

80003743

## YANKTON COUNTY SURVEY

NAME Lewis Olson Log House

LOCATION SE 1/4, NE 1/4, Section 28, T94N, R55W

OWNER William Smith

ADDRESS R.R. 1  
Box 91  
Mission Hill, South Dakota 57046

## DESCRIPTION

The Lewis Olson Log House is a 1 1/2 story cottonwood log structure constructed around the late 1870's. The house apparently was built in two sections, with a gabled second story including a central front facade wall dormer added at a later date. It is believed that a front porch was also added to the structure at that time. The structure rests on an irregular stone foundation; its hewn-log sides are joined in saddle-notch fashion. The building's windows are rectangular, double hung with two over two sash.

The building is in poor condition, with a large hole cut into the west side. This log house was enclosed within a larger house for quite some time; the larger house has since been removed. This may explain the large hole in the right facade.

STYLE Vernacular (Log)

DATE Late 1870's

## SIGNIFICANCE

The building is significant in two areas: architecture and settlement. Because most of the log structures in Yankton County are now gone, the Olson Log House serves as an important example of a certain type of construction used during the early years of the resource area. Also, the building serves as an example of the type of dwelling utilized during the formative years of Yankton County, South Dakota. Lewis Olson purchased around 180 acres in 1870 and he continued to own the property until 1903, at which time he sold it to his sons, Gustaf and John L. Olson. The James River previously ran very close to the foot of the hill on which this house stands. Its course was changed in the flood of 1881 and it now runs about one half mile farther west.

ACREAGE 4

BOUNDARIES The nominated property is located 2000 feet east of the James River, 3000 feet southeast of the Girl Scout Camp, and 6000 feet west of Welby School.

UTM 14/635615/4754490

OTHER