

PHO 500101

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 30 1977
DATE ENTERED MAR 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 Anderson Homestead

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
County line road between Union and Clay County

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Aisen - Park City

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
No. 1

STATE
South Dakota

CODE
046

COUNTY
Clay

CODE
027

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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mrs. John P. Quirk

STREET & NUMBER
408 Forest Boulevard

CITY, TOWN
Hastings

___ VICINITY OF

STATE
Nebraska 68901

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Clay County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Main Street

CITY, TOWN
Vermillion

STATE
South Dakota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
South Dakota Historic Sites Survey

DATE
1975

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Historical Preservation Center

CITY, TOWN
Vermillion

STATE
South Dakota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 Anderson farm is located northeast of Vermillion in the small town of Alsen which acquired its post office in 1874. The 2.06 acre farmstead is located on the flat prairie. A large farmhouse, twenty-one outbuildings, and a smaller original house make up the site.

Built in 1871, the original farmhouse follows a vernacular style prevalent in the south-east. Since Olaf Erickson, the original builder, came from Sweden, it is uncertain how he became familiar with this house type. The important characteristics of the Georgian influenced hall and parlor house include its story and a half height, one room depth, two room length, and a central doorway flanked by an equal number of windows, one in this case. The rear ell is typical for the style. Decoration from the period includes an Italianate type lintel over the doors and windows and a molding board at the eaves.

A large clapboard, Neo-classical style house with Georgian characteristics was built on the property in 1901. The house possesses a symmetrical facade with six coupled windows on the second floor balanced by two large windows with stain glass on either side of the central door on the first. A dormer with a typical neo-classical palladian window is centered over the front entrance. The front door is flanked by two three-quarter side-lights and an arch with thin colonettes. The chimneys are quite prominent on the exterior and are placed on either side of the central hall on the ridge line. The windows of the north and south facade are also symmetrically placed, two on the first and second story and a single central one on the third. A large molding with full return and a divider between the first and second floors round out the Georgian characteristics. However, Italianate brackets under the eaves deviate from the Georgian pattern. A series of ells greatly enlarge the house to the rear.

The rectangular farmstead of 2.06 acres consists of twenty-one outbuildings, an abnormally large amount. A steel barn and three round silos make up the only recent additions to the farmstead. The wooden outbuildings include a horse barn, two granaries, a silo, two equipment sheds, a cattle shelter, a chicken house, a possible summer kitchen, and four small sheds. Also, a stone building north of the dwelling house may have served as part of the creamery. Evidence of a creamery, cattle barn, and steam mill have disappeared from the site. Some of the outbuildings merit special attention. Built in 1894, the elaborate, clapboard, two story horse barn presents a symmetrical facade. Two windows flank either side of the entrance, and a large gable with a palladian-like window is placed over the entrance. Reputedly the first in the state, the square, wooden silo to the north of the horse barn was constructed in 1894. One granary just south of the horse barn is a three bay, end opening structure with a gable roof. East of the first, the second granary has a dual function, containing a granary on one side and a stable on the other. It is a side opening, three bay structure with a gable roof. The equipment shed to the west of the farmstead is salt box shape, retaining as outbuildings many times do, a traditional style which has for the most part disappeared in contemporary house styles. The rather elaborate chicken house resembles a small barn and carries a cupola on the ridge. Since it is a low, stone building which would retain cool air, the structure to the north of the house probably functioned as a creamery. Finally, a small square building with a stone chimney near the northeast corner of the cattle yard, probably a summer kitchen, is fairly typical for older South Dakota farmsteads. The varied functions of the outbuildings display a diversified agricultural base.

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 checked="" 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 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 1876, 1901

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although the farmhouse and the number of outbuildings on the farmstead prove to be atypical for the area, the buildings and arrangement of the farmstead, the farm's agricultural history, and the background of its settlement are characteristic at either local or regional levels. Also, the excellent preservation and background knowledge of the site's development add greatly to the farm's significance.

Apart of the general pattern of settlement during the period 1868 to 1873, the area east of Vermillion was heavily populated by Swedish immigrants. Many of the first Swedes who came to the state concentrated in the areas of Union, Clay, and Minnehaha Counties. A Swede, Olaf Erickson originally settled the farm in 1871 and erected the first dwelling which still stands. Solomon Anderson, also a Swede, came to Alsen in 1876 from Omaha, Nebraska, married Erickson's daughter, and purchased the farm in 1878. Unlike many of the other ethnic groups, the Swedish settlements tended to be less compact and less socially tightly knit. This tendency weakened their social organization and insured a more rapid integration into the general population.

