

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED AUG 22 1977
DATE ENTERED JAN 30 1978

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 *

Herman Luce Cabin

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Lake Herman State Park

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Madison

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

South Dakota

VICINITY OF

CODE
046

COUNTY
Lake

CODE
079

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks Department

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Pierre

VICINITY OF

STATE

South Dakota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Lake County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Madison

STATE

South Dakota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

South Dakota Historic Sites Survey

DATE

April 1977

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Historical Preservation Center

CITY, TOWN

Vermillion

STATE

South Dakota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Herman Luce Cabin is a one and one half story, rectangular dwelling of hewn oak logs with a wooden-shingled roof of medium pitch. The one room cabin was built in 1871 over a stone cellar which serves as a foundation for the base logs, set a few inches above ground level.

There are two doors, one in the north wall and one in the south wall. There is a shuttered, double hung window just to the east of the south door, and another in the east wall. There is a small, shuttered window in the west wall and another in the east gable end. The gable ends are of board-and-batten construction.

Alterations to the structure during its 70 year occupancy included room dividers (now removed), and repairs such as the replacement of roofing, windows, and mortar from between logs and around the top of the foundation.

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 type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 1871

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Lee, Herman N. Luce

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Only a few cabins built by settlers in eastern South Dakota are still standing; fewer still remain on their original sites, as does the Herman N. Luce Cabin. This cabin was the second constructed in Lake County, and is the oldest still standing. It was the site of the first recorded birth in the area, that of Herman David Luce, grandson of Herman N. Luce. The cabin was the first Post Office and served as Land Office for the new community which, like the lake, was named Herman after Herman Luce.

Herman N. Luce and his family were among the earliest people to become permanent settlers. Herman Luce served as Postmaster and Land Grant Officer for the area. In 1873, the territorial governor appointed commissioners to be charged with organizing Lake County; one of these commissioners was Herman Luce.

Although the town of Herman was abandoned in 1881 when the railroad by-passed it in favor of New Madison, the Herman Luce Cabin remained. Indeed, it is the only structure remaining from the days before the railroad. The cabin was continually occupied until 1941, when the park was originally purchased.

Adjacent to the cabin, and just west of it, are the graves of four of the original family: Herman N. Luce's wife, eight-year-old daughter, mother-in-law, and brother-in-law. All were interred within the first decade of the cabin's habitation.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Early History of South Dakota Counties, n.d., p66.

Lake County Historical Museum, P.E. Tyrell, Director, personal interview with Steven Ruple 4 April 1977.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1,4	64,70,8,0	4,87,213,5,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The boundaries below are shown in red on accompanying aerial photo.

Northern Boundary: Retaining wall north of cabin.

Eastern Boundary: Retaining wall east of cabin.

Western Boundary: A north-south line through a point 50 feet west of grave sites, to north and south boundaries.

Southern Boundary: An east-west line 80 meters south of northern boundary, connecting east and west boundaries.

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 Steven D. Ruple, Historical Archaeologist August 1, 1977
 ORGANIZATION Historical Preservation Center DATE (605) 677-5314
 STREET & NUMBER 415 East Main Street TELEPHONE
 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 X

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 DATE 15 Aug 77
 TITLE Director/Historical Preservation Center

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE <u>1 30 78</u>
ATTEST: <u>Clark Adams</u>	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <u>7 24 78</u>