NPS Form 10-900

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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 "NA" 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 Shady Bend Gas Station, Grocery, and Diner
Other names/site number HL00-033
2. Location
Street & number 3609 E Hwy 30 Not for publication []
City or town Grand Island Vicinity []
State Nebraska Code NE County Hall Code 079 Zip code 68801
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.) 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: [Ventered 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 Keeper Date of Action

Name of Property	County and State				
5. Classification					
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Res	ources within Projects	operty in the count.)	
X Private	X Building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributir		
Public-local	District	1		Buildings	
Public-state	Site			Sites	
Public-federal	Structure			Structures	
	Object			Objects	
		1	0	Total	
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) Historic and Architectural Resources of the Lincoln Highway in Nebraska		Number of conflisted in the Nat	tributing resourc tional Register	es previously 	
6. Function or Use			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)		Current Function (Enter categories from			
COMMERCE/TRADE/general store		VACANT/NOT IN USE			
TRANSPORTATION/road-re	elated				
			\$	• .	
7. Description					
Architectural Classification		Materials (Enter categories fro	m instructions)		
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)		(Enter categories fro	•		
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)		(Enter categories fro	ONCRETE		
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)		(Enter categories fro	ONCRETE		
7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.) LATE 19 TH AND 20 TH CENTU		(Enter categories fro	ONCRETE O		

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

Shady	Bend	Gas	Station.	Grocery	and	Diner

Name of Property

Hall County, Nebraska County and State

8. Stat	ement of Significance	
(Mark "X" ir	ole National Register Criteria n one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property I Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) COMMERCE
<u>X</u> A	Property is associated with events that have	TRANSPORTATION
	made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ARCHITECTURE
	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
	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.	Period of Significance 1931 - 1958
	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.	
	Considerations n all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates 1931
Property	is:	
A (Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. Removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above.) N/A
	A birthplace or a grave.	
	A cemetery. A reconstructed building, object, or structure.	Cultural Affiliation
	A commemorative property.	N/A
G	Less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	
		Architect/Builder
N =	Otatomout of Olymidians	Chicago Lumber Company Plan Service Department
	e Statement of Significance e significance of the property on one or more continuation	
9. Maio	r Bibliographical References	
Bibliograp (Cite the boo Previous Prelin been Previous Previous Previous Reco	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	or more continuation sheets.) Primary location for additional data: _X
	rd #	Name of repository:

Shady Bend Gas Station, Grocery and Diner	Hall County, Nebraska
Name of Property	County and State
10. Geographical Data	·
Acreage of property Less than one	
UTM References (place additional UTM references o	on a continuation sheet).
Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
1. 14 558852 4531884	3.
2.	4.
We led Book to Broad does	[] 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 shee	et.)
11. Form Prepared By	
W	
	Burda / National Register Coordinator, & Karen Woodward / Owner
organization Nebraska State Historical Society	date 4/14/08
street & number 1500 R St	telephone 402-471-4770
city or town Lincoln	state NE zip code 68501
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps	
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the p	
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties havi	ing 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.)	
<u> </u>	·
Property Owner	
Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)	
name/title Craig & Karen Woodward	
street & number 819 Stockyard Lane	telephone
city or town Grand Island	state NE zip code 68801
orgonomic Orana Islana	3(a(c) 11E ZIP 0000 00001

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.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shady Bend Gas Station, Grocery &	& Diner	
Name of Property		
Hall County, Nebraska		
County and State	,	

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The Shady Bend Gas Station, Grocery & Diner (Shady Bend) is located east of Grand Island along U.S. Highway 30. Grand Island, the fourth largest city in Nebraska with a population of 42,940 (2000 census) is located about 100 miles west of Lincoln, the state capital. Established in 1857, Grand Island is situated along the Platte River, whose broad flood plain has facilitated travel across Nebraska for generations.

Constructed by H. O. "Doc" Woodward in 1931, Shady Bend is the main building of what was originally a collection of buildings constructed as part of a cabin camp.