The agricultural production of the Anderson farm followed the local patterns of development. Succeeding times of agricultural stagnation from drought, grasshopper plagues, and Indian menace, Olaf Erickson arrived during a period of relative prosperity, 1868 to 1873, for southeastern South Dakota. At this time, the farmers of Clay County mainly produced wheat for local consumption. Being a blacksmith, Erickson probably farmed only on a small scale or not at all. Exactly what was raised or what structures were erected for farming are unknown. None of the outbuildings appear to date to this period.

Anderson purchased the farm following the recovery from the panic of 1877. By this time, local farmers shifted away from wheat production realizing that mixed agriculture, a stock farm based upon corn, would be less susceptible to grasshopper plagues. Beginning in the late 1870's and expanding into the early 1880's, Anderson like other farmers created ranches of about 200 acres. Dairy cattle increased along with other types of cattle and the production of hay. Butter and cheese were produced on the farm and hauled to towns to be traded locally. A few creameries had started by the early 1880's.

Since prosperity had begun to return by 1878, interest in dairying slowly dwindled. With the return of drought by 1890, a resurgence of interest in dairying appeared. While only sixteen creameries were recorded in 1890, one hundred forty-six were counted within the state by 1896. There were five creameries in Clay County; the one in Alsen on the Anderson farm being the most successful in the area. Like others, Anderson's creamery was a cooperative or stock company venture begun under the direction of the agricultural college at Brookings. Rather than gathering cream as before, farmers brought their product to the creamery. However, as prosperity returned by 1900, the interest in dairying again abated. In 1902, only two creameries remained. Alsen's lasted until 1929 at which

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Briggs, Harold E., unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, "The Early History of Clay County." Vermillion, University of South Dakota, 1924.
- CLAY COUNTY PLACE NAMES. Vermillion, Historic Sites Committee, Clay County Historical Society, 1976.
- Glassie, Henry, PATTERNS IN MATERIAL FOLK CULTURE IN EASTERN UNITED STATES. Philadelphia University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.06

UTM REFERENCES

3W	A	14	678810	4750680	NW	B	678810	4750680
		13	678930	4758000				
		14	679050	4750680				
NE	C		679050	4758000	SE	D	679050	4758000

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Joyce McKay, Historical Archaeologist

ORGANIZATION

Historical Preservation Center

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

USD Alumni House

TELEPHONE

605/677-5314

CITY OR TOWN

Vermillion

STATE

South Dakota 57069

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

6/23/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST:

W. M. Smith
Robert B. Cole

DATE 3-3-78
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
DATE 3-10-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Except for the silo, the outbuildings and houses are in excellent condition. The owner is looking into the possibility of preserving the silo and shows great concern for the general condition of the farmstead. Because of this attitude, much of the original buildings remain for the future.

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point it could no longer compete with the companies located in the towns. Although now demolished, the approximate location of the Alsen creamery is located on a 1912 map in the northeast corner of the farmstead. Because the majority of the remains at the site date to the 1890's or later when Anderson was developing his dairy and cattle ranch, this period is the most significant.

The Anderson farm also shows characteristic regional features in the make-up of its farmstead and its agricultural production. A nationwide study classified the southeastern part of South Dakota as an Animal Specialty Region of the Cornbelt. It varies from the norm significantly in the number of outbuildings, the size of the dwelling, and the amount of land owned. However, if the abundant and atypical success of Solomon Anderson as a farmer and stock raiser is balanced by the careful preservation of a majority of the outbuildings, which is generally a rare occurrence, the abnormality is offset by the farm's representation of the economy of the period. In the animal specialty category, the farm shares the following features: farmsteads occur on flatish lands; a two to four acre farmstead; a farmstead of rectangular shape; a location of the farmstead on one side of the road; modest sized barns, except for one in this particular case; and such outbuildings as the chicken house, machine sheds, granaries, silos, cattle lots, and the lack of a large chicken yard. However, the barn types, classified by their roof lines, are not wholly typical. The Anderson farm's gable roof type only comprises 23% of the sample, and the enumerated types do not cover the salt box type barn

Hence, the Anderson Farmstead gains significance on at least four counts. Except for the unusual success and wealth of the farm as expressed in the size and style of the house, the number of outbuildings, and the size of the farm; the type of production and the layout of the farmstead represent the regional norm. Its most significant period, the 1880's through the early twentieth century, follows the agricultural development in the local. The very wealth which renders the site somewhat atypical most likely contributed to the excellent preservation of the outbuildings which is essential in an agricultural site. As far as it can be determined, only three outbuildings have been demolished. Finally, the circumstances of its initial settlement by Swedish immigrants in an area heavily dominated by that group occurred in many parts of the state. Many immigrant groups played a significant role in populating South Dakota. Because of these four aspects, the Anderson Farmstead preserves a typical site of its kind and provides materials for future study of part of South Dakota's agricultural history.

