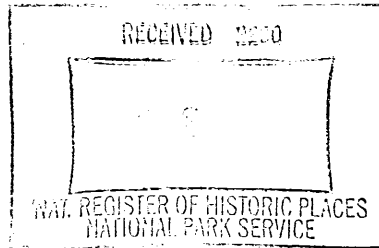


993

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



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 Ben Bonderson Farm

Other names/site number DK00-113

2. Location

Street & number 1541 270th Street

Not for publication []

City or town Emerson

Vicinity []

State Nebraska

Code NE

County Dakota

Code 043

Zip code 68733-3004

3. 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [X] locally. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

Date Sept 22, 2006

Director, Nebraska State Historical Society 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 certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

[X] 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):

Edson H. Beall 11-8-06

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

Ben Bonderson Farm

Name of Property

Dakota County, Nebraska

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- X Private
Public-local
Public-state
Public-federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- X Building(s)
District
Site
Structure
Object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows: Buildings (8, 0), Sites, Structures (2), Objects, Total (10, 0)

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- DOMESTIC / single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTANCE / Animal facility
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTANCE / Agricultural outbuilding
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTANCE / Storage

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- DOMESTIC / Single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTANCE / Animal facility
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTANCE / Agricultural outbuilding
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTANCE / Storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- No Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Foundation Brick
Walls Wood
Roof Wood shingle / asphalt
Other

Narrative Description

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

Ben Bonderson Farm

Name of Property

Dakota County, Nebraska

County and State

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.)

Property is:

- 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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance

ca. 1883-1956

Significant Dates

1883

1895

1909

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Jesse Wigle / Builder

Ben Bonderson / Builder

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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 for additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Ben Bonderson Farm

Name of Property

Dakota County, Nebraska

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 20

UTM References (place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet).

Table with 7 columns: Zone, Easting, Northing, Zone, Easting, Northing. Rows 1-4.

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Stacy Stupka-Burda / National Register Coordinator

organization Nebraska State Historical Society

date August 16, 2006

street & number 1500 R Street, PO Box 82554

telephone 402-471-4770

city or town Lincoln

state NE

zip code 68501-2554

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.)

Property Owner

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

name/title Ted and Jenny Rudberg

street & number 5430 East Sapphire Lane

telephone

city or town Paradise Valley

state AZ

zip code 85253-2533

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determined 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, (15 USC 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 Continuation Sheet

Ben Bonderson Farm

Name of Property

Dakota County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

The Ben Bonderson Farm is located near Emerson, in Dakota County Nebraska. Dakota County is located in the extreme northeast corner of the state, and is bounded by the Missouri River on the north and east; Dixon County on the west; and Thurston County on the south. The economic base of the county is primarily agricultural in nature. The topography of the county is generally characterized by rolling hills.¹ The population of Dakota County in 2000 was 20,253. The nominated property consists of 8 buildings and 2 structures historically associated with the Ben Bonderson Farm.

Situated approximately one tenth of a mile north of a county section road, the farmyard of the Ben Bonderson Farm sits at the end of a long farm lane. An expansive, fenced front yard sets the stage for a rambling white farmhouse on the east side of the lane. The remainder of the associated farm buildings sprawl north and west of the house. A windbreak planted along the east, north and west sides of the farmyard provides a fitting frame for this picturesque setting.

The large white farmhouse was constructed in three phases. The original portion of the house was built in 1883 and is located in the center of the current house. In 1895, a two-story side gable extension was placed on the east side of the house. This addition made the floor plan ell shaped. In 1909, rooms were added to the south and north sides. The 1909 addition has a gable on hipped roof as well as a gablet.² Each gable end on the south side features a small amount of patterned wood shingles. Canted bays, added during remodeling in 1909, are present on both the west and east sides of the house. The three identical windows of the bay on the west side are two over two, and this bay has a decorative cornice. On the east side of the house, each side of the canted bay features double hung windows. The center window is a large fixed window with a leaded glass transom light. The 1909 additions on the north side of the house are each one story and appear to have grown organically. The interior of the house retains a good deal of integrity, including windows, woodwork, large built in linen closet.

The farmyard is arranged so that buildings most closely associated with domestic chores of the household are convenient to the house. A brooder house is located northeast of the house; a washhouse and a chicken coop are located northwest of the house. The brooder house is sited in a wooded area where the windbreak forms an ell shape. The interior portion of the ell is grassy, and is fenced with chicken wire. This area was used historically as a pasture for geese, ducks and chickens.³ The brooder house itself is a gabled one-story frame building with fixed two over two windows. The washhouse is also a gabled one-story frame building. Located within mere steps of the house, this building contained not only a room for laundry, but also served as the garage, and the potato cellar. The cellar has a brick arched ceiling and two small rooms featuring bins for storing root vegetables. Positioned west and a bit north of the washhouse, the gabled chicken coop has ten pair of fixed four over four windows along the southern exposure. The west end of this building serves as a garage.

