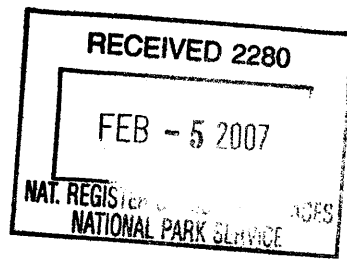


178

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 Carl Penke Farm
Other names/site number NeHBS# DO09:1494-001

2. Location

Street & number 10525 North 168th ST Not for publication [X]
City or town Bennington Vicinity []
State Nebraska Code NE County Douglas Code 055 Zip code 68007

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.)

Michael J. ...
Signature of certifying official
Director, Nebraska State Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

Jan. 25, 2007
Date

In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

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 3.21.07

for
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

Carl Penke Farm

Name of Property

Douglas 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.)

Contributing

4

2

6

Noncontributing

1

1

Buildings

Sites

Structures

Objects

Total

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

AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE /

Agricultural outbuilding/animal facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC / single dwelling

AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE /

Agricultural outbuilding/animal facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Foundation Concrete

Walls Frame

Roof Asphalt

Other

Narrative Description

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

Carl Penke Farm

Name of Property

Douglas 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. 1880 - 1957

Significant Dates

ca. 1880

1910

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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: _____

Carl Penke Farm
Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 10.7

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1.	14	736132	4581830	3.	14	736522	4581658
2.	14	736593	4581871	4.	14	736424	4581659

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 12/04/06
street & number 1500 R St, 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 Laurence and Margaret Sabus
street & number 10525 North 168th ST telephone _____
city or town Bennington state NE zip code 68007

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

Carl Penke Farm

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

Introduction

The Carl Penke farm is a late 19th to early 20th century farm complex located in Douglas County near Bennington, Nebraska. The farmyard gently slopes toward a creek that flows into the Big Papillion River. While the immediate setting of the farmyard is rural, modern developmental pressure from nearby Omaha is present nearby. The nomination includes four contributing buildings: the house, a barn, a garage, and a chicken coop; two contributing structures, a root cellar and a corn crib; and one noncontributing structure: a modified chicken coop. The buildings and landscape associated with the farm are in an excellent state of preservation.

Description

The Carl Penke farm is located in rural Douglas County, Nebraska. Douglas County is located in the eastern portion of Nebraska and its eastern boundary is the Missouri River. The area of the nominated property can be characterized as gently rolling to hilly. As the crow flies, the Carl Penke farm is located approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile southwest of Bennington and is approximately 61 miles northeast of Lincoln, the state capital.

This farmhouse faces east and when approaching it from the west, remains largely unseen. The farmyard is accessed by a long drive off of a county road. The driveway curves slightly to the south as it approaches the house. The house and the root cellar are located on the south and west side of the driveway, while the remainder of the outbuildings flank the north and east sides of the driveway. The farmyard is well protected by windbreaks on both the north and west sides.

The large two-story frame farmhouse was constructed in 1910. The east facing façade is the primary façade of the house and it is this side of the house that provides a bit of architectural interest. Two small covered porches are present on either side of a two-story canted bay. The porch at the north end allows access into the kitchen while the porch at the south end opens into the formal parlor. The northern porch has a frame wall with a small fixed window turned on end to form a diamond shape. This porch wall undoubtedly helped to block the fierce north wind as one readied to enter the house. A 1910 photo shows that the eastern side of this porch was screened, but now this porch is open. The canted bay ends with a gabled dormer projecting from a hipped roof. The gable end of the dormer is decorated with patterned wood shingles. Each floor of the canted bay contains a fixed picture window with double hung windows on either side. Each picture window features a fixed transom decorated with etched or stained glass. A small fixed window is located on the first level of the house near the southern porch. This window features one larger pane of glass surrounded by smaller panes. The remaining facades of the house are simple, broken up only by double hung one over one windows. The hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The only apparent exterior change is the addition of new French doors on the rear façade.

The interior floor plan of the house is simple and large square rooms flow easily into one another. The interior of the house retains original wooden floors and wooden trim details. Most of this wood detail is southern pine, though oak was used for the floors and trim work in the former formal parlor. Pocket doors are present between the dining room and the living room as well as between the dining room and the parlor. Door hardware and light fixtures are original. The kitchen has been sympathetically modernized. During this rehabilitation, an adjoining bathroom and pantry were remodeled into a single bathroom. Four bedrooms and a bathroom are located on the second floor.

The oldest building on this farm is the gable-roofed barn constructed sometime in the 1880's. The barn sits on a stone foundation and is clad with vertical board and batten siding. The barn is positioned on a north-south axis leaving the gable ends to face north and south. A single Dutch door allows access to the barn from the north side, and a small two over two fixed window is centered between the edge of the door frame and the eastern edge of the barn. The gable end of this northern face exhibits a one over one double hung window complete with screen. The west side of the barn is punctuated by a two over two fixed window at either end, two side-by-side double Dutch doors positioned slightly off center and a centered dormer entrance. The dormer features two additional side-by-side double Dutch doors that allow

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Carl Penke Farm

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 7 Page 2

access to the haymow. The eastern side of the barn contains three Dutch doors evenly spaced across the expanse of board and batten. A small gabled vent sits upon the crest of the roofline.

