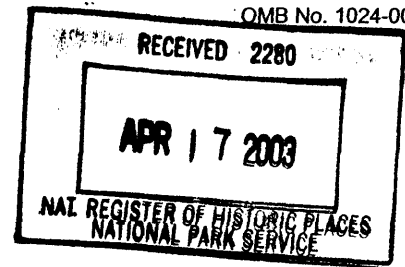


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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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 Walsh Barn

other names/site number Lausser-Hayes Ranch

2. Location

street & number 1/2 mile west Jct. Upper Redwater Rd & 104 Ave not for publication N/A
city or town Spearfish Vicinity x
state South Dakota Code SD county Lawrence code 081 zip code 57783

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.)

Jay D. Vogt
Signature of certifying official

04-16-2003
Date

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

Walsh Barn
Name of Property

Lawrence SD
County and State

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

*For
C. Sanford Beall*

5/30/03

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

<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	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

Walsh Barn
Name of Property

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County and State

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Agriculture/Sub Sub: Agricultural outbuilding
sistence

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Work in Sub:
Progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Grundscheier Barn

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation	Sandstone
Roof	Steel
Walls	Sandstone

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

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.

Walsh Barn
Name of Property

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- ☐ **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)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1907

Significant Dates 1907

Significant Person N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Walsh, Maurice

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

See Continuation Sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

Walsh Barn
Name of Property

Lawrence SD
County and State

(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

Walsh Barn
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 13 580301 4936552
Zone Easting Northing
2 _____

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing
4 _____

☐ 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 John A. Lausser,

organization _____ date 12 February 2003

street & number 10207 Comfort Circle telephone 407-381-2369

city or town Orlando state FL zip code 32825

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)

Walsh Barn
Name of Property

Lawrence SD
County and State

Property Owner

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

name John Lausser
street & number 10207 Comfort Circle telephone 407-381-2369
city or town Orlando state FL zip code 32825

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.

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Description:

The Maurice Walsh Stone Barn was built in 1907 by Irish immigrant Maurice Walsh, his wife Mary and their daughters Mary age 16, Nellie age 14, Florence age 10, and Margaret age 7 at the time. The barn sits on the original homestead among native grasses. There is a board fence at the southeast and southwest corners that runs south and encloses an 80x80 foot area south of the barn. On the north side there are some wood posts that run east to west that were probably strung with barbwire at one time.

The gable roof is covered with galvanized metal corrugated sheets. The metal roof was added in the 1960s and likely replaced cedar shakes. The gable ends have exposed rafters in the narrow eaves. The walls are constructed with sandstone quarried from the nearby Redwater River and transported by a mule skid. The large, heavy stones were lifted into place using a block and tackle system powered by a mule team driven by Mrs. Walsh. The 80x40 foot barn rests on a dirt foundation.

The façade has a central window in the gable surrounded by vertical weatherboard. The first story has a central door made of wood and a lumber framed window opening centered between the door and the southwest corner. The north elevation has two lumber framed window openings on the second story below the eave and two on the first story. To the west of the window openings is a large double sliding wood door. Sliding doors were used in Upper Great Plains barns to combat prevailing winds that could otherwise damage hinged doors. The east elevation is similar to the façade. There is a window opening in the gable that is surrounded by weatherboard. The first story has a central door made of wood and a lumber framed window opening between the door and the southeast corner. The south elevation has another large sliding double wood door aligned with the one on the north elevation. There are two lumber framed window openings on the second story east of double door below the eave. The first story has two lumber framed window openings east of the double doors with a single entry wood door between them. There is also a single lumber framed window opening to the west of the double door on the first story.

The interior is rustic and has changed little over the years. The first floor is a single open room with six beams spaced through the middle lengthwise that support the upper loft. The loft has a wood plank floor and is divided into two areas. The areas are separated where the double sliding doors provide access for hauling hay inside. There are remnants of a tract system on the ceiling that was the mechanism for swinging the hay into the loft. The loft is otherwise unadorned. Electric wiring and lighting were added but do not affect the integrity.

