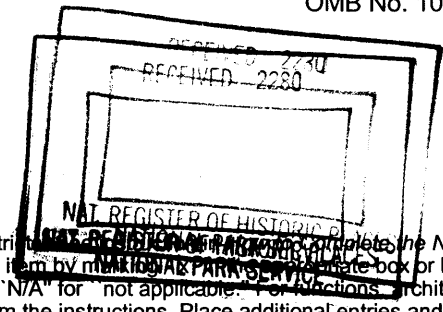


# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. It is to be used to complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For actions, 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 Omdalen Barn

other names/site number Ryland Barn

## 2. Location

street & number 44750 209<sup>th</sup> Street [N/A] not for publication

city or town Lake Preston [X] vicinity

state South Dakota code SD county Kingsbury code 077 zip code 57249

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 State Historic Preservation Officer 06-19-2006  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office  
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 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
  - See continuation sheet.
- other, explain
  - See continuation sheet.

Edson M. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action 8.2.06

Omdalen Barn  
Name of Property

Kingsbury County, South Dakota  
County/State

**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**

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	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.**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Function**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture/Subsistence – Animal facility

Agriculture/Subsistence - Storage

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture/Subsistence – Animal facility

Agriculture/Subsistence - Storage

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Bank Barn

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Wood

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

roof Wood (historic); Metal (current)

other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

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

Omdalen Barn

Name of Property

Kingsbury County, South Dakota

County/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.
[X] 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 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)

Architecture

Periods of Significance

1910

Significant Dates

1910

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Thore T. Omdalen (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 of additional data:

- [X] State Historic Preservation Office
[ ] Other State Agency
[ ] Federal Agency
[ ] Local Government
[ ] University
[ ] Other

Name of repository:

Omdalen Barn  
Name of Property

Kingsbury County, South Dakota  
County/State

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreeage of Property** less than one

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 14 638626 4912685  
Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[ ] 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 Jason Haug - Historic Preservation Specialist

organization South Dakota SHPO

date May 18, 2005

street & number 900 Governors Drive

telephone (605) 773-6296

city or town Pierre

state SD

zip code 57501

## 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 SHPO or FPO.)

name Dennis Ryland

street & number 44750 209<sup>th</sup> Street

telephone (605)983-3258

city or town Lake Preston

state SD

zip code 57249

**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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

Omdalen Barn  
Kingsbury County, South Dakota

Section number 7 Page 1

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**DESCRIPTION**

The Omdalen Barn is located just off the northeast shore of Lake Whitewood one and one-half miles south and one mile east of the small town of Hetland in eastern Kingsbury County, South Dakota. The barn was constructed in 1910 by Norwegian immigrant Thore. T. Omdalen who homesteaded the land in 1878. The farm on which the barn is located is split east-west by a section road. A house, two garages, and two other outbuildings are located north of the road while the nominated barn, other buildings, a silo, and grain bins are located to the south. The majority of the other buildings on the farm are either modern buildings or historic buildings that no longer retain sufficient historic integrity to be included with the nomination.

The barn has a long, narrow rectangular plan measuring 40 by 150 feet with a gable roof and is framed with eight-inch by eight-inch timbers connected by mortise-and-tenon joints. The barn was constructed into the side of a hill along the north side. The foundation is made of fieldstone hauled from nearby Lake Whitewood to form the two-foot thick foundation walls. The historic wood shingles on the roof were covered with metal in 1996 and a cross-gable cupola was removed from the roof circa 1940.

The east elevation has a fixed four-pane window in the gable peak. On the right side of the elevation off the northeast corner of the building is a shed-roofed drive-through bay. Four horizontal beams that support the interior grain bins are located two over two in the center of the elevation. Attached to the northeast corner of the barn and flush with the east elevation is a shed-roofed drive-through bay. To the right of the supports on this bay is a sliding wood door. An earthen ramp runs up to this door. Two adjacent three-pane windows are located in the stone foundation straight down from the four-pane gable window.