A small gabled wood clad structure located northwest of the house forms the sheltered entrance to the root cellar. This below ground root cellar is lined with bricks and retains the original hooks for hanging meat. Two chicken coops are located north of the root cellar and across the road. The westernmost chicken coop retains good physical integrity while the eastern coop has been repurposed and now has a modern door and modern windows. Positioned east of the chicken coops, a wooden corncrib now functions as extra storage and as a garage. The final outbuilding, a garage, is located east of the house. The garage is a one story gabled building clad with wooden siding. With the exception of one chicken coop described above, these outbuildings are all contributing resources in this nomination.

Taken as a collection of farm related resources, the integrity of the Carl Penke farm is excellent. Individually, the integrity of the farmhouse is high. The current owners have lovingly restored the outbuildings. Few alterations to the built environment have occurred on this farm. All seven aspects of integrity are well represented by the Carl Penke farm.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Carl Penke Farm

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 8 Page 1

The Carl Penke farm is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with agriculture.

Carl Penke purchased his farm in June 1909. When he acquired the farm, a house was present, as was the barn described in Section 7. In order to accommodate his wife and five daughters comfortably, Penke began building a new house during the summer of 1910.¹ The existing house was moved to allow for construction of the current house. The first house was then given to a family that had lost their home in a tornado.² The barn was never enlarged or replaced.

Carl continued to farm until his death in 1936. Carl's widow, Lena, sold the farm to her daughter Clara Christensen and husband Elmer in 1947. The Sabus family has owned just over 10 acres of the original 80 acres since 1979.

Carl Penke began farming in Nebraska during a period of agricultural growth in Nebraska.³ Including the years 1880-1930, this period is described as the heart of the development of Nebraska's agriculture.⁴ By 1880, the initial settlement period had ended, and the now settled farmers have matured with their crops. It is during this period that most family farms are self-sufficient. Typically, 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.⁵ On the Penke farm, the construction of the new 2-story farmhouse in 1910 is evidence of this prosperity. Following World War I, however, farm prices were low, and the nation was headed toward drought and the Great Depression.

The Carl Penke farm is significant at the local level under Criterion A. The farm retains an excellent collection of buildings representative of a broad pattern of agricultural development in Douglas County. The farmhouse and associated outbuildings retain a significant amount of physical integrity. Despite growing developmental pressure, the rural setting is intact and strengthens the feeling and association of this farmyard.

During the years that Carl Penke established this farm, the total number of farms in Nebraska reached its zenith. The number of farms held steady until the years encompassing the Great Depression.⁶ Since the Great Depression, the number of farms in Nebraska has been steadily declining⁷ and this decline continues to the present day. Douglas County is the location of Nebraska's largest metropolitan community, Omaha, and this translates into tremendous pressure for

¹ Personal communication, Rena Adkins to Laurence and Margaret Sabus. No date.

² Ibid.

³ Sodhi, Penny. The Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production Area: A System of Farming as the Basis for a Historic Context. 1986.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ General Population, Agriculture, and Manufacturing Statistics, 1790 – 1970. On file, NeSHPO.

⁷ Ibid.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Carl Penke Farm

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 8 Page 2

continued urban expansion. The Carl Penke farm represents the family farm, a resource type that is growing increasingly rare in Douglas County.

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 Carl Penke represent a once ubiquitous and now rare piece of American culture: the family farm.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Carl Penke Farm

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 9, 10 Page 1

Bibliography

General Population, Agriculture, and Manufacturing Statistics, 1790 – 1970. On file, NeSHPO.

Rena Adkins, personal communication to Laurence and Margaret Sabus. No date. On file, NeSHPO.

UTM Reference (continued):

5. 14 736401 4581816

6. 14 736132 4581795

Verbal Boundary Description

That part of the north half of the southwest quarter of Section 15, Township 16 North, Range 11 East of the 6th P.M., Douglas County, Nebraska, and all more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point 714.7 feet south of the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of said Section 15; thence north 85°33' east, a distance of 1500.6 feet to the iron pipe at the west bank of creek; thence continuing on same bearing east to center line of creek; thence south and southeasterly along center line of creek 800' more or less; to a point on the south line of the north half of said southwest quarter of Section 15; thence west along the south line of said north half a distance of approximately 35 feet to an iron pipe on the west bank of said creek; thence continuing west along the south line of the north half of the southwest quarter for 272.9'; thence north 0°00' east on a line parallel the west line of said Section 15 for a distance of 497.5'; thence north 90°00' west on a line perpendicular to said west line of Section 15, a distance of 912.5' to west line of said Section 15, and center line of county road; thence north along said center line for 108.5 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

As described above, the boundaries of this historic property include those buildings, structures and a portion of the land historically associated with the operations of the farmyard itself. These boundaries also coincide with the legal parcel owned by the current property owners.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Carl Penke Farm

