-9954 state: SOUTH DAKOTA zip code: 57106

page 2: Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
property name

, Custer
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.

M. Fisher Signature of certifying official 12/24/91 Date

South Dakota 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) _____
- _____
- _____

Entered in the
Mark J. Baker National Register 25 Jan. 1991

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date

page 3: Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
property name

, Custer
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA
state

6. **Function or Use** (enter categories from instructions)

Historic functions:

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling

AGRICULTURE/Agricultural Outbuilding

AGRICULTURE/Storage

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

AGRICULTURE/Storage

AGRICULTURE/Agricultural Outbuilding

7. **Description**

Architectural Classification:

(enter categories from instructions)

No Style

Materials:

(enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone, Concrete

walls Wood

roof Wood, 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 / /B / /C / /D

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

Areas of Significance (enter from instructions)

Exploration/Settlement

Period of Significance

circa 1895-1940

Significant Dates

NA

Significant Person

NA

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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property name

, Custer
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: 9 acres

UTM References:

A = /13/	/608-630/	/4841-180/	B = /13/	/608-810/	/4841-180/
C = /13/	/608-630/	/4841-000/	D = /13/	/608-810/	/4841-000/
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

Quad: Fourmile

Scale: 1:24000

/ / see continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description:

/XX/ see continuation sheet

Boundary Justification:

/XX/ see continuation sheet

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Continuation Sheet

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Located about two miles southeast of the "Fourmile" junction of Pleasant Valley Road and U. S. Highway 16, the Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch is a collection of nine historically related buildings and structures. Designated as Homestead Entry Survey No. 198, marked by metes and bounds, the homestead ranch is situated along a lush creek bottom in the midst of the Black Hills National Forest.

1. House (**contributing**), ca. 1895. Believed to be built for Lonnie Ayres, the one-and-a-half story rectangular house is located northwest of Hay Creek. According to the present owner, Bethel Fox Henderson, the original portion of the house is a one story log building. In 1917-18, Homer Ruth constructed an addition giving the house its present general appearance. The house rises from a foundation of mortared stone and newer poured concrete footings. Clapboard siding covers the walls. The asymmetrical gable roof is covered with asphalt and wood shingles.

2. House (**contributing**), ca. 1910. Built for Charles Endecott, the one-story cube-shaped second house is located across the creek and southeast of the older house. The wood frame walls and pyramidal roof are covered with wood shingles. Plans are under way to modernize the house, but no structural alterations are proposed.

3. Garage (**contributing**), ca. 1940. Located at the north end of the driveway, the square garage is partially recessed into an earth embankment. It rises from a poured concrete floor. The interior walls of the garage feature a concrete veneer. Large barn doors provide the southern drive-in entrance to the building. Asphalt paper covers the gable roof.

4. Granary (**contributing**), ca. 1915. The rectangular, one-story granary is located along the east driveway southeast of the creek. Unmortared, loose stones support the log sill of the structure. The walls are constructed of vertical logs anchored to the log sill with long, diagonal nails. On the interior, horizontal planks are fastened to the logs. A gable roof, covered with a layer of newer asphalt shingles over the original wood shingles, caps the granary.

5. Spring House (**contributing**), ca. 1915. Located several feet from the creek, the spring house is a small one story building resting on poured concrete footings that rise two-and-a-half feet above grade. Clapboard siding covers the wood frame walls, and asphalt shingles cover the steep gable roof.

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6. Pump House (**contributing**), ca. 1915. The small wood frame building is located between the creek and the driveway. Rising from a poured concrete pad, the pump house is clad with clapboard siding and is capped by an asphalt-shingled shed roof.

7. Bunkhouse (**contributing**), ca. 1895. Situated northeast of the main house (resource no. 1), the log bunkhouse is believed to have been built for Lonnie Ayres. The rectangular, one-story building rises from a partial foundation of loose stones. Hand-hewn logs with tight, half-dovetail corner notching form the bunkhouse walls. Wood shingles cover the gable roof. Presently, the building is used for storage.

8. Shed (noncontributing), 1987. The shed is located directly north of the main house and is used for wood storage. A small rectangular structure, it is constructed of 2-inch by 6-inch studs covered with vertical plank siding on the north and east facades. The structure is open on the south and west facades. Corrugated tin panels cover the shed roof.

9. Barn ruins, (noncontributing), ca. 1895. Ruins of a log barn are located southeast of Hay Creek. Two partial corners, the log sill, and log debris are the only visible remains of the structure. The barn was constructed of hand-hewn logs with square notching. It is a noncontributing resource because, too little original historic fabric survives to permit restoration without complete replication, and it does not satisfy Criterion D.

