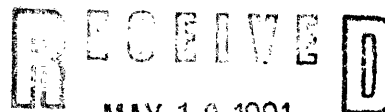


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name: Patten Colony Farm

other name/site number: AHRS Site No. ANC-472

2. Location

street & number: Mile 39.9 Glenn Highway

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Palmer

vicinity: X

state: AK county: Matanuska-Susitna code: 170 zip code: 99645

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: district

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u>2</u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Settlement and Economic Development of Alaska's Matanuska-Susitna Valley

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

Judith S. Butner
Signature of certifying official

May 7, 1991
Date

Alaska
State or Federal agency and 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 and 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):

Antoinette J. Bee 6/2/91
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

=====
 6. Function or Use
 =====

Historic:	<u>agriculture/subsistence</u>	Sub:	<u>single dwelling</u>
	<u>domestic</u>		
Current:	<u>agriculture/subsistence</u>	Sub:	<u>storage</u>
	<u>domestic</u>		<u>single dwelling</u>

 =====
 7. Description
 =====

 Architectural Classification: no style

 Other Description: N/A

Materials:	foundation	<u>concrete</u>	roof	<u>asphalt</u>
	walls	<u>log, wood</u>	other	<u></u>

 Describe present and historic physical appearance. See continuation sheet.

The Patten Colony Farm is an excellent example of a complete colony farmstead. Contributing buildings include a log house, two log and frame barns, chicken coop, outhouse, and another outbuilding.

The one-and-one-half story log house was built by a colony construction crew and has an "L" shaped floor plan. A greenhouse was added on the southeast corner around 1972. The main roof ridge runs north-south and creates a parallel orientation with the main facade. Asphalt rolled roofing covers the gable roof of the house. Originally built on a concrete foundation, a rarity among colony structures, the wall logs have been sided by hand, have lapped corner notches, and are chinked with concrete. A rear frame addition was built on the house in 1936 when the water well was dug. The Pattens used this instead of the typical, detached colony well house. This addition also has a foundation. It is faced with split logs applied vertically. Drop siding sheaths the original house gables, and horizontal planks have been used in the gable of the addition. Most of the windows are the typical double-hung, 6/6, with plain wide frames. Each gable has a fixed-pane window.

A short distance west of the house is the outhouse built in 1935. The outhouse is constructed of three-sided logs which are square notched at the corners. The outhouse roof is covered with metal sheets. Nearby is another colony building, a small chicken brood house.

The original Patten barn is unique among the colony structures. This barn is smaller than the typical colony barn--measuring 30' x 25'. It was built specifically to house one of three thoroughbred draft stallions owned by the corporation. Only two barns of this type are known to have been built in the colony, and the Patten barn is the only remaining example. In 1936, the west end of the stallion barn was extended, almost doubling its size, to provide more room for hay storage. The barn is now a large rectangular structure with a long, low, gambrel roof.

The original barn has three-sided logs with lapped corners on the first floor. The second floor is frame with drop siding and cornerboards. The

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

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addition is frame and the ground floor has been sheathed with split logs to resemble the earlier portion. Drop siding was used on the upper level of the addition. A low, wide opening at the rear reveals a dirt floor and a large loft area. The barn has small six-pane windows, and plank and board-and-batten doors. Outside access to the second story is provided by the original square, hinged door located directly under the roof ridge projection. The roof is a low gambrel with flared eaves and the ridge runs north-south. It is covered with asphalt roll roofing.

In the early 1940s, the Pattens purchased Thomas Snyder's farm and relocated the colony barn to its present location near their original barn. The Snyder's barn is the typical two-and-one half story, 32' x 32', colony barn with a steep bellcast gambrel roof. The first floor walls are three-sided logs with false notched corners. The mid-section, or pony wall, and upper loft area are sheathed with planks. A plank is used as a watertable to shed water above the logs. The building sits on a concrete sill and has various floor coverings depending upon area use. The standard fixed multi-pane windows, double and single doors and square hay loft door were used. The roof is asphalt roll roofing. Moved almost fifty years ago, the barn is a very good example of colony architecture and is considered to be a contributing building.

The Patten's started a dairy business in the early 1940s with fifteen cows. The herd grew to forty head, and a milk house and milking stalls were added. The milk house is a small room in a corner of the second barn. Plastered concrete walls and a system of cool water baths kept dairy products cool. The concrete silos on the farm were also built in the 1940s.

East of the barns is the original colony chicken coop, measuring 16' x 20'. It is built of three-sided logs that are false notched at the corners. It has a bank of four, nine-pane windows on the south side. South and east of the chicken house are two small non-contributing wood frame sheds.

