

JUN 24 2016

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Gottsch Farmstead

Other names/site number WN00-121

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

2. Location

Street & Number 17201 Dutch Hall Rd

City or town Bennington State Nebraska County Washington

Not for publication Vicinity

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 at the following level(s) of significance: national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D



SHPO/Director

06-17-2016
Date

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Nebraska State Historical Society

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting Official

Date

Title

State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
- determined eligible for the National Register.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____


Signature of Keeper

8-8-2016
Date of Action

Gottsch Farmstead
Name of Property

Washington, Nebraska
County and 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 include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
6	1	Buildings
1	0	Sites
7	1	Structures
		Objects
		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: Single Dwelling
Agricultural: Agricultural Outbuilding
Agricultural: Storage
Agricultural: Animal Facilities

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: Single Dwelling
Agricultural: Storage
Agricultural: Agricultural Outbuilding
Agricultural: Animal Facilities

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Victorian: Queen Anne

Materials (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:
Foundation: Stone
Walls: Wood
Roof: Wooden Shingles

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Description

Summary Paragraph (Briefly describe the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

The Gottsch Family Farmstead is a 109 year-old family farm complex situated on 7.25 acres (the original farmstead had 240 acres) on the county line between Washington and Douglas County. The farmstead sits on the north side of Dutch Hall Road which divides the two counties. The nomination includes multiple contributing buildings such as the house, barn, chicken coop and pig barn. Mature trees surround the property, multiple yards and a small pond east of the house contribute to the idyllic rural setting. The buildings and landscape associated with the farm are in excellent state of preservation.

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable.)

Site

The Gottsch Farm is located in rural Washington County. Washington County is bounded on the east by the Missouri River and the surrounding area is characterized by a landscape typical of a Midwestern environment with rolling hills and small streams. The farm is located approximately a mile east of the village of Washington, which at one point contained a creamery, bank and a sizable number of stores. The farm is twelve miles southwest of the county seat of Blair and about sixty miles northeast of the state capitol.

The farmstead is located on the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 33, township 17N and range 11E. The residential portion of the property is enclosed to the north and east by a windbreak of tall cedar trees that signified the borders of the original farm yard. The remainder of the land was used both for agriculture production, as well as pastures for Hereford cattle which were bred on the property. The northwest of the property has a small windbreak that only extends a quarter of the length of the farm.

The farm is entered through a gravel drive that the sheltered by rows of tall pine trees. The drive divides the farmstead into two distinctive functional zones. To the east, the domestic farming area composed of the single family home, an extensive yard to the south of the house and a brooder house to the north. The windbreak encloses the domestic side of the property to the east and north. The other side of the property is the livestock producing area. In the center is the large non-contributing barn (original burned down in the early 1990's) with cattle yard. The other structures in the farming area are hog barns, horse and milk barn, corn crib, chicken coop and windmill (figure 1, 3).

Domestic Area

House:

The Gottsch Farm House is a two-story, wood frame, Queen Anne style, gabled house. Originally built in 1906 by Fred Gottsch, the property has not been altered much, but has had two later additions (figure 2, 4). The first occurred during the period of significance when the summer kitchen was attached to the main body of the house. Later in the 1980s, a large mud room was added to the north side of the kitchen. While not built during the period of significance, the addition conforms well to the historic nature seen throughout the entire home.

Facing east, the front façade of the farm house is seen as you enter the property along the main drive. A large concrete porch extends from the mudroom's main entrance down almost to the original porch, which maintains its architectural integrity. The siding on the house is a mix of decorative fish scale with clapboard and can be seen around the entire exterior. The majority of the fish scale is in the gable area associated with the attic as well as a strip that bisects the first and second story. The most prominent part of the front façade is the largest gable which has unaltered spindle-work bargeboard. Underneath the eave, bracketing is still present and extends both around the upper level as well as the lower level directly above the porch. The whimsical design of the bargeboard is extended to the windows which all have small circular ornamentation at the top.

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The south façade appears broken into two sections. The section closest to the front of the house is dominated by a large gable which contains the same unaltered spindle-work bargeboard that was seen at the front of the home. The dual siding is continued on this side as are the small circular ornamentation on the windows and the bracketing under the eaves. The topmost section of the second story window, as well as the two windows on the first floor that face south, contain original stained glass windows. These two first floor windows are fixed-sash with leaded glass transom flanked on either side by a one-over-one fixed pane window. Two of the windows on the second level are fixed one-over-one windows while the largest window on this level is a side-by-side with a stained glass window on top. The roof can be seen from this view and is a variable sloped roof which allowed for better drainage during heavy rains. The second porch is seen on this side and had three decorative columns with spindle-work decoration adorning the connection of the column to the roof of the porch. This side is dominated by windows totaling six in all, two large on the first level, three on the second and a small attic window.