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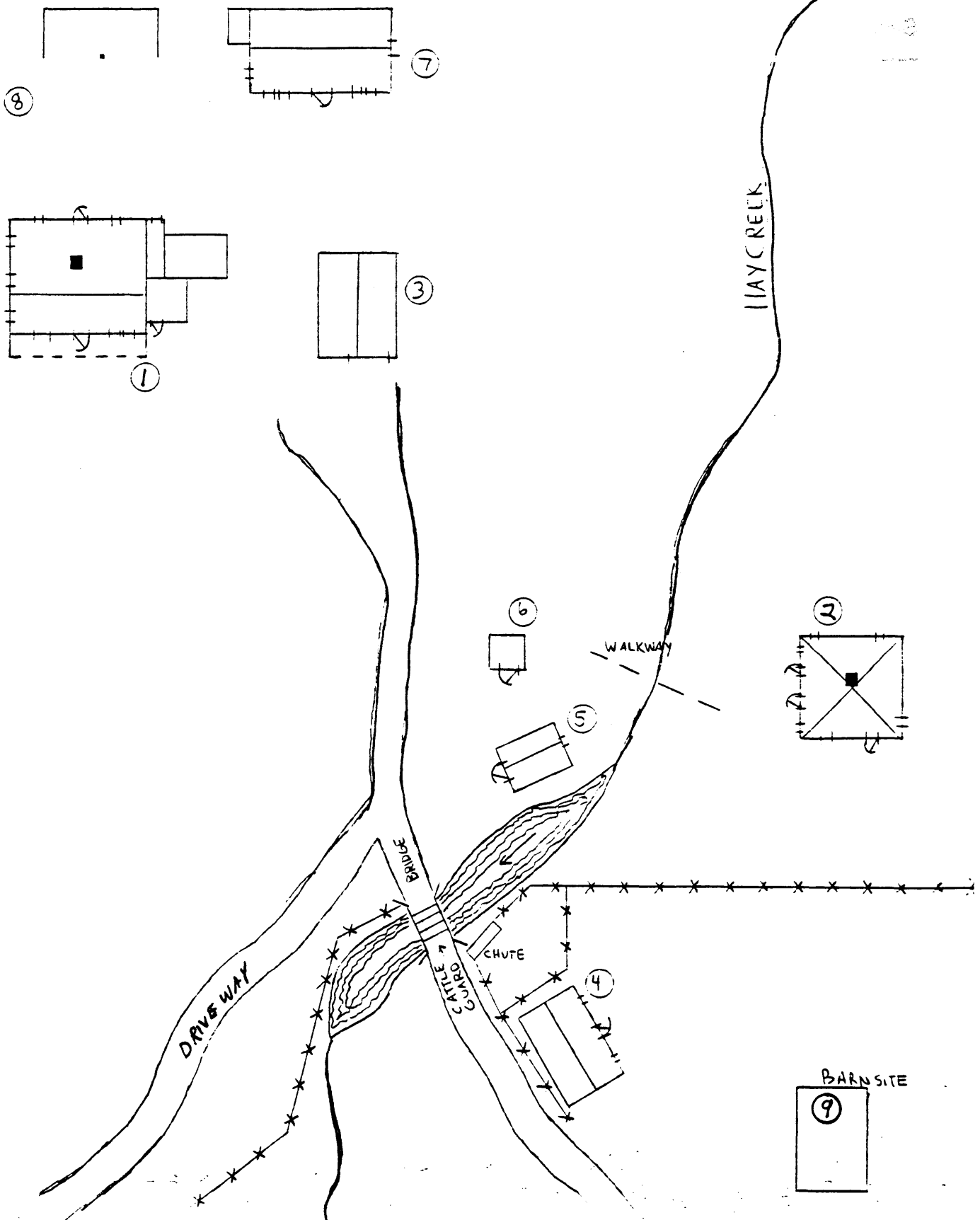
Sketch map of Ayres Ranch on reverse side

Numbers in circles refer to resource numbers assigned
in Item 7 description

Site Plan (indicate all door and window openings on buildings, roof shapes, and landscape features such as fence shrubs, etc.)



Indicate Nor



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Under Criterion A of the National Register Criteria, the Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch is significant in the area of Exploration/Settlement, because it is a well-preserved example of homestead ranches in northern and central Custer County. It contains a variety of resource types common to historic ranches in the region. Surviving in fair to good condition, the collection of resources at the Ayres Ranch illustrates the life of a working ranch in northern Custer County. Under the South Dakota Historical Preservation Plan, the nominated property relates to the following contexts: IV. Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement, A. Claim Era; and IV.,C. Farm and Ranch Structures.

According to the Sioux Winter Count, the Oglala Teton Sioux arrived in the Black Hills of South Dakota in 1775 and drove the Kiowa tribe from that region. Nearly 100 years later in 1874, rumors of gold in the Black Hills were confirmed by an expedition led by Lt. Colonel George A. Custer. Although the region was closed to non-Indian settlement by the 1868 Laramie Treaty, news of gold spurred white prospectors to rush into the Black Hills, many of them settling in the area now known as Custer County. On August 10, 1875 a group of miners met and organized Custer City. The county of Custer was established two years later, after the U. S. Government acquired the Black Hills and opened it to settlement. A flow of permanent agricultural settlers followed the wave of miners into the region. Around the turn of the century, the government began issuing homestead patents, under provisions of the Homestead Act of 1862, on parcels of Custer County land. In return for fee simple patent to 160 acres of government land, this law required a homesteader to reside on the land for 5 years and to pay a nominal filing fee. Most ranch claims in the northern and central parts of the county were acquired through the Homestead Act.