A pre-1935 frame building, covered with horizontal planking, sits directly north of the barns. Originally located near the eastern boundary of the Patten farm, it was moved and incorporated into the central farmyard in the late 1940s. The Pattens used it for grain storage. The structure is believed to be of late 1920s vintage and to have been a chicken house.

Other small outbuildings, of frame and log construction and of new and old vintage, are on the farmstead. Two small greenhouses and a house trailer

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

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also stand on the site. The non-contributing buildings do not negatively detract from the historic character of the farmstead. The contributing buildings are excellent examples of colony architecture.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: nationally, locally

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): B

Areas of Significance: agriculture
community planning and development
social history
architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1935-1940

Significant Dates: 1935

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Williams, David
WPA Workers

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
See continuation sheet.

Built in 1935, the Patten Colony Farm is one of the few remaining, relatively complete, examples of a farmstead associated with the Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation's Matanuska Colony project. The stallion barn on the property was one of two such barns built in the colony and it is the only one that remains. The Patten Colony Farm has more original colony buildings on the site than any other farmstead. The buildings are excellent examples of the design and fabrication of the colony farm structures.

Clair and Margaret Patten and their daughter moved to the Matanuska Valley from Long Siding, Minnesota, in 1935. The farmstead is still owned by the family.

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 9. Major Bibliographical References
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See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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 -- Specify Repository: _____

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 10. Geographical Data
 =====

Acreeage of Property: 40 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>06</u>	<u>386485</u>	<u>6829275</u>	B	<u>06</u>	<u>386485</u>	<u>6828875</u>
C	<u>06</u>	<u>386400</u>	<u>6828875</u>	D	<u>06</u>	<u>386400</u>	<u>6829275</u>

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ____ See continuation sheet.

The Patten farm occupies the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 8, Township 17N, Range 2E. The southeast corner of the parcel abuts the Glenn Highway at milepost 39.9.

Boundary Justification: ____ See continuation sheet.

The nominated parcel, containing 40 acres, is the original tract drawn by the Pattens on May 23, 1935.

 =====
 11. Form Prepared By
 =====

Name/Title: Fran Seager-Boss, Archaeologist; Lawrence E. Roberts,
Historian

Organization: Matanuska-Susitna Borough Date: September 30, 1990

Street & Number: 350 East Dahlia Avenue Telephone: 907-745-9859

City or Town: Palmer State: AK ZIP: 99645

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9

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Lane, Donna, Susan Lee, and Pandora Willingham. "Evaluation of Historic Sites in Palmer, Alaska." (Palmer, Alaska: Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Division of Cultural Resources, 1988).

Patten, Priscilla. Personal communication, 1990.

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number _____

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Photograph identification

1. Patten Colony Farm (AHRS Site No. ANC-472)
Palmer, Alaska
Larry Roberts
January 21, 1991
Cultural Resources Division, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 350 East Dahlia Ave., Palmer, AK 99645
Looking north at house with attached well house
2. Patten Colony Farm (AHRS Site No. ANC-472)
Palmer, Alaska
Larry Roberts
August 31, 1990
Cultural Resources Division, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 350 East Dahlia Ave., Palmer, AK 99645
Looking north at house, L-shaped floor plan and greenhouse are visible
3. Patten Colony Farm (AHRS Site No. ANC-472)
Palmer, Alaska
Larry Roberts
August 31, 1990
Cultural Resources Division, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 350 East Dahlia Ave., Palmer, AK 99645
Looking southeast at log house with gables and typical colony windows
4. Patten Colony Farm (AHRS Site No. ANC-472)
Palmer, Alaska
Larry Roberts
August 31, 1990
Cultural Resources Division, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 350 East Dahlia Ave., Palmer, AK 99645
Looking southwest at stallion barn, addition on the south end, and barn moved to site during early 1940s
5. Patten Colony Farm (AHRS Site No. ANC-472)
Palmer, Alaska
Larry Roberts
August 31, 1990
Cultural Resources Division, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 350 East Dahlia Ave., Palmer, AK 99645
Looking northwest at barn moved to site during the 1940s, addition, stallion barn, and pre-colony shed