The rear façade is the plainest of the four sides with the least amount of decorative work. The dual siding is continued, the eaves brackets are the same as is ornamentation on the windows, but the bargeboard is not present on this façade. The most distinctive element of this side would be the view of the roof which is a truncated peak which flows into the variable sloped nature of the roof. The four windows are vertically slim one-over-one fixed pane and have no stained glass sections.

The north façade has been the most changed of the four sides. This is the side where the addition of the summer kitchen and later the mud room are the most visible. The additions do not have the fish scale siding that is seen throughout the rest of the house. On the main part of the house the dual siding is continued as are the decorative spindle-work bargeboards and the circular ornamentation adorning the windows. The one-over-one windows continue on this side in sharp contrast to the south façade which faces the driveway and contains the much larger one-over-one windows flanking the fixed pane window with stained glass accents. A small attic window can be seen from all sides of the home and contains the same decorative embellishments.

House Interior:

The interior retains as much of the original feel as is possible in a home that has been lived in for over 100 years. The original entrance would have been through the current dining room (former parlor); however, with the additions the current entrance is through the mudroom at the northeast side of the house. A porch or breezeway connects the mudroom to the dining room. and has a unique feature in that the pantry is behind a built-in display case. Underneath that case is a set of drawers that run from the pantry into the dining room and can be accessed from either side for convenience. The home retains much of its decorative nature such as the detail on original hardware and even many of the doors themselves which are ornate in design.

Perhaps the most important feature in the home is the large, wooden, quarterpace stair that dominates the living room. Family history says that the staircase and landing were sent over from Germany especially for the home, and it was shipped piece by piece. The ornamentation that can be seen on the exterior is translated on the landing as well, which contains bead-like decoration on the landing as well as intricate cut circles on the poles. The connection between the exterior and interior is the most striking when looking at the large, wooden landing. The doorway into the living room from the outside has an etched glass window in the center and the entrance to the room off the living room has decoratively milled wood door surrounds. Up the stairs, the main living space is the second story which houses four bedrooms. The second story has wooden floors throughout. The central heating and air-conditioning only have vents accessible in half the rooms on this level.

Barn:

Built approximately the same time at the farmstead in 1906-1907, the barn is located across the path dividing the domestic portion of the property with the agricultural side. Currently the barn is used as storage, while historically it served multiple purposes including a milking station for dairy cows. Attached to the north side of the barn is a later added shed addition where vehicles and machines are now stored.

The barn is a single gable, two-story structure; the first floor being functional space and the second being the hayloft. Horizontal wood siding surrounds the building and is pierced by numerous four-light windows around the barn. The majority of these windows run along the broad east side of the barn and would have allowed for adequate light to milk the

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cows in the morning. The section of the first floor that would have taken advantage of this sunlight was the milking stations, which were organized around a central channel towards which water would flow. The ground is simple concrete and the channel has since been filled in with wood; however, it is still visible. The other section of the barn was and still is used for storage purposes. The ceiling for the first floor is quite low. The shed is a wood post and beam construction with a prominent hay hood.

To reach the second floor hayloft an elevator was utilized. While the hay chute is still present, the physical elevator is no longer on the property. The hayloft does still retain much of its historical integrity including the pulley system that was used to open the large doors at both the north and south end of the barn. The wood interior is also maintained, however the roof was replaced recently due to hail damage. Around the second story exterior walls are numerous openings that can be used to drop hay to the animals. Unlike the home, the barn is more utilitarian and is not adorned with the intricate designs seen on the other building. A roof vent in the center of the barn is the only decorative aspect of the building.

Non-Contributing Metal Silo

A round, corrugated galvanized steel silo is located to the rear of the barn, adjacent to a smaller outbuilding. The construction date of the silo is unclear, as it does not appear in a 1986 plan of the property (figure 1) but does appear in an undated aerial photograph of the property. As such, it is classified as non-contributing.

Chicken Coop:

Built in the late 1930s or early 40s, the chicken coop consist of two buildings which share a wall and is located between the farmhouse and the barn. These buildings maintain their integrity and are still used to raise chickens, one building for the younger birds and the other for the older hens. The buildings are clad with wood siding much like the barn. The gabled roof is insulated with straw to help keep the warmth in, covered by shingles. The floor is concrete. The coop is entered through two doors, a basic wooden door that is left open during the summer and a door constructed of chicken wire.

Non-Contributing Garage:

Attached to the chicken coop and directly across the main drive is the small non-contributing garage. The roof is shingled and the building is clad with plan siding.

Historic Garage:

Next to the new garage is an older garage, built around the 1940s, that matches the architectural style seen across the property. The roof is sheet metal and the siding is wood matching that of the barn. A large sliding door adorns both ends of the garage, giving the impression that it might have been utilized as a barn before being converted to a garage.