The Ayres family migrated from Missouri to Custer County in the 1890s and established one of these homesteads. They settled in Hay Draw and generated an income from the sale of hay and grain. Lonnie Ayres is believed to have constructed the house, bunkhouse, and barn in about 1895. A survey map of 1899 shows the ranch, marked as Homestead Entry Survey (HES) No. 198 assigned to Lonnie Ayres. Francis Ayres, brother of Lonnie Ayres, officially acquired HES #198 on April 28, 1914. The Golden Ridge Placer Mine, claimed by A. M. Trimble on May 24, 1904, lies slightly to the southwest of the ranch house. In 1910, Charles Endecott, cousin of the Ayres brothers, constructed a small four room house. Borrowing from the Shingle Style, the house is covered entirely with wood shake shingles.

Late in the second decade of the 20th Century, the property came under the ownership of Fon Coon, a native of Canton, China. He was often known to Custer residents as Jack Fliday. According to current owner Bethel Fox

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Henderson, Fon Coon was a gambler and may have won the ranch at the gaming tables. His stepson Homer Ruth constructed an addition to the main house in 1917-18. Fon Coon later lost the property to the Custer County Bank. In 1921, Margaret Fox and Lova Cyrus Fox, mother and brother of the current owner, purchased the ranch from the bank. Hereafter, the property has been known as the Fox Ranch. In 1940, Lova Fox added the garage to the district.

The period of significance of the nominated property extends from the date of construction of the oldest contributing resource in circa 1895 to 1940, the established 50-year cut-off date for the National Register.

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Section number 9 Page 1

A Brief History of Custer County, South Dakota. Custer, SD: Custer County Centennial Committee, 1961.

Henderson, Bethel Fox. Present owner. Personal interview with Rolene Jungemann and Ted Daughters. June 21, 1989.

_____. Telephone interviews with Rolene Jungemann. December 19, 1989 and January 4, 1990.

Larsen, Frances. Custer County Register of Deeds. Personal interview with Rolene Jungemann, April 10, 1990.

Our Yesterdays (1870-1970). Hermosa, SD: Eastern Custer County Historical Society, 1967-1970.

Schell, Herbert S. History of South Dakota. 3rd edition, revised: Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1975.

Sundstrom, Jessie T., ed. Custer County History to 1976. Rapid City, SD: Printing, Inc., 1977.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is bounded by a set of imaginary lines that intersect to form a polygon, the vertices of which are the following UTM points: A.) 13/608630/4841180, B.) 13/608810/4841180, C.) 13/608630/4841000, D.) 13/608810/4841000. The property is located in the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter and the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 9, Township 4 South, Range 4 East (Black Hills Meridian), in Custer county, South Dakota.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the nominated property are set to include all features of the ranch district and to exclude any public lands.

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1.

Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by Rolene Jungemann
June 1989
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
House (resource no. 1), south facade, camera facing north
Photo No. 1

2.

Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by Rolene Jungemann
June 1989
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
House (resource no. 2), west (front) and north facades,
camera facing southeast
Photo No. 2

3.

Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by Rolene Jungemann
June 1989
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
House (resource no. 2), south and east facades,
camera facing northwest
Photo No. 3

4.

Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by Rolene Jungemann
June 1989
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
Garage (resource no. 3), south facade, camera facing north
Photo No. 4

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5.

Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by Rolene Jungemann
June 1989
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
Granary (resource no. 4), east (front) and south facades,
camera facing northwest
Photo No. 5

6.

Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by Rolene Jungemann
June 1989
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
Spring House (resource no. 5), west (front) and north facades,
camera facing east.
Photo No. 6

7.

Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by Rolene Jungemann
June 1989
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
Spring House (resource no. 5), east and south facades,
camera facing west.
Photo No. 7

8.

Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by Rolene Jungemann
June 1989
Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
Pump House (resource no. 6), south (front) and west facades,
camera facing northeast
Photo No. 8

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9.

Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by Rolene Jungemann
June 1989

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
Bunkhouse (resource no. 7), south (front) and east facades,
camera facing northwest

Photo No. 9

10.

Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by Rolene Jungemann
June 1989

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
Shed (resource no. 8), south (front) and east facades,
camera facing northwest

Photo No. 10

11.

Lonnie and Francis Ayres Ranch
Custer Vicinity, Custer County, South Dakota
by Rolene Jungemann
June 1989

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center
Barn Ruins (resource no. 9), camera facing east

Photo No. 11