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

County and State

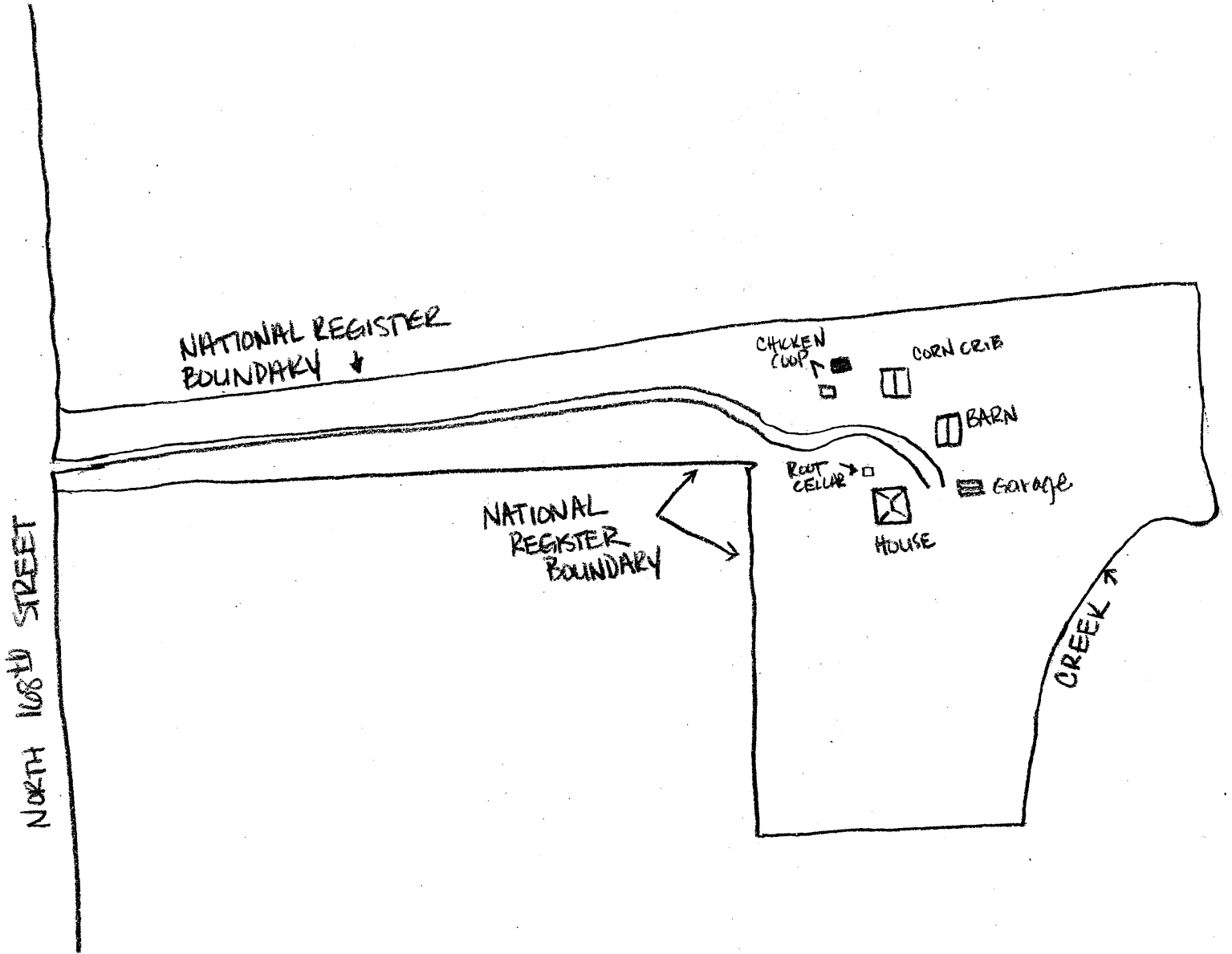
Section 11 Page 1

Photographs

The following information pertains to the following 11 photographs:

Carl Penke Farm
Douglas County, Nebraska
Photographer: Stacy Stupka-Burda, NeSHPO
October 2005
Negatives in the collection of the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office

Photograph	Description of Photograph	View
1 of 11	View of Carl Penke house, primary façade.	W
2 of 11	View of Carl Penke house, primary façade.	SW
3 of 11	View of Carl Penke house.	SE
4 of 11	Interior view of kitchen.	
5 of 11	Interior view of dining room. Parlor at center through double doors; kitchen is through door to right.	
6 of 11	Interior view of living room.	
7 of 11	View of 1880's barn.	NE
8 of 11	View of non-contributing corn crib.	E
9 of 11	View of garage and barn.	SW
10 of 10	View of root cellar entrance.	W
11 of 11	View of chicken coop	N



CARL PENKE FARM
 DO QA: 1494-001
 DOUGLAS CO. NEBRASKA

SKETCH MAP
 NOT TO SCALE

□ CONTRIBUTING
 ■ NONCONTRIBUTING

↑
N
↓