The building is rectangular with a full frontal canopy on the north side. It is covered with rich tan colored stucco topped by a flat roof. False fronts were constructed along the north, east and west sides to accept a parapet. The parapet is covered with red clay tile. Small towers pierce the tile roof at regular intervals and each tower is topped with tile. A pair of tiles shaped as right angle triangles have been applied near the top of each tower. Paired six-over-six windows spaced evenly along the east and west facades are topped by recessed, stuccoed arches. The arches are embellished with triangular tile applied near the center of each arch. The west façade features a large painted sign, reading "SHADY BEND."

The canopy accommodated drive-up gasoline service to automobiles. Just below the tile roofline is a surround of light sockets, which once held a row of light bulbs. At the main entrance to the business is a vestibule or "air lock," topped by a neon sign, reading "OFFICE." A display window with transom and a door flank the wooden vestibule.

When entering from the vestibule front door, there was once the grocery, which served cold cuts, fruit and vegetables. An oak refrigerated counter, manufactured by "Ehrlich," is to the left when entering from the front. A "Frigidaire" oak cooler is also located in this area, which after Prohibition held bottled beer, received from the basement through a nearby dumbwaiter accessed by a trapdoor. To the right of the main entrance are restrooms. One restroom is entered from the outside and was kept open to the public after business hours.

A wood paneled registration counter located between the restaurant area and the grocery area brought guests into the establishment to sign in. This counter, built to be a couple of feet higher than a normal countertop also housed the switchboard and allowed the proprietor a birds eye view of business. The restaurant, on the south side of the building includes a counter and fireplace (not of the period). A kitchen and laundry room is located on the west side.

The interior space of Shady Bend is well appointed with woodwork and wood paneling that is stained with a rich dark finish. Present in the dining room, the wood paneling has been placed so it begins at the floor and it goes about halfway up the wall, a bit higher than chair rail height.

Around the exterior, period plantings include Siberian elm, spirea (bridal wreath), lilacs, and cottonwoods. Historic spirea plantings are located on the east and south sides of the building. Immediately to the east of this building was a small playground that featured a merry-go-round and benches. This area is still surrounded by spirea shrubs.

Shady Bend includes representative elements of the functions and services for travelers once offered by the larger and more elaborate privately-owned and operated roadside stops: a gasoline station, a grocery, public restrooms, a park and diner. Unfortunately, this property no longer has sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a tourist related cabin camp. This historic property, taken as a Lincoln Highway related roadside resource exhibiting architectural significance, does retain good integrity.

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Shady Bend Gas Station, Grocery & Diner

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The Shady Bend Gas Station, Grocery & Diner (Shady Bend) meets the registration requirements of the National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, *Historic and Architectural Resources of the Lincoln Highway in Nebraska*. This property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for an association with Lincoln Highway related resources in the area of commerce and transportation. Shady Bend includes representative elements of all the functions and services for travelers once offered by the larger and more elaborate privately-owned and operated rest stops: gasoline station, a grocery, public restrooms, a park and restaurant. Shady Bend also meets the Multiple Property Document's criteria for listing under Criterion C for architectural significance. The period of significance corresponds to the initiation of service to the traveling public through 50 years from today's date.

History

The broad Platte River valley in Nebraska is a natural corridor for travel. In the mid-nineteenth century it was the route of the Oregon-California Trail, the Mormon Trail, and Pony Express. Following the Platte River through today's Hall County were the Omaha-Fort Kearny military road (1857) and a road authorized by the Nebraska territorial legislature in 1864. Next to come was the transcontinental Union Pacific Railroad as it built through the Platte River valley beginning in 1866. The Lincoln Highway, established in 1913, was another milestone in the evolution of the Platte River valley in Nebraska as a route for the nation's travel; a trail of the twentieth century and the nation's first transcontinental automobile route.¹

Shady Bend was built after the Lincoln Highway was rerouted to more closely parallel the UP railroad tracks, thus avoiding the route that followed a section line to the east and the Grand Island Seedling Mile to the south. Horace Oliver "Doc" Woodward selected the site with an eye to this well-traveled transcontinental highway, which in 1926 was renamed U.S. Highway 30. The grounds originally consisted of a grove of cottonwoods at a bend in this route of the highway, hence the name "Shady Bend."

