

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

SEP 16 2005

1191

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions 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 any 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 Tomahawk Lake Country Club
other names/site number Tomahawk County Club

2. Location

street & number Highway 385 not for publication _____
city or town Deadwood Vicinity _____
state South Dakota Code SD county Lawrence code 081 zip code 57732

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.)

Signature of certifying official Jay D. Vogt Date 09-12-2005

South Dakota SHPO
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 commenting or other official _____ Date _____

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.☐ other,

(explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Elson H. Beall 10.26.05

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**

Contributing

Noncontributing

0

0

Buildings

1

0

Sites

0

0

Structures

0

0

Objects

1

0

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation and Culture	Sub: Sports facility
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation and Culture	Sub: Sports facility
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

No Style _____

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation	n/a
Roof	n/a
Walls	n/a
Other	n/a

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

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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The Tomahawk Lake Country Club is located 8 miles south of Deadwood, Lawrence County, South Dakota. The Black Hills are located in western South Dakota and run approximately 120 miles north to south and 60 mile east to west. The hills were uplifted and eroded millions of years ago, exposing several varieties of minerals.

The Tomahawk Lake Country Club golf course is a nine hole course. The golf course is arranged in a roughly circular pattern and plays counter-clockwise beginning at the southwest corner. The course has a par of 36 and totals 3,390 yards.

Tomahawk is surrounded by coniferous forest. Part of the course overlaps the Tomahawk Diatreme, which is a wild assortment of igneous rocks, volcanic ash, and assorted rubble formed millions of years ago as molten magma came to the surface.¹ The holes are laid out in the valleys formed by the ridges. Creeks and long grass along creek banks play as hazards; out of bounds areas are marked by white stakes.

Hole 1

Hole 1 is a 541 yard par five that plays from the southwest uphill to the northeast.

Hole 2

Hole 2 is a 385 yard par four that plays east and dog legs downhill to the south.

Hole 3

Hole 3 is a 179 yard par three that plays downhill west to east.

Hole 4

Hole 4 is a 390 yard par four that plays from the south and dog legs uphill to the northwest.

Hole 5

Hole 5 is a 360 yard par four that plays from northeast downhill to the southwest.

Hole 6

Hole 6 is 330 yard par four that plays from the southwest downhill to the northeast.

Hole 7

¹ John Paul Gries. *Roadside Geology of the South Dakota*. (Missoula: MT, Mountain Press Publishing Company, 1996), 309-310.

Tomahawk Lake Country Club
Name of Property

Lawrence County, South Dakota
County and State

NPS FORM 10-900-A
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

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Hole 7 is a 540 yard par four that plays from the northeast uphill to the southwest.

Hole 8

Hole 8 is a 210 yard par three that plays from the northeast to the southwest.

Hole 9

Hole 9 is a 440 yard par four that plays from the northeast to the southwest.

See Continuation Sheets

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.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Landscape Architecture

Period of Significance

1934

Tomahawk Lake Country Club
Name of Property

Lawrence County, South Dakota
County and State

Significant Dates 1934

Significant Person n/a

Cultural Affiliation n/a

Architect/Builder Lawrence Hughes, Landscape Architect

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

(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: n/a

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The Tomahawk Lake Country Club is significant as a designed landscape created by golf course designer Lawrence Hughes. It is also significant as being one of the first architect designed golf courses in western South Dakota. It is eligible for the National Register under criterion C as a designed landscape.

In 1933, three Deadwood businessmen, John H. Hannah, Atherton A. Coburn, and Leeland V. Moreford purchased the land for the golf course which was located on the Johnson and Drollman ranches.¹ The three businessmen incorporated the Tomahawk Lake Country Club in September of 1933. The corporation consisted of 1000 shares valued at \$25 a piece and had a board of seven directors.²

The land was located adjacent to the Tomahawk Lake project, which was part of the Sawyer Memorial Park donated by Nellie Sawyer.³ The land for the park was donated under the condition that it be used for public recreational purposes. The construction of the lake had been started with Civil Works Administration (CWA) funds, but was finished with funds from the Sawyer estate.⁴ Tomahawk Lake Country Club was a private venture built next to the lake for its recreation potential.

Construction of the golf course began in September of 1933 with R. L. Ewing overseeing the company of Chauk and Birdsall who were hired to do the initial dirt work, timber clearing, and seeding.⁵ Work was halted in the winter and construction began again in the spring under the direction of golf course architect Lawrence Hughes.⁶ By May of 1934, the greens had been molded and were to be seeded as soon as the water system was installed.⁷ The course was completed and opened on 14 July 1934.