Moving away from the house and up the hill, a half round corrugated metal Quonset sits near the windbreak. Constructed around 1950, large sliding doors on the south side provided easy access to farm machinery stored inside. A small wood frame building is located south of the Quonset. Continuing down the hill, a smaller wood frame building functions as a storage shed.

¹ Soil Survey of Dakota County.

² Harris, Cyril M. American Architecture An Illustrated Encyclopedia. 1998.

³ Rudberg, Jenny and Ted. Personal communication. March 2006.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Ben Bonderson Farm

Name of Property

Dakota County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 7 Page 2

A large drive in crib barn is located near the center of the farmyard.⁴ Constructed around 1915, this T-shaped gable roof building has a gabled cupola. Placed on a concrete foundation, this building has elongated cribs along a center drive. Also known as the corncrib, the sides of the cribs are formed of slatted wood to provide for air circulation to dry corn. The upper portion contains a storage area for small grain, such as wheat. An elevator, complete with crank and motor is still in place inside this crib barn. Nails on the inside of the wooden joists provided a place for particularly nice ears of corn to dry for use as seed.

A small frame granary sits on a concrete pad and is slightly elevated. The granary is gabled, and contains two bins on the interior for grain storage.

The hay barn is located on the extreme west end of the farmyard. Facing west, this frame gable roofed barn has a one-story gabled extension used to house hogs. The north side of the barn is slightly banked, while the south side has a monitor roof.⁵ The south side of the barn has sliding doors that open into a corral. This barn blew down sometime in the 1930's and was then rebuilt using the same materials.

Two metal grain bins and one silo are located at the southern end of the corral area. While these structures enhance the overall setting and feeling of the Bonderson Farm, they are not included in the resource count. In addition, this farm contains a variety of fences that serve to enclose corrals, pasture areas, and the front lawn. These too enhance the overall integrity of the property but are not included in the resource count.

Taken as a whole, the integrity of the Ben Bonderson Farm is high. The farmhouse exhibits one substantial subtractive change with the loss of a full width (1909 addition) front porch. A front porch was added to the south side of the 1895 addition. One large horse barn collapsed and has been removed. The scale of these changes is minor when considering the size of this property.

⁴ Noble, Allen and Richard K. Cleek. *The Old Barn Book: A Field Guide to North American Barns and Other Farm Structures* 1997.

⁵ Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Ben Bonderson Farm

Name of Property

Dakota County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 8 Page 1

Significant Dates (continued):

1936

The Ben Bonderson Farm is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level for its association with agriculture. The farm is an excellent collection of buildings representative of an historically significant pattern of agricultural development in Dakota County. The farmhouse and associated outbuildings retain physical integrity. The rural setting is intact and strengthens the feeling and association of a late 19th century early 20th century farmstead. The period of significance begins in 1883 with construction of the original house, and ends in 1956, fifty years prior to today's date.

History⁶

Ben Bonderson was born in Sweden in 1862 and came to the United States with his parents the following year. After living in Omaha as a child, Bonderson's parents purchased land near Emerson in 1887. Bonderson purchased this property in 1891 from Jesse Wigle for \$12.00 / acre.⁷ Wigle, an early Dakota County settler, constructed the initial house discussed in this nomination.

Ben Bonderson married Hilda Peterson in 1895 and in this year, added a two-story extension on the east side of the existing house. Hilda was born in Sweden in 1875, and her parents farmed four miles north of Ben Bonderson's place. Though it is not clear when the current farm buildings were constructed, it is known that the Bonderson's began building outbuildings around 1900. By 1909, they constructed the final additions to the house. With the exception of the 1950's machine shed, family photos indicate that the farm as we see it today was in place by 1936. Ben and Hilda raised six children while living and working on their farm. Ben Bonderson died in 1943 and Hilda died in 1968.

Ben Bonderson began farming in Nebraska during a period of agricultural growth in Nebraska.⁸ Including the years 1880-1930, this period is described as the heart of the development of Nebraska's agriculture.⁹ By 1880, the initial settlement period has ended, and the now settled farmers have matured with their crops. It is during this period that most family farms are self-sufficient. A variety of crops were grown, along with livestock such as cattle and hogs. A large garden complimented the farm crops and livestock. Domesticated birds, such as chickens, ducks and geese provided eggs and an additional source of meat.

