



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

OCT 09 2009

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction 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 State Soldiers Home Barn
other names/site number Michael J. Fitzmaurice South Dakota Veterans Home Barn

2. Location

street & number 2500 Minnekahta Ave [] not for publication
city or town Hot Springs [] vicinity
state South Dakota code SD county Fall River code 047 zip code 57747

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.)

Jay D. Voigt State Historic Preservation Officer 04-29-2009
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office
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
 See continuation sheet.
- other, explain
 See continuation sheet.

Signature of the Keeper Anna McCallum Date of Action 11-5-09

State Soldiers Home Barn

Fall River County South Dakota

Name of Property

County/State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	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.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Agricultural/Subsistence: Agricultural Outbuildings

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Secondary Structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

No style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Cement

walls Brick, Weatherboard

roof Asphalt Shingle

other _____

Narrative Description

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

State Soldiers Home Barn
Name of Property

Fall River County South Dakota
County/State

8. Statement of Significance

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Periods of Significance

1929

Significant Dates

1929

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

n/a

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.)

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

State Soldiers Home Barn
Name of Property

Fall River County South Dakota
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 621757 4810402
Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Chris B. Nelson

organization SD State Historic Preservation Office

date 3 March 2009

street & number 900 Governors Drive

telephone 605-773-3103

city or town Pierre

state SD

zip code 57501

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

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Michael J. Fitzmaurice South Dakota Veterans Home

street & number 2500 Minnekahta Ave

telephone 605-745-5127

city or town Hot Springs

state SD

zip code 57501

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****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Section number 7 Page 1Fall River County, South Dakota

DESCRIPTION

The barn is located on the campus of the Michael J. Fitzmaurice South Dakota Veterans Home in Hot Springs, formerly known as the State Soldiers Home. The barn sits to the west of the main complex. The complex itself sits on the hills overlooking the valley.

The barn has a cement foundation and brick walls that extend to a height of six feet. Above the brick is wood clapboard siding that extends four feet to the eaves of the roof. The roof is a Gothic Arch with asphalt shingles; the eaves are flared with exposed rafters. On the roof are two metal ventilators. All of the windows are wood.

The façade (north elevation) has a central double sliding wood door flanked by nine-pane windows. In the mid-section of the elevation are two wooden hay doors. Centered in the gable is large wood hay door flanked by nine-pane windows.

The east and west elevations are similar. The east elevation has a mixture of multi-pane windows and wood doors; the west elevation only has multi-pane windows. Some of the windows have been boarded to protect the multi-pane windows.

The south elevation has central double sliding doors flanked by nine-pane windows. There are also two nine-pane windows in the gable.

The hay loft on the second level interior remains intact. The laminated rafters are anchored to the loft floor at the top of the first floor walls. The loft is an open space; the hay swing and track are secured to the ceiling and not used. The central corridor remains intact on the first level, but the wood stanchions and pens have been removed to create open storage. The support posts that run the length of the corridor on both sides remain. There are two types of support posts: square wood posts and round steel posts.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Section number 8 Page 2

Fall River County, South Dakota

SIGNIFICANCE**Introduction**

The State Soldiers Home Barn is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an example of a Gothic Arch Barn in South Dakota.

Historical Background

The largest groups of American Indians present in South Dakota directly before white settlement were the Nakota, Dakota, and Lakota, known collectively as the Sioux. Anthropologists believe that the Sioux were pushed out of Minnesota onto the plains where they became the dominant group by the mid to late 1700s, although tribal creation stories tell of the Sioux inhabiting the area since time immemorial. The Dakota and Nakota lived primarily east of the Missouri River while the Lakota roamed the western half of the state. The Sioux were eventually forced onto reservations through a series of questionable treaties that opened up land for white settlement.