Woodward constructed Shady Bend in 1931 and from its inception was very involved by day to day operations. Throughout the commercial life of Shady Bend, Doc's family was there to first assist and then to own the enterprise. Doc was born in Canada on October 30, 1869 he was the son of John James & Anice (Nixon) Woodward. Doc Woodward worked in the brickyard in Atlantic, IA from 1882-1889, and from 1889-1893 he worked in the brickyard in Omaha, NE. In 1895-1904 he worked for the Union Stockyard Co. in South Omaha. 1904-1906, Doc was foreman for Valley Stockyards & Grain Co. in Valley, NE. In 1906 to 1915, Doc was foreman for Union Stockyards in Grand Island, NE and general Manager from 1917 to 1919 when he purchased Union Stockyards. H.O. Woodward married Carrie A. Hodgson on July 6, 1910 and they had four sons: Howard N., Loyd O., Francis D and Robert O., who died as a young child.

Woodward traveled with his family on vacation to Arizona in the late 1920's and was unable to find adequate accommodations for his family. Upon returning from this vacation he made a decision, against the recommendation of many friends because of the economy at that time, to build the nominated property along with 34 cabins, a trap shooting range, and trailer camp. Once Doc heard that the local tennis players needed a place to play, he constructed tennis courts. ² Doc raised a herd of bison in 1932 as a personal hobby³ but soon, the herd became a roadside attraction and was promoted as such.

³ Ibid.

¹ MPD: Historic and Architectural Resources of the Lincoln Highway in Nebraska.

² Society for Commercial Archeology Newsletter 3:1; 1986.

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Shady Bend Gas Station, Grocery & Diner
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He was impressed with the stucco and architectural styles in Arizona and used that as inspiration for the design of the Shady Bend complex. Doc died May 21, 1946.

Francis D. "Fritz" Woodward born on September 5, 1917 was the third son of H.O. and Carrie Woodward. On January 16, 1940, Fritz married Margaret Hutton. He worked at Shady Bend from 1929 until he went to WW II in 1942 and returned in 1945. Upon the passing of his father H.O. Woodward, Fritz Woodward became owner of Shady Bend. By about 1955, some of the one room cabins were sold and moved off site. The cabin camp closed in 1977, though the main building remained in operation. Fritz worked at Shady Bend until his retirement in 1983. He died on May 5, 2001.

Shady Bend remained in the family but was rented until 2005. In 2008, Doc's grandson and Fritz's son Craig O. Woodward took sole ownership of Shady Bend. Craig was born on December 13, 1946 he is the second child of Fritz and Margaret Woodward. He worked at Shady Bend until he went into the Navy in 1967 and returned home in 1971. He continued to work at Shady Bend part time until his father retired in 1983. In 2008, Craig became sole owner of Shady Bend.

Craig Woodward's goal is to restore the building to its original state as much as possible and once again make it a place for people to stop along the Lincoln Highway.

Historic and Architectural Resources on the Lincoln Highway in Nebraska

The context and associated property types of the Lincoln Highway are defined in the National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, *Historic and Architectural Resources of the Lincoln Highway in Nebraska*. Three property types relative to Shady Bend are summarized below. Shady Bend represents these three property types as described by the MPD. These property types are manifested in one business operation and building, which It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction and includes all the functions and services for travelers once found in diners, gasoline stations, and rural crossroads stores.

Gas Stations

Many gas stations were built by small independent retailers in a manner preferred by the operator, using designs worked out with local contractors or observations of industry trends. They sometimes took on other architectural themes as a marketing tool because the public was attracted by the "homelike" appearance, such as quaint cottages or using styles such as Spanish Revival or English Tudor. The property type, "house with canopy" describes a gas station built to resemble a residential house with a canopy covering the driveway and pumps.