Having withstood the agricultural depression of the 1890's, the turn of the century brought renewed prosperity.¹⁰ On the Bonderson farm, the extensive remodeling of the farmhouse in 1909 is evidence of this prosperity. It is also during this timeframe that many of the associated outbuildings are constructed. Following World War I, however, farm prices were low, and the nation was headed toward drought and the Great Depression. It is during this extremely trying time that the Bonderson barn blew over. Undoubtedly an immense loss, Bonderson rebuilt his barn by reusing lumber. Other than

⁶ Family history is taken from *This Old House* by Helen Bonderson 1991.

⁷ Dakota County Register of Deeds.

⁸ Sodhi, Penny. *The Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production Area: A System of Farming as the Basis for a Historic Context*. 1986.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Ben Bonderson Farm

Name of Property

Dakota County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 8 Page 2

rebuilding this barn in 1936, no new buildings were added to the farm until 1950. By this time, farming was once more prosperous, and a new machine shed was necessary to house farm equipment that had grown larger.¹¹

From the beginning of the Bonderson Farm, the farm was diversified. Cattle, hogs, chickens, ducks, geese, corn, oats, and wheat were all products of their labor. The built environment reflects the diversity of the small family farm in Dakota County.

The Ben Bonderson Farm is significant at the local level under Criterion A. The farm is an excellent collection of buildings representative of an historically significant pattern of agricultural development in Dakota County. The farmhouse, associated outbuildings retain a significant amount of physical integrity. The rural setting is intact and strengthens the feeling and association of this early farmstead.

In the 2000 census, for the first time in American history "farming" was not listed as a possible occupation. Less than two percent of Americans now engage in farming for a living. This small collection of buildings and the associated farm yard built and worked by Bonderson represent a once ubiquitous and now rare piece of American culture: the family farm.

¹¹ Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Ben Bonderson Farm

Name of Property

Dakota County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 9 Page 1

Bibliography

Dakota County Register of Deeds.

Harris, Cyril M. *American Architecture An Illustrated Encyclopedia*. W.W. Norton & Company, New York / London 1998.

Noble, Allen and Richard K. Cleek. *The Old Barn Book A Field Guide to North American Barns and Other Farm Structures*. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, New Jersey 1997.

Sodhi, Penny. "The Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production Area: A System of Farming as the Basis for a Historic Context". On file, Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office. 1986.

United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service. *Soil Survey of Dakota County, Nebraska*. January 1976.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Ben Bonderson Farm

Name of Property

Dakota County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary of the Ben Bonderson Farm begins at the intersection of the county road with the fenceline of the SW ¼ SE ¼ SW ¼ and proceeds north along this fenceline to end of windbreak; then proceeds east along north side of windbreak turning south at NE corner of windbreak; proceeds south to intersection of county road; turns west proceeding along county road to intercept point of origin.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary as described above includes 20 acres in Section 29 T27N R7E and includes acreage historically associated with the farmyard.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Ben Bonderson Farm

Name of Property

Dakota County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 11 Page 1

The following information pertains to the following 16 photographs:

Ben Bonderson Farm
Dakota County, Nebraska
Photographer: Stacy Stupka-Burda, NeSHPO
March 2006

Digital images in collection of the NeSHPO

Photographs

Photograph	Description of Photograph	View
1 of 16	Overview of Ben Bonderson Farmstead. (#1 on sketch map)	N
2 of 16	Farmhouse, south façade.	NW
3 of 16	Farmhouse, west side.	SE
4 of 16	Farmhouse, north and east sides.	SW
5 of 16	Farmhouse, east side. 1895 addition.	W
6 of 16	Washroom / garage building. Washroom is to right; garage is to left. (#3 on sketch map).	NE
7 of 16	Brooder house. (#2 on sketch map)	NE
8 of 16	View of pasture used for domesticated birds.	NE
9 of 16	Corn crib to left (#8 on sketch map); granary to right (#9 on sketch map).	SSW
10 of 16	Granary to left (#9 on sketch map); corn crib to right (#8 on sketch map). Curved metal roof of machine shed (#5 on sketch map) and gable roofed cow shed (#6 on sketch map) is visible to left of granary.	NE
11 of 16	Hay barn and attached hog shed (#10 on sketch map).	N
12 of 16	Hay barn and attached hog shed (#10 on sketch map).	NW
13 of 16	Small shed (#? On sketch map); cow shed (#6 on sketch map) to right.	NW
14 of 16	Cow shed (#6 on sketch map).	NW
15 of 16	Machine shed (#5 on sketch map).	N
16 of 16	Machine shed, rear view (#5 on sketch map).	SE

Ben Bonderson Farm
DK00-113
Dakota County, Nebraska

Map not to scale
All buildings and structures contribute

Sketch map revised from a sketch drawn by D. Murphy, on file, NeSHPO

1. farmhouse
2. brooder house
3. washroom / potato cellar / garage
4. chicken coop / garage
5. machine shed
6. cow shed
7. small shed
8. drive in crib barn
9. granary
10. hay barn

↑ North