History of Hot Springs

In 1879 Deadwood resident William Thornby accompanied geologist Walter Jenney to the southern Black Hills. Although the two men hoped to find gold, they were temporarily distracted by reports of hot water springs in the area, which had been noted by an 1875 scientific expedition led by Jenney and Walter Newton. Jenney and Thornby located the Minnekahta Spring, which derived its name from a Native American Indian word meaning "hot water". Impressed by the possibilities the site offered, Thornby returned to legally claim the spring. He delayed making improvements to the site, however, and eventually gave up his claim to Joe Larive and John Davidson and their families, who camped near the spring and utilized its warm waters.¹

At the same time, other settlers were taking interest in the general area for other reasons. George Turner came there to manage a cattle operation and with Joseph Brunschmidt, built the first cabin on the future townsite. L. B. Reno and A. B. Bond built the second. Other cabins were built by homesteaders George Trimmer and John Dennis. These settlers were primarily farmers and ranchers, but the advantages of the warm water mineral springs offered another economic opportunity. By 1881, Larive, Davidson and Trimmer were offering mineral baths to the public, and the spa era had begun.²

In that year, William Thornby wrote an article about the warm springs in the Fall River valley for Deadwood's newspaper, the *Black Hills Pioneer*. Rudolphus Dickenson Jennings, a Deadwood resident and federal government employee who had trained as a doctor, read the article and visited the site. His enthusiasm for the possibilities there led to the formation of the Hot Springs Town-Site Company in the fall of 1881 by Dickenson and five other Deadwood men: Ervin G. Dudley, L. R. Graves, Alexander S. Stewart, and Fred T. Evans. The company purchased Larive's claim, and Dickinson and Stewart moved to the site where Stewart filed on additional land. The next spring, Dickinson's wife Mattie and their daughter joined him in the new community and began operating the town's first hotel and bathhouse. The hotel—essentially a long log cabin-- held one sleeping room with four beds for men, a kitchen, a dining room, and Mrs. Dickenson's room, where she occasionally took in women guests. The bathhouse, a ten-foot-square log cabin, was warmed by a wood stove.³

Ervin Dudley and Alexander Stewart and their families also came to area in 1882, and other people not

¹ Suzanne Julin. *Hot Springs Historic District National Register of Historic Places Nomination*.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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

Section number 8 Page 3

Fall River County, South Dakota

associated with the townsite company began to settle there. The original town site was platted on land owned by Jennie and Edmund Petty, and the plat map filed in January, 1883. Later that year, Hot Springs was named county seat of the newly created Fall River County, established after a bitter fight to separate the area from Custer County. The county seat designation brought a sense of permanence and security to the little town, further enhanced when the Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad reached Buffalo Gap, thirteen miles away. The proximity of the railroad helped to fuel a boom that was accelerated by Fred Evans and his involvement in building Hot Springs.⁴

Hot Spring's attraction as a spa and resort town also attracted the attention of politicians. Its location in southern Black Hills and natural hot springs made it an ideal location for veteran's hospitals and facilities. Because of this resource, both federal and state veteran's facilities were located in Hot Springs.

Gothic Arch Barns

Gothic Arch barns were first constructed in the United States in the late 1800s, but did not become popular in the Midwest until the early 1900s. Their popularity grew in the 1910s as the lamination process developed which allowed for larger rafters to be fabricated. The roof's large appearance and brace free haymow was an appealing design for many Midwest farmers.⁵

Common elements of the Gothic Arch barn include multiple windows on the long sides of the barn, a large hay door on the second floor of the barn, and the distinctive arch roof. Gothic Arch barns were never as popular in South Dakota as gambrel roof or gabled barns, but many examples do appear across the state. These barns were often constructed as part of barn kits or off of plans published in trade journals.

History of the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home (formerly the State Soldiers Home)

The Dakota Territorial Legislature met in February of 1889. While in session, they passed a bill establishing the Dakota Soldiers' Home to be located in Hot Springs, South Dakota. The bill carried an appropriation of \$45,000 for construction. The object of the home was to provide care and subsistence for veterans and their wives and widows who meet eligibility requirements for admission to the home. The cornerstone of the first building was placed on November 11, 1889. One hundred years later in 1989, the Dakota Soldiers' Home was officially renamed the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home. Fitzmaurice is a South Dakota Vietnam Veteran who received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The barn was built in 1929 at a cost of \$6,500.⁶ The State Home made every effort to supply all food by raising as much as possible on the grounds. There was a large garden and a dairy herd of 25 cows; pigs were fattened for butchering and in 1923 the home purchased 900 buff Orpington chicks.⁷ In June of 1953, the State accepted a bid of the 711 Ranch to supply the home with raw milk.⁸ The

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Brooks, Allyson and Steph Jacon. *Homesteading and Agricultural Development Context*. (Pierre: SD, South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 1994), 53.