Gas stations located on or within close proximity to the historic alignments of the Lincoln Highway/U.S. 30 may qualify for listing on the National Register under Criterion A for their association with the highway and the marketing of products and services for the traveling public. A gas station may also qualify for the National Register under Criterion C as a distinctive example of a type, form and function or as a representative example of a distinctive architectural style related to trends in marketing of petroleum products. Properties will embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction. Early examples are increasingly rare resources on the Lincoln Highway in Nebraska.

Rural Crossroads Stores

Rural crossroads stores, often pre-dating the Lincoln Highway, offered groceries or other supplies not only for local residents but also the traveling motorist. Some included curbside pumps for gasoline sales.

⁴ Society for Commercial Archeology Newsletter 3:1; 1986.

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Significance may be evaluated under Criterion A for association with these types of business establishments, which provided goods and services to travelers on the highway.

Diners

Dining options were a necessity for the long distance traveler and represent changing or evolving marketing trends. Entrepreneurs operating food stands, restaurants, or diners catered to travelers along highways.

Diners served local or regional patrons, as well as truckers and travelers along the Lincoln Highway/U.S. 30. They may be eligible under Criterion A by association with highway travel on the Lincoln Highway/U.S. 30. Criterion C would be met by their type, form and function or a distinctive architectural style of a roadside type. Properties will embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction.

The context and associated property types represented by Shady Bend meets the registration requirements of the National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, *Historic and Architectural Resources of the Lincoln Highway in Nebraska*.

Criterion A

As the number of travelers along the Lincoln Highway increased so did the need for services. Gas stations, stores, and eateries were just a few resource types that emerged to serve travelers. Shady Bend meets several descriptions of related property types as defined in the Multiple Property Documentation Form *Historic and Architectural Resources of the Lincoln Highway in Nebraska*, including gas stations, diners, and rural crossroads stores. Without these services, travel along the highway would have been less comfortable, and indeed, impossible as every motor vehicle required fuel to operate. This property represents a significant highway related commercial enterprise found in the property types: gasoline station, diners, and rural crossroads stores.

Unfortunately, the cabins once associated with this property have been demolished or moved off site. Therefore, this property no longer retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a cabin camp associated with the Lincoln Highway. However, there is no question that Shady Bend was constructed to serve the traveler. Therefore, this property retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a highway related resource in the areas of commerce and transportation.

Criterion C - Roadside Property Type

Shady Bend was constructed in the Spanish Eclectic architectural style. Doc Woodward carried many of these elements home to Nebraska from the southwest. His preference for this style was no doubt specified to the plan service that drew the building's architectural plans. Design characteristics of the Spanish Eclectic style include a low pitched roof with little or no eave overhang, red tile roof covering, one or more prominent arches, and stuccoed wall surfaces. One element, the front canopy is similar to the one-story covered porches usually found at the rear of this domestic style. In this case, the design element was adapted as a covered canopy for the gas station.

Under Crtieria C, the building exhibits the characteristics of several property types as defined by the MPD. Shady Bend includes representative elements of the functions and services for travelers once offered by privately-owned and operated roadside stops: specifically the gasoline station and diner.

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Shady Bend is also an excellent example of the Spanish Eclectic style manifested in a roadside business. Therefore, the building is significant under Criterion C for the association with architecture.

According to the Multiple Property Document *Historic and Architectural Resources of the Lincoln Highway in Nebraska*, construction and development of the Lincoln Highway in Nebraska was a significant event in our local and state history. Resources constructed to serve the traveling public gain significance through their association with this important intrastate highway. The Shady Bend Gas Station, Grocery and Diner meets all registration requirements as discussed within the MPD. Establishments such as Shady Bend enabled highway travel, and in fact, helped to begin an American love affair with highway travel.

Section 9

Bibliography

McAlester, Virginia and Lee, A Field Guide to American Houses. Alfred A. Knopf, New York. 2000

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic and Architectural Resources of the Lincoln Highway in Nebraska," Christina Slattery, Erin Pogany, and Emily Schill, Mead and Hunt, Inc., and L.Robert Puschendorf, Nebraska State Historical Society (January 2007).