On the left side of the north elevation is a gabled dormer with two four-over-four windows. Across the north side of the drive-through bay are two four-over-four windows and another wood door with an earthen ramp built up to it. To the right of the bay is a double wood sliding door with an earthen ramp that provides access to the haymow. The only features on the west elevation are two covered two-over-two windows in the gable peak.

There is a single two-over-two window on the upper level of the south elevation. On the right side of the elevation are three horizontal supports like those on the east elevation. Directly below each of these supports are three grain chutes. Across the ground level of the south elevation from left to right is a sliding wood door, a single hinged wood door, a four vertical-pane window, a single hinged wood door, a sliding wood door, a four vertical-pane window, a single hinged wood door, a sliding wood door, another four vertical-pane window, another sliding wood door, and finally a double hinged wood door with a six pane transom window above it.

The barn's interior is divided into three different sections. The east end, including both floors, houses the grain elevator. The remaining two-thirds of the barn on the west end is haymow on the upper level and pens for livestock on the lower level. Beneath the driveway is the pit into which the grain was unloaded. The driveway was also built with a scale. Because the scale was not made to support trucks and large wagons, it broke in 1944 and has not been used since. From the pit the grain was distributed by a grain leg with steel cups on a cast iron chain to seven bins each having capacity of 2000 to 3000 bushels. The grain leg was originally powered by a one-cylinder water cooled gasoline engine with two four foot flywheels. This motor was replaced with a much smaller two cylinder, 2.5 horsepower gas engine in 1945, which was in turn incorporated with a 5 horsepower electric motor in 1973.

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

Omdalen Barn  
Kingsbury County, South Dakota

Section number 8 Page 2

**SIGNIFICANCE**

The Omdalen Barn, located in rural Kingsbury County just south of Hetland, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a significant example of a bank barn constructed in South Dakota at the beginning of the twentieth century.

Kingsbury County, South Dakota is part of the state's Central Lowlands region, which encompasses much of the state east of the Missouri River. This area contains flat to gently rolling prairie land with several lakes left over from the glaciers that covered the northeast region of the state. Kingsbury County was organized in 1879 during the early stages of the First Dakota Boom, the first great wave of migration into South Dakota that lasted roughly from 1878 to 1887. Like most counties in eastern South Dakota, settlement in Kingsbury County was spurred by construction of the railroad combined with the availability of land. The Chicago & Northwestern Railroad was built through Kingsbury County during the early 1880s and consequently most of the County's settlement occurred during this time.<sup>1</sup>

Varying amounts of rainfall resulted in differing types of agriculture developing east of the Missouri River compared to the western part of the state. Large scale sheep and cattle ranches emerged in the dryer western region of South Dakota while smaller farms focused on crops like wheat, corn, and oats as well as dairying developed in eastern South Dakota. The types of resources constructed characterized these different types of agriculture, with the more diversified east-river farms needing more facilities for animal, grain, and equipment storage than the west-river ranches.<sup>2</sup>

During the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century, farmers experimented with new barn forms and features, attempting to enclose the maximum amount of space at the lowest possible cost and attain the highest degree of efficiency. The bank feature was one method of construction some farmers used to increase efficiency by allowing them easy access to both levels of the barn.<sup>3</sup> Bank barns are thus identified by construction into the side of a hill allowing for access to both floors of the barn. The ridgeline of the barn often runs parallel to the slope with the hill meeting the barn on the long side. These types of barns are often wood frame structures upon stone foundations. Because Northeast South Dakota was heavily glaciated, fieldstones were more abundant in this area and thus used more frequently in foundation construction. The lower level of bank barns generally housed horses or cattle while the loft area of the upper level was used to store hay.<sup>4</sup> While some bank barns have manmade banks built along side them, most South Dakota bank barns are constructed into the side of an existing hill.<sup>5</sup> The bank barns on the Willow Grove Farm and the John Frydrych Farmstead, both listed on the National Register, are wood-frame structures constructed upon stone foundations.