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PAGE three

Johansen, John P., IMMIGRANT SETTLEMENTS AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATION IN SOUTH DAKOTA. Brookings, Department of Rural Sociology, Agricultural Experimental Station, South Dakota State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Art, 1937.

MEMORIAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD OF TURNER, LINCOLN, UNION, AND CLAY COUNTIES, SOUTH DAKOTA. Chicago, Geo. A. Ogle and Co., 1897.

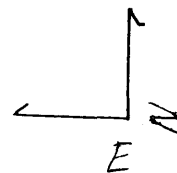
George Ogle and Company, STANDARD ATLAS OF CLAY COUNTY SOUTH DAKOTA, Chicago, 1912.

Peterson, August, HISTORY OF THE SWEDES WHO SETTLED IN CLAY COUNTY AND THEIR BIOGRAPHIES Vermillion, The Swedish Pioneer and Historical Society of Clay County, South Dakota 1947.

Schell, Herbert, HISTORY OF CLAY COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA. Vermillion, Clay County Historical Society, Inc., 1976.

Trewartha, Glenn, "Some Regional Characteristics of American Farmsteads," ANNALS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS, Volume 38, pp. 169-225 (1948).

County Road



Creamery

Steam mill

Silo

Steel barn

grainery

Shed

grainery

Creampy

Chicken house

privy

1901 House

1871 Cottage

Shed

Equipment Shed

Equipment shed

Sheds

1894 Silos

Horse Barn

Cattle Barn

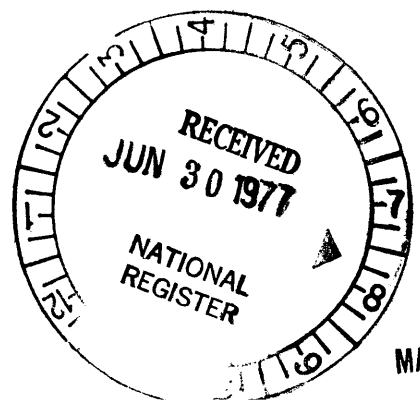
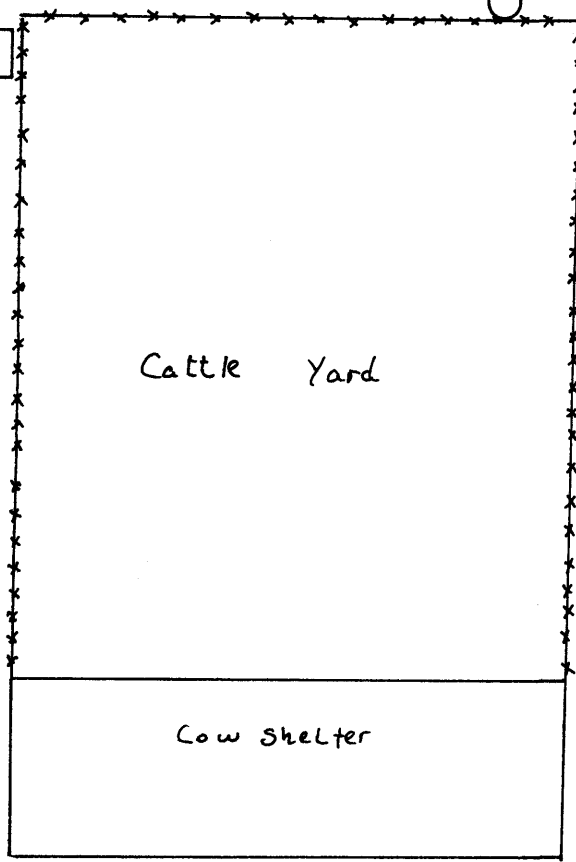
Summer Kitchen

key

building

demolished structure

fence



MAR 30 1978