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Significance

The Walsh Stone Barn was built in circa 1907 in Spearfish, Lawrence County, South Dakota. The sandstone barn represents the type of structures settlers built from native materials when settling the area in pursuit of agricultural endeavors, namely livestock production. The Walsh Barn is eligible under criterion C for its sandstone construction and vernacular architecture.

The barn is built out of the sandstone quarried from the Redwater River north of Spearfish in the northern Black Hills. The sandstone is from the Lakota Formation, which is one of the sandstones native to the Black Hills of western South Dakota. A cretaceous ridge of sandstones surrounds the Black Hills, an area roughly 120 miles north to south and 60 miles east to west.¹ The major sandstone quarries were located in the southern hills, although it was quarried locally throughout area.

Local sandstone was a popular building material in the Black Hills during the late 1800s and early 1900s, but its use diminished over the years. The expense and effort to quarry the material was soon replaced by affordable standardized materials brought by the railroad and eventually the highway. Conversely, it is for these very reasons the native sandstones were not used elsewhere in South Dakota. The eastern and central parts of the state received material mainly from the railways loaded with building materials from the east. Although small amounts of building stones were quarried from the Black Hills, most were imported from outside the state.²

Sandstone construction in the Black Hills was primarily done inside the community, usually on or bordering the main commercial street. The northern Black Hills towns of Spearfish, Belle Fourche and Lead have sandstone buildings in their commercial areas in the Victorian Romanesque, Victorian Revival, and Richardsonian Romanesque styles, but sandstone construction seldom extends beyond these commercial areas. Furthermore, sandstone was used mostly in towns and cities and was rarely used in a rural setting.³ The Walsh Barn is one of few examples of sandstone barns in South Dakota.

¹ John Paul Gries. *Roadside Geology of South Dakota*. (Missoula: MT, Mountain Press Publishing, 1996), 218.

² David Erpestad and David Wood. *Building South Dakota*. (Pierre: SD, South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 1997), 25.

³ Erpestad, 30

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By the early 1900s, the technology of barn construction and farming methods in general were changing the types of barns built in South Dakota. Advances in grain threshers and separators meant smaller barns, since the extra space was no longer needed for these processes. Barns constructed completely of wood without stone foundations began appearing as an affordable and practical option for livestock producers. Barns designed specifically to store hay were constructed completely of wood with lighter timbers and quickly became popular across the western Midwest.⁴ The Walsh Barn went against this trend, although it was designed for hay storage.

The Walsh Barn has similar architectural characteristics to that of German Grundscheier barns which exist in the eastern Midwest and Eastern states. The barn has two wood cribs separated by a threshing floor and the framed forebay that is split by two doors. The windows in a Grundscheier are usually split, though, while the Walsh Barn has rectangular window openings. Some Grundscheiers also have entries at different levels because they were built on a slope, while the Walsh Barn has only single level entry. The Walsh Barn was built by an Irish immigrant who came to the Black Hills during the gold rush of 1876. Where he drew his inspiration for the barn is unknown.

History

Early occupations on the northern plains date back to 10,000 B.C.E. The most recent indigenous occupants were the Sioux, who are divided into three groups by dialect as the Lakota, Nakota and Dakota. The Lakota (also called Teton Sioux) lived west of the Missouri River and along with other American Indians, such as the Cheyenne, held the Black Hills sacred. The Black Hills were forever promised to the American Indians in the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868, however, the discovery of gold in the Black Hills changed the dynamics of the situation. The government found it difficult to keep miners and settlers out and consequently opened the Black Hills in 1877 to white settlement. The legality of this move remains debatable today.

Spearfish, South Dakota, is located on the northern edge of the Black Hills at the mouth of Spearfish Canyon. Spearfish was founded in 1876 as result of General George Armstrong Custer's expedition that confirmed the existence of gold in the Black Hills. Although Spearfish lacked the rich gold deposits of areas directly to the south, the town grew by supporting the mining towns. Farming,

⁴ Allen G. Noble and Hubert G.H. Wilhelm. *Barn of the Midwest*. (Athens: OH, Ohio University Press, 1995), 82

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raising livestock and mercantile business became the primary vocations. Today, agriculture and livestock production remain integral facets of the economy.