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<sup>1</sup> Westerly Group, *Kingsbury County Historic Sites Survey Final Report* (Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, 1998), 9.

<sup>2</sup> David Erpestad and David Wood, *Building South Dakota: A Historical Survey of the State's Architecture to 1945* (Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 1997), 98.

<sup>3</sup> Erpestad and Wood, 101.

<sup>4</sup> Allen G. Noble and Richard K. Cleek, *The Old Barn Book* (New Jersey: Rutgers University Press), 33-34, 79-80.

<sup>5</sup> Allyson Brooks and Steph Jacon, *Homesteading and Agricultural Development Context* (Pierre, SD: State Historic Preservation Office), 49.

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

Omdalen Barn  
Kingsbury County, South Dakota

Section number 8 Page 3

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Both of these barns are built into the side of a hill and the ridgeline of each barn's roof runs parallel to the bank.

Identifying features of a bank barn found in the Omdalen Barn include construction into the side of a hill along one of the barn's long sides, wood frame construction, a stone foundation, outside access into each level, livestock pens and stalls on the lower level, and hay storage in the loft on the upper level. The immense size, however, makes this barn distinctive from other National Register listed bank barns in South Dakota. The Hoffman Barn in northern Deuel County, SD measures forty-six by eighty feet while the nominated Omdalen Barn is almost twice as long at 40 by 150 feet.

Another distinctive feature of the Omdalen Barn generally not found in South Dakota barns is the incorporated grain elevator. While some barn plans even as late as the turn of the twentieth century still incorporated granaries or corncribs, most farms had separated these functions into different buildings. To ease the labor of farmers, the grain cup elevator was developed in the late eighteenth and throughout the nineteenth centuries. This device featured a series of cups on a chain or belt attached to two pulleys and axles. The grain elevator in the Omdalen Barn features steel cups on a cast iron chain that elevates the grain from the pit beneath the barn to the seven bins on the upper level.<sup>6</sup>

While several other buildings do exist on the farm, only the barn is included in this nomination. Most of the other buildings on the farm are either of modern construction or are historic buildings that no longer retain their integrity. Only the barn retains sufficient integrity and significance to convey its historic significance. Therefore, just the barn is being nominated under Criterion C as a significant, distinctive example of bank barn architecture in South Dakota built during the early twentieth century.

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<sup>6</sup> Allen G. Noble and Hubert G.H. Wilhelm, *Barns of the Midwest* (Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 1995), 175, 182.

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet****United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**Omdalen Barn  
Kingsbury County, South DakotaSection number 9&10 Page 4**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Brooks, Allyson and Steph Jacon. *Homesteading and Agricultural Development Context*. Pierre, SD: State Historic Preservation Office, 1994.

Erpestad, David and David Wood. *Building South Dakota: A Historical Survey of the State's Architecture to 1945*. Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 1997.

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

Noble, Allen G. and Richard K. Cleek. *The Old Barn Book*. New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1996.

Westerly Group. *Kingsbury County Historic Sites Survey Final Report*. Pierre, SD: South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, 1998.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA****VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The barn is located in the NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 12, T110N, R54W. The boundary is an imaginary line that forms an "L" as it encompasses the outline of the barn. Starting at a point 3 feet northeast of the northeast corner of the barn and running west to a point 3 feet northwest of the northwest corner of the drive-through bay, then running south to a point 3 feet northwest of where west side of the drive-through bay intersects the barn, then running west to a point 3 feet northwest of the northwest corner of the barn, then running south to a point 3 feet southwest of the southwest corner of the barn, then running east to a point 3 feet southeast of the southeast corner of the barn and then running north to meet the original starting point.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundary only includes the immediate area surrounding the barn which has been historically associated with the Omdalen Farm. The barn is the only significant building on the farm that retains historical integrity. The rest of the buildings have been excluded based on dates of construction and loss of integrity.