⁶ Kris Loken. *Historical Review of Institution Under the Supervision of the South Dakota State Board of Charities and Corrections*. (Pierre: SD, State Board of Charities and Corrections, 1973), 5.

⁷ Ibid, 5.

⁸ Ibid, 5.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Section number 8 Page 4

Fall River County, South Dakota

dairy herd was subsequently sold at auction.⁹ The home gradually discontinued gardening and raising animals. The barn was then converted to a storage use, which it retains today (2009).¹⁰

A review of the buildings in the 1970s showed no extant agricultural structure other than the barn.¹¹ Other agricultural outbuildings, such as chicken houses, must have existed in the 1920s but were thought to have been razed sometime after agricultural production ceased at the home. The location of the garden on the campus is not known. Given the geography of the campus (located at a higher elevation in the Black Hills above the Fall River valley) it is likely that the garden consisted of vegetables such as potatoes, beans, beets, etc. as opposed to row crops of corn, wheat, oats etc. The physical layout of the home in the hilly terrain would have made cultivation of field crops difficult.

There is no record that a formal rehabilitation program for patients was associated with agricultural production at the home. However, residents did participate voluntarily in projects around the campus. While waiting for one of the dormitories to be constructed, each man helped in "clearing the house of mortar, shavings, and debris incident to its building."¹² It was also noted that "each man cheerfully did all he could to help the work along."¹³ The residents also helped clear the ground of trees and brush and plowed the road leading up to the campus.¹⁴ Given the fact that the men volunteered for these duties, it is probable they also volunteered with agricultural chores.

The Gothic Arch barn is an excellent example of the property type in its largely unaltered state. The brick walls, multi-pane windows, and Gothic Arch roof with flared eaves and exposed rafter ends are defining characteristics of the style. Although it is no longer used for its original purpose, its current storage use allows it to contribute to the operation of the veteran's home and remain a viable historic structure.

The barn retains a high degree of integrity in all seven aspects. It remains largely unaltered with the only significant changes being the removal of some of the stalls on the interior to open up the first floor for storage uses. The barn has a high degree of integrity in feeling and association and is one of the most recognizable buildings on the complex.

⁹ Ibid, 5.

¹⁰ Ibid, 5.

¹¹ Ibid, 4-5.

¹² W.V. Lucas. *The Soldier's Home*. (Mitchell: SD, Educator School Supply Co., 1903), 5.

¹³ Ibid, 5.

¹⁴ Ibid, 5-6.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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

Section number 8 Page 5

Fall River County, South Dakota

Conclusion

The State Soldiers Home Barn is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an example of a Gothic Arch Barn in South Dakota.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Section number 9 Page 6Fall River County, South Dakota

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Brooks, Allyson and Steph Jacon. *Homesteading and Agricultural Development Context*. South Dakota State Historical Society Press, Pierre: SD, 1994

Fall River County Historical Society. *Fall River County Pioneer Histories*. 1976.

Julin, Suzanne. *Hot Springs Historic District National Register of Historic Places Nomination*. 2007.

Loken Kris. *Historical Review of Institution Under the Supervision of the South Dakota State Board of Charities and Corrections*. State Board of Charities and Corrections, Pierre: SD, 1973.

Lucas, W.V. *The Soldier's Home*. Educator School Supply Co., Mitchell: SD, 1903.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Section number 10 Page 7Fall River County, South Dakota

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The boundary is an imaginary line that begins three feet northwest of the northwest corner and runs east to a point three feet northeast of the northeast corner and then runs south to a point three feet southeast of the southeast corner and then runs west to a point three feet to the southwest of the southwest corner and then runs north to the original starting point.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses only the area associated with the barn.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**Section number 10 Page 8Fall River County, South Dakota

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1-2 except as noted:

Photographer: Chris B Nelson
Date of Photographs: 1 January 2009
Negatives: SD SHPO

<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>Photographic Information</u>
01	StateSoldiersHomeBarn_FallRiverCounty_SD_0001.tiff Southeast
02	StateSoldiersHomeBarn_FallRiverCounty_SD_0002.tiff West