¹ "Construction Work Started on Tomahawk Golf Course," *Black Hills Pioneer*, 29 September 1933, 1.

² *Secretary of State Incorporation Records*. South Dakota State Archives, Accession #89.155.

³ "Tomahawk Lake Work is Speeding Up," *The Black Hills Weekly*, 20 April 1934, 1.

⁴ *Ibid*, 1.

⁵ "Construction Work Started on Tomahawk Golf Course," *Black Hills Pioneer*, 29 September 1933, 1.

⁶ "Tomahawk Lake Work is Speeding Up," *The Black Hills Weekly*, 20 April 1934, 1.

⁷ "Work at Tomahawk Lake, Golf Course, Progressing," *The Black Hills Weekly*, 11 May 1934, 1.

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Section number 8 Page # 2

Tomahawk Lake Golf Course was touted as being the only course within a radius of 350 or 400 miles with grass greens.⁸ It had an irrigation system with over 13,000 feet of pipe which carried water to the greens, tees, and drinking fountains at five of the greens.⁹ The greens were planted with a variety of bent grass which was suitable to the Black Hills climate. A clubhouse was also built as part of the project, but it no longer remains intact.

The first golf courses were not designed landscapes but instead laid out over existing natural terrain. Scotland is credited as being the home of modern golf. As Scots emigrated elsewhere, they took their favorite pastime with them, consequently increasing golf's popularity throughout Europe and North America. Golf course construction flourished in the early 20th century in the United States, but was severely hampered with the onset of the depression in the 1930s. Consequently, in the years 1932 to 1952 only 200 new courses opened for play.¹⁰

Lawrence Hughes designed and built the golf course at Tomahawk Lake Country Club. According to Cornish and Whitten's *The Architects of Golf*, Hughes's father was employed as a construction supervisor for renown golf course designer Donald Ross. Lawrence Hughes went to work for Ross in his late teens and began building courses for him after his discharge from the Army after World War I. During the Depression, Hughes operated a gas station in Denver, Colorado, and began doing golf course design on the side to supplement his income. It was during this time that he designed the golf course at Tomahawk Lake Country Club. Hughes would not take up golf course design full time until after World War II, but would continue to design courses in the southwestern United States and Mexico into the 1970s. Tomahawk Lake Country Club is believed to be Hughes's first solo venture at golf course design.

Lawrence Hughes worked for and designed a number of courses for, Donald Ross, a fact that leaves clues in the design of Tomahawk. Ross's design style incorporated "naturalness and a links touch," a style which Hughes incorporated in the design of Tomahawk.¹¹ The design of Tomahawk incorporates natural features, specifically the holes are laid out over natural contours as the valleys

⁸ "Course at Tomahawk to Be Ready For Play July 1," *The Black Hills Weekly*, 24 May 1934, 1.

⁹ Ibid, 1.

¹⁰ Geoffrey S. Cornish and Ronald Whitten. *The Architects of Golf*. (New York: NY, Harper Collins Publishing, 1981), 100.

¹¹ Ibid, 392.

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and drainages wind around the ridges. While the course doesn't lay flat like a pro-typical links course, the natural undulations and terrain have remained untouched and give it the feel of a links course even though the elevations of the holes vary.

An original plan of the course exists, although it does not possess enough diagnostic evidence to unequivocally link it to Hughes. However, golf course critic Ron Whitten has seen the plan and commented that it looks like work of Donald Ross or one of his assistants.¹² The original plan does show that very little has changed on the course over the years, with the only alterations being the addition of some additional tee boxes and the removal of several trees on the dog-leg right second hole by an overzealous member with a bad slice several years ago. Trees have since been replanted on the hole to restore it to its intended play.

Tomahawk Lake Country Club is significant for several reasons. It was the first course designed by golf course architect Lawrence Hughes, and possibly one of the first designed courses in South Dakota. Tomahawk was also one the first courses in the surrounding area to have extensive irrigation and original grass greens. It is also significant as being one of the few new courses built during the Great Depression.

Tomahawk Lake Country Club is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C as a fine example of a designed golf course landscape in South Dakota. The course has undergone only minor changes since its construction and retains a high degree of integrity in design, setting, feeling, and association. The minor changes that have been made to the course do not inhibit its ability to project its historic character.

¹² Ronald Whitten. *Course Critic Golf Digest*.
<http://www.golfdigest.com/courses/critic/index.ssf?/courses/critic/tomahawk.html>. 25 July 2005.