Maurice Walsh, an Irish immigrant, who came to the Black Hills during the gold rush in February 1876, built the barn around 1907 and was one of the original settlers of the area. The barn sits on the site of his original homestead near the Redwater River on the northern edge of the Black Hills. The barn enhanced settlement of the Dakota frontier, and helped provide a successful ranch life for several different owners for the last 100 years.

Mr. Walsh himself is known as one of the first settlers of the Black Hills, and is notable in accomplishing deeds requiring great strength. He came to the area in early 1876 in search of gold. He helped clear land in Deadwood for the first buildings constructed there during the gold rush, and was known to clear an entire acre of land in a single day by hand. He was one of the first people to discover the Custer massacre. He married his wife, Mary, who was deeded the Redwater property by President Grover Cleveland as a homestead. They settled there and became ranchers, a new industry in this area.

The stone was hand quarried nearby by Mr. Walsh and brought to the site by mule skid. Its construction was a laborious undertaking in that many of the stones used weighed up to 500 pounds. It is impressive in that the stones were hand quarried, and lifted into place using block and tackle operated by mule and hand power alone. Mary drove the mule team, and Maurice placed the stones into position, their daughters ran errands. The timbers used in the roof structure are large and ungainly. "Old-timers" talk about how he built this barn by himself, a most impressive achievement. It remains generally sound today and perfectly serviceable nearly 100 years later, despite the harsh winters and winds of South Dakota.

A simple structure such as a barn was essential to the success of the ranchers. The barn provided shelter for the livestock during the harsh winters, and served as storage facility for feed, tools and equipment. One quarter of the barn was dedicated to milk cows, which provided milk, cream, and butter. Cattle and sheep were the primary livestock, which gave the settlers meat, milk, wool, leather, and other necessary items useful in their success at living and prospering as ranchers.

The barn was also used for social events, and stories are still told today of the many barn dances that were held there. During these barn dances, a fight would inevitably break out, so Mr. Walsh built a boxing ring in the loft above where they could "fight it out" and not bother the dancers below. Being the largest barn in the area it provided an excellent location for these events, which were a highlight in an area that offered little cultural and social interaction. During prohibition, many runs were made

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to nearby Beulah, Wyoming, to get liquor where it was available, and its use tended to "spice-up" the dances.

Time and the harsh climate have taken a toll on the barn. The stones are in satisfactory condition, and are presently being restored as the building has shifted, and cracks have appeared. The walls have begun to bow outward presenting danger of total collapse. The south barn door header had a crack and was therefore unsafe, and has been replaced following the original design. The joints are being re-mortared to preserve and protect the barn from the elements. The wooden barn doors have deteriorated and are being replaced using original hardware following the original design. The windows and roof will be replaced as well, restoring and preserving the barn. The loft area affords large open storage space for the hay and feed that was used to feed cattle during the long winters. The loft is structurally sound, however, rain and snow has penetrated through the open windows, and has deteriorated a portion of the flooring. It will be replaced with similar material following original design.

The barn dominates the Redwater River Valley northwest of Spearfish, SD as the largest structure in the area, a testament to the builder, Maurice Walsh known at the time as the "Superman of the Black Hills. This stone barn represents almost 100 years of history and settlement of the Northern Black Hills. It played an important role in facilitating the start of the livestock industry in the area and also served as a welcome social gathering for the Walsh's and their neighbors.

The Walsh Stone Barn is eligible under Criterion C for its sandstone construction and vernacular architecture. The barn exhibits many characteristics associated with the Grundscheier Barn.

Walsh Barn
Name of Property

Lawrence, South Dakota
County and State

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

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

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Bibliography

Erpestad, David and David Wood. *Building South Dakota*. South Dakota State Historical Society Press, Pierre: SD, 1997.

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

Noble, Allen G. and Hubert G.H. Wilhelm. *Barns of the Midwest*. Ohio University Press, Athens: OH, 1995.

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary starts at a point three feet northwest of the northwest corner and runs east to a point three feet northeast of the northeast corner. The line then runs south to a point three feet southeast of the southeast corner and then runs west to point three feet southwest of the southwest corner. The line then runs north to the original starting point three feet northwest of the northwest corner.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the area of the Walsh Stone Barn.