<u>Nebraska Historic Highway Survey</u>, Nebraska State Historical Society and Nebraska Department of Roads, report dated August 2002.

Society for Commercial Archeology Newsletter 3:1; 1986.

Section 10

Verbal Boundary Description

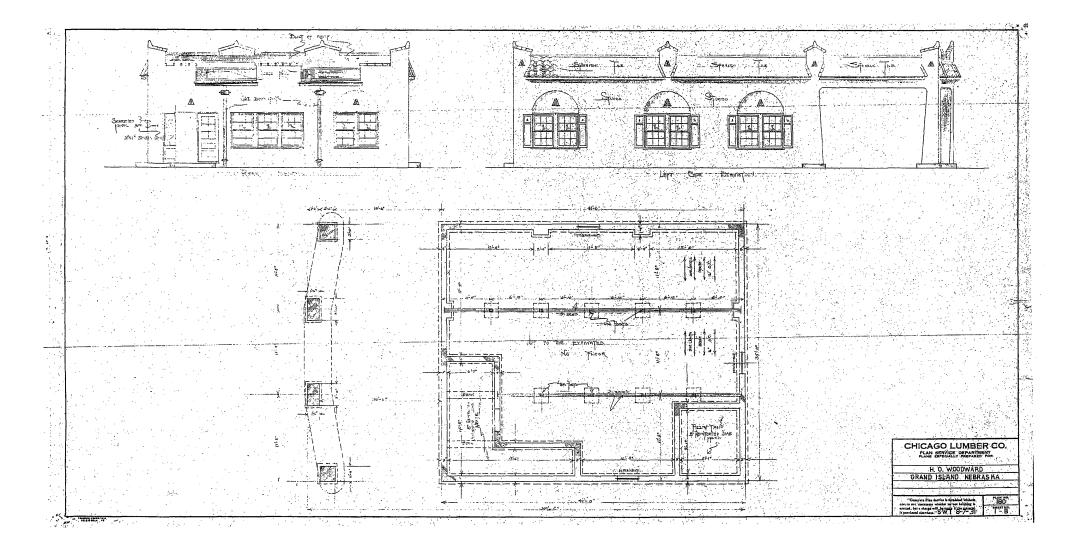
The boundary of this historic property extends to the public Right of Way (ROW) on the north, west and east sides. Along the south side (or rear) the boundary encompasses 25 feet from the footprint of the building.