Tomahawk Lake Country Club
Name of Property

Lawrence County, South Dakota
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 82 acres

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>13</u>	<u>605301</u>	<u>4905269</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>13</u>	<u>604348</u>	<u>4904525</u>

3	<u>13</u>	<u>604513</u>	<u>4905165</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u>13</u>	<u>605297</u>	<u>4904257</u>

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Chris B. Nelson
organization State Historic Preservation Office date 1 July 2005
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)

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Section number 9&10 Page # 1

Bibliography

Black Hills Pioneer. 29 September 1934.

Black Hills Weekly. 20 April-24 May 1934.

Cornish, Geoffrey S. and Ronald Whitten. *The Architects of Golf*. Harper Collins Publishers, New York: NY, 1981

Crothers, Samuel. *Merion Golf Club, East and West Courses*. National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1989.

Gries, John Paul. *Roadside Geology of South Dakota*. Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula: MT, 1996.

Secretary of State Incorporation Records. South Dakota State Archives, Accession #89.155.

Whitten, Ronald. *Course Critic Golf Digest*.

<http://www.golfdigest.com/courses/critic/index.ssf?/courses/critic/tomahawk.html>. 25 July 2005

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary is an imaginary line in the shape of a parallelogram and encompasses the nine hole golf course. The boundary begins at a point 100 feet south of the 5th green and runs north to a point 100 feet northeast of the 6th green. The line then runs west to a point 200 feet northwest of the 9th tee box. The line then runs south to a point 100 feet south of the 1st tee box. The line then runs east and connects with the original starting point.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is an imaginary line drawn to encompass the area historically associated with the golf course. The parallelogram encompasses the whole course by having the boundary line extend to include all areas of the course.

Tomahawk Lake Country Club
Name of Property

Lawrence County, South Dakota
County and State

Property Owner

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

name Tomahawk County Club
street & number 21496 Highway 385 telephone 605-578-9979
city or town Deadwood state SD zip code 57732

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Tomahawk Lake Country Club
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: SOUTH DAKOTA, Lawrence

DATE RECEIVED: 9/16/05 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/30/05
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/15/05 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/30/05
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05001191

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 10.26.05 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Tomahawk Lake Country Club
Laurence County, SD
Chris Nelson