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

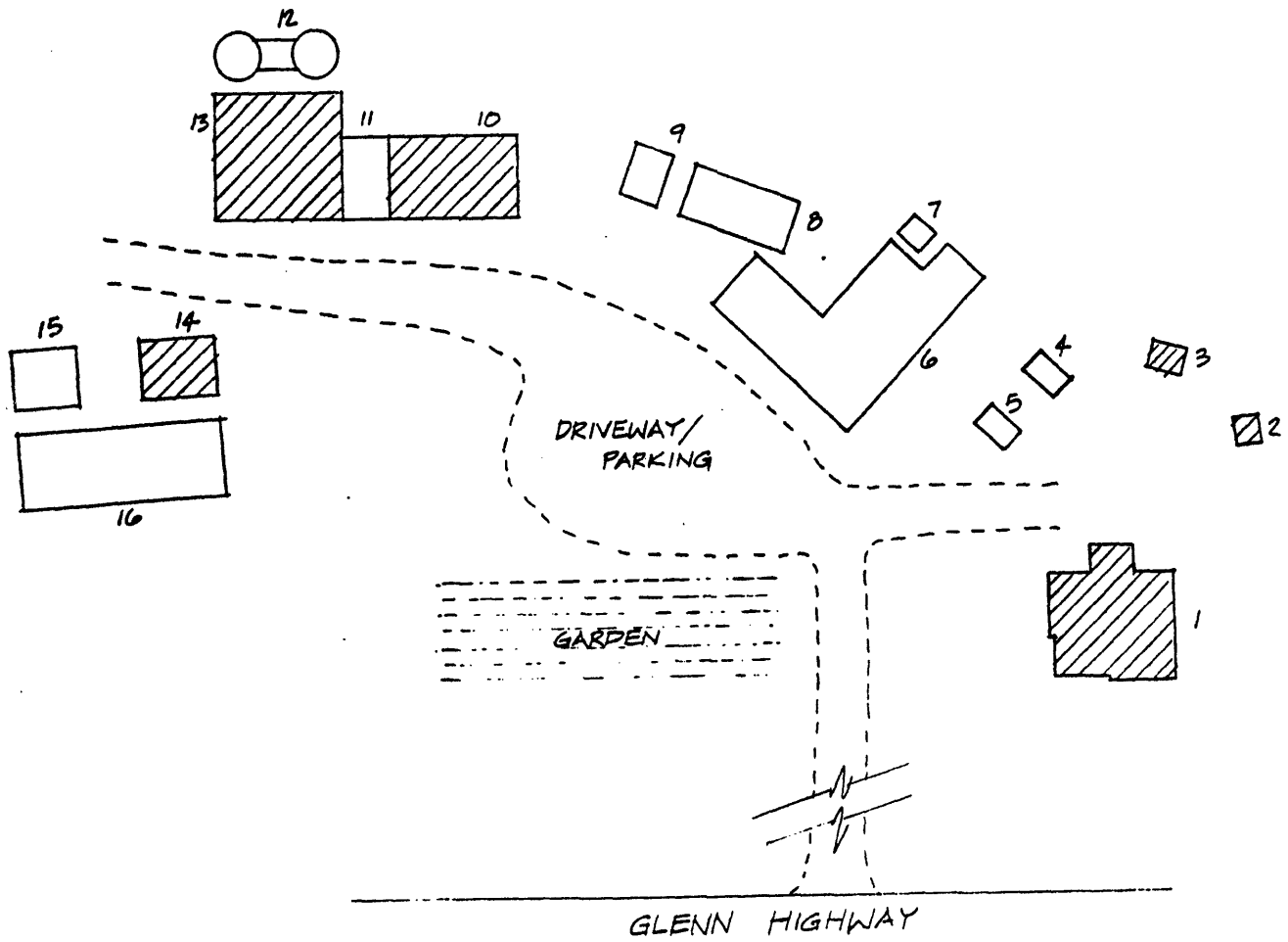
Section number _____


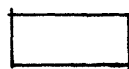
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Photograph identification

6. Patten Colony Farm (AHRS Site No. ANC-472)
Palmer, Alaska
Larry Roberts
August 31, 1990
Cultural Resources Division, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 350 East Dahlia
Ave., Palmer, AK 99645
Looking northeast at chicken coop

7. Patten Colony Farm (AHRS Site No. ANC-472)
Palmer, Alaska
Larry Roberts
January 21, 1991
Cultural Resources Division, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 350 East Dahlia
Ave., Palmer, AK 99645
Looking north at the broodhouse and outhouse



-  CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES
-  NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. House | 6. Mobile homes | 11. Shed |
| 2. Outhouse | 7. Shed | 12. Hay silos |
| 3. Brood house | 8. Chicken coop | 13. Barn 2 |
| 4. Greenhouse 1 | 9. Shed | 14. Chicken coop |
| 5. Greenhouse 2 | 10. Stallion barn | 15. Shed |
| | | 16. Quonset shed |

PATTEN FARM
(not to scale)