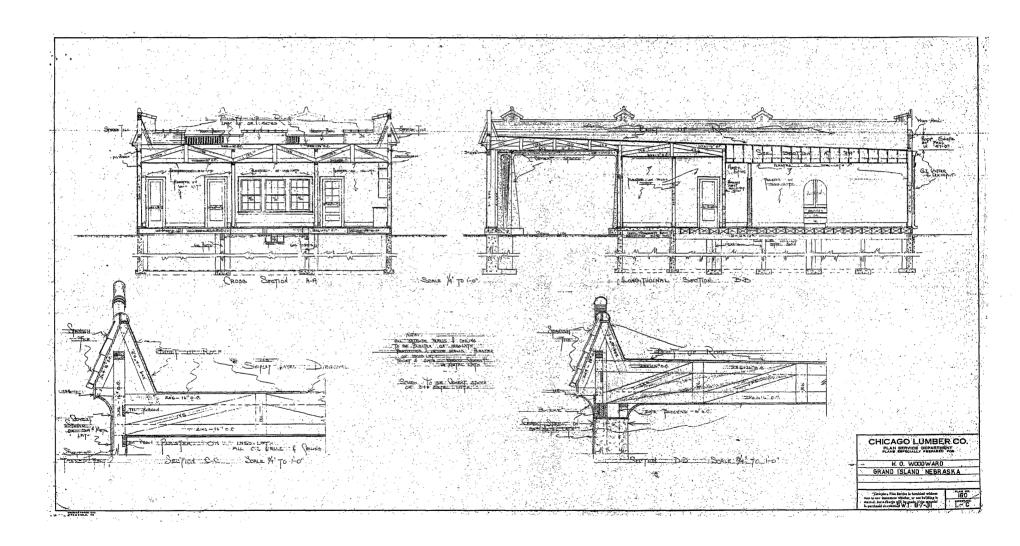
Boundary Justification

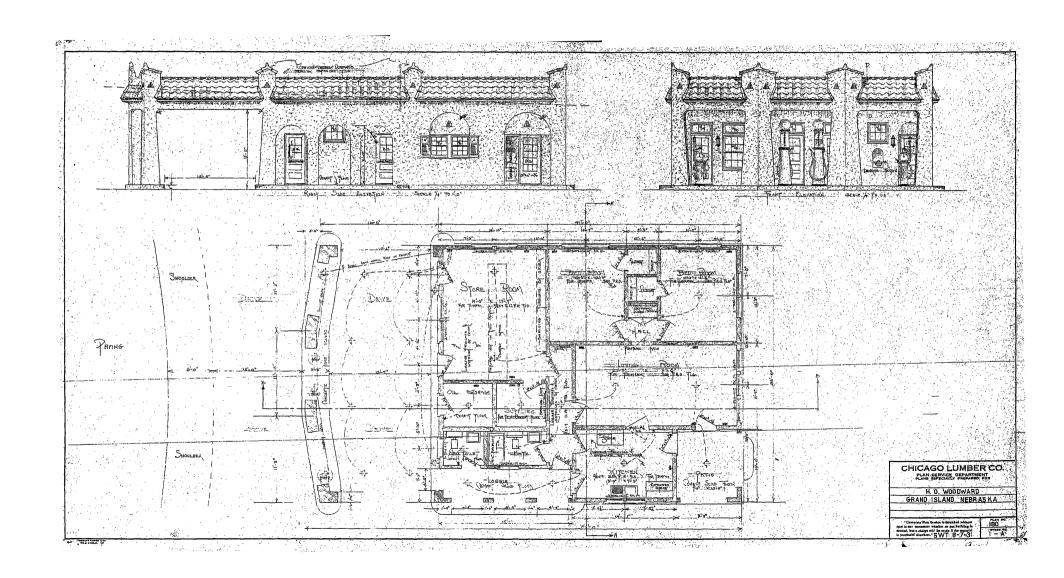
The boundary as described above includes an area that helps to convey the significance of this property, and corresponds to the current legal ownership of the historic property.

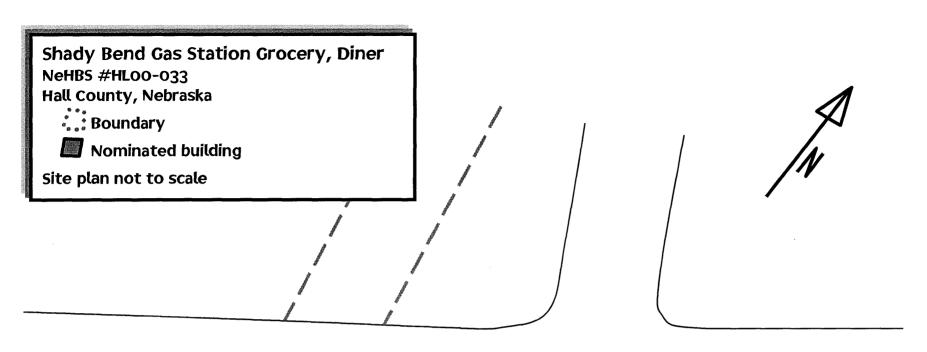
Section 11

Note regarding enclosed 7.5' U.S.G.S. topographic map: The enclosed map has not been revised since Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) realigned the Lincoln Highway (Hwy 30) in 2004. The realignment places Shady Bend west of the intersection, rather than east as shown on the topographical map. The enclosed sketch map is correct.









Highway 30