August 2005
SHPO Pierre SD
Northwest
lot 3



Tomahawk Lake Country Club

Lawrence County SD

Chris Nelson

August 2005

SHPO Pierre SD

North

2 of 3



Tomahawk Lake Country Club

Lawrence County SD

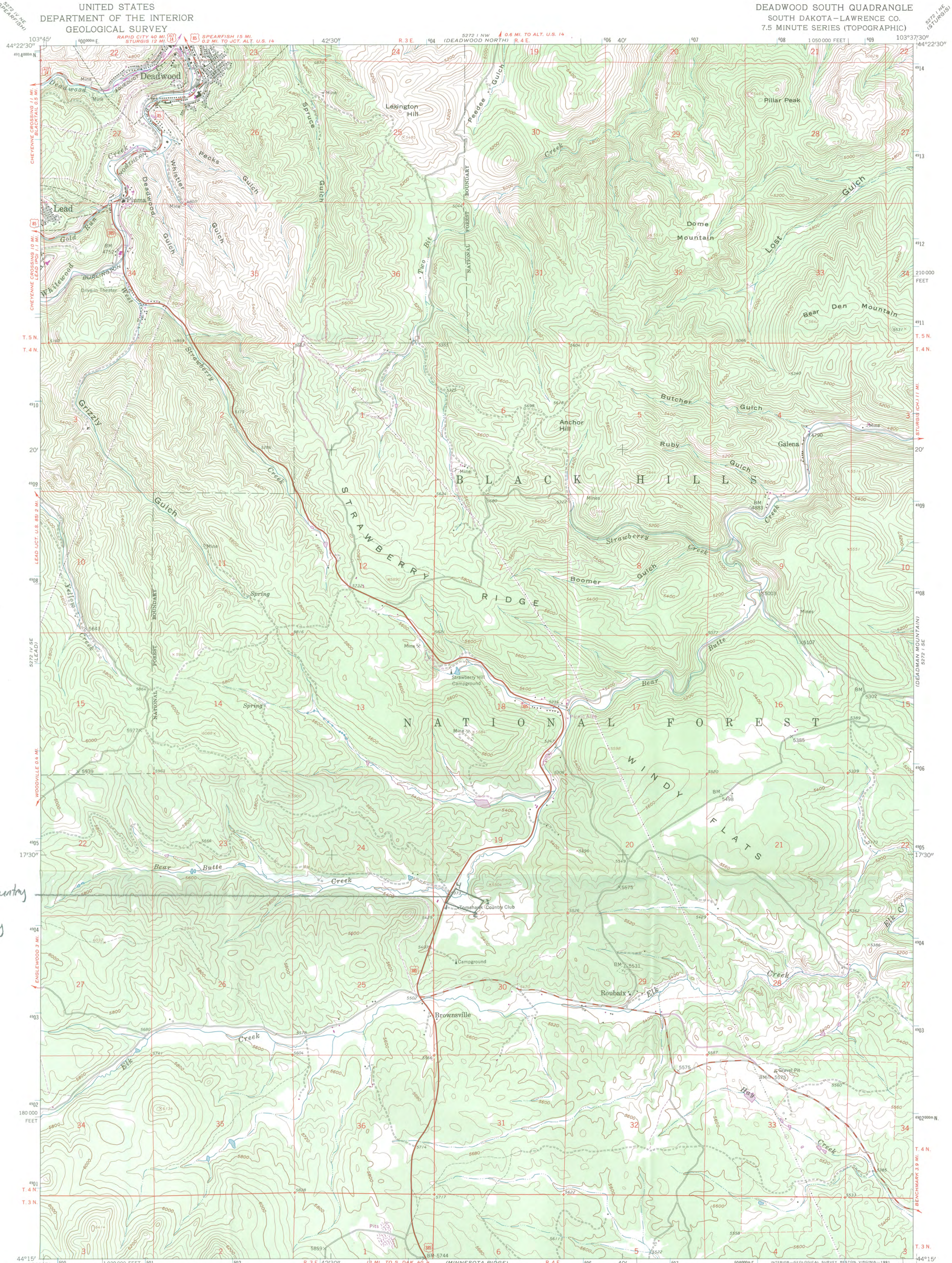
Chris Nelson

August 2005

SHPD Pierre, SD

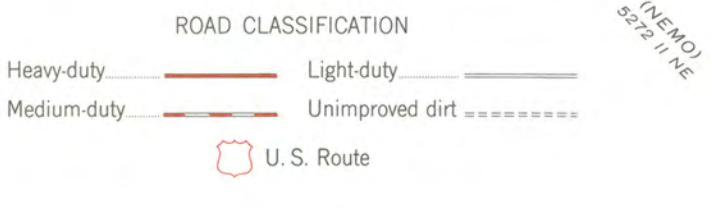
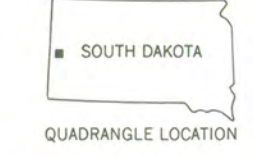
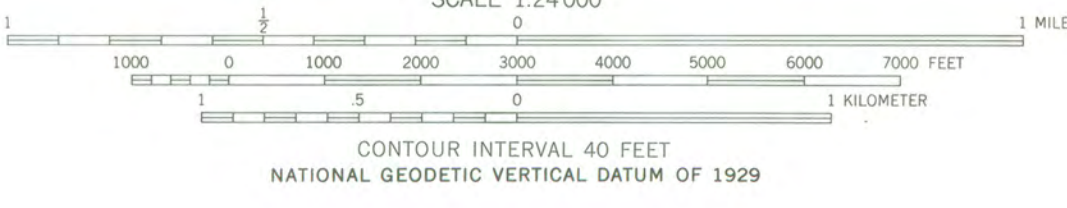
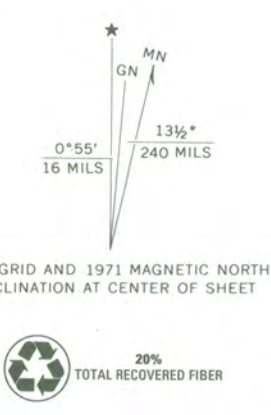
East

3 of 3



Tomahawk Lake Country Club
Lawrence County
South Dakota
Z=13
1. E=605301
N=4905269
2. E=604348
N=4904525
3. E=604513
N=4905165
4. E=605297
N=4904257

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1958. Field checked 1961
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on South Dakota coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 13, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1971. This information not field checked
The difference between 1927 North American Datum and North
American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) for 7.5-minute intersections
is given in USGS Bulletin 1875. The NAD 83 is shown by
dashed corner ticks



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Map photoinspected 1976
No major culture or drainage changes observed

DEADWOOD SOUTH, S. DAK.
44103-C6-TF-024
PHOTOINSPECTED 1976
1961
PHOTOREVISED 1971
DMA 5272 I SW—SERIES V873