Pig Barns:

The pig barn, built in the late 1930s or early 40s, and sheds dominate the lower and middle westernmost section of the property. The barn connects to four exterior pens, two of which have small wooden shelters. Two more exterior pens complete the pig complex, although these are not attached to the main barn. The barn itself is a wooden structure with a cement base. The two ends come to a gable and the roof is standard shingles which have been replaced after the period of significance. You enter the barn through the north façade and have to duck low upon entering. The interior maintains much of its historical integrity, including the large tree trunks that were used to prop up the roof. Multiple interior stalls are available and used mainly for nursing sows and their young. The barn's siding has been maintained and partially replaced over time creating a random appearance. The windows are six-light single sash original to the barn.

Windmill:

The metal windmill near the pig barn is an Aermotor Windmill and was put on the property in the late 1920s, which was during the prime period of the company based out of Chicago.

Outbuildings:

There are a number of smaller buildings spread throughout the property. These small buildings were built between the late 1920s and the late 40s with most being put on the property during the major expansion of the farmstead. These include two on the domestic side of the property and one or two on the agricultural side. One of the outbuildings on the domestic side was the outhouse, which has been converted to a storage shed for gardening equipment. The building conforms to the

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style of the rest of the property including wooden siding and a small gable roof. It is not known if the current location was the original location, but it is possible.

Non-Contributing Barn:

The large barn in the center of the property is a rebuild as the previous barn that was built in the late 1800s burned down in 1992. The current barn, a Morton company barn, rests on the old foundation, but is shorter in length and slightly wider. By building the barn shorter more pasture space was available for the animals. The barn is clad in metal siding and has a metal roof with a dual gable appearance and a roof vent on the higher gable. There is no ornamentation on the building; it is purely utilitarian.

Non-Contributing Stone Retaining Wall:

To the north-east of the farmhouse is a long stone retaining wall that is built into the side of the hill. While historic in appearance, the wall was built after the period of significance which ends in 1950. The wall was built by Glen, Benhart's son in the mid 1950s. It has a purely aesthetic contribution to the property and is the home to different flower beds and grasses that were planted in and around the wall.

Pasture Orientation:

There are numerous pastures on the property for keeping animals. When driving onto the property there are two large pastures on each side of the drive. These pastures are connected by a concrete crossway under the driveway allowing for easier cattle crossing. Connected to the pasture on the west side of the drive are the smaller cattle pens that have access to the barn in the center of the property. This segmentation allows for cattle rotation which gives the ground time for new growth.

Windbreaks:

To enclose the original domestic section of the property, the owners put windbreaks in to limit the powerful gusts on the plains. The most prominent windbreaks are rows of cedar trees to the east of the home as well as to the north. The other is the row of trees on either side of the drive which divide the property into the two functional zones. The land outside of the windbreaks was originally used for cattle, but has since been sold and is now used for farming corn or soybeans.

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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.
A reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- E** A commemorative property.
- F** Less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture

Architecture

Period of Significance

1890-1950

Significant Dates

1906-Construction of House

1940-1950 multiple buildings built on property

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Danish-American

Architect/Builder

Fred Gottsch- carpenter from Bennington

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Gottsch farmstead is significant at the local level under Criterion A: Agriculture. The farm is an outstanding example of the Intensive Livestock Production Area which was common in the northeastern portion of the state and was especially popular in Washington County. The farm's assemblage of domestic and agricultural buildings, protected by windbreaks, is a classic characterization of this system. The Gottsch farmstead continued to expand and adapt to the changing agricultural trends. The farm is also significant at the local level under Criterion C: Architecture, for its Victorian farm house, which

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embodies the essential characteristics of a Queen Anne home. The house has had minimal alterations over the years and therefore maintains many of its original finishes. The period of significance from 1890-1950, corresponds to the construction of the house (1907) by Fred Gottsch and the various other buildings on the property and ends with the completion of the major expansion of the property's buildings.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)**Criteria A: Agriculture**

The Gottsch farm is located along the southern border of Washington and Douglas County. Roughly two miles west is the village of Washington, which is still inhabited, although in a much diminished capacity compared to the village's heyday. The area consists of rolling hills of corn and soybeans with the sporadic wooded glen or cattle enclosure. The Gottsch farm, while no longer as large a property as in the past, maintains the same layout as it has since its inception. The Gottsch farm is identified in "The Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production Area." The farms historic orientation clearly speaks to the early settlement of Washington County.

As the name suggests, Intensive Livestock Production consists of cattle feeding and hog production being the main livestock enterprise along with crops similar to the Corn Belt including corn, soybeans and alfalfa.¹ Washington County, where the Gottsch Farmstead is located, was among the first eight counties opened for settlement in 1854. The Homestead Act of 1862 encouraged more settlers and soon many immigrants and native born Americans were flocking to the newly opened territory.² With the establishment of a strong railroad network even more settlers came to Nebraska fueled by the easy transportation and the promise of good farmland similar to that in other parts of the Midwest. During the early period of immigration the idea of "Corn is King" and "corn...is king and hogs... are the great sources of wealth to the county"³ helped ensure that the newly opened territory was quickly populated.

This new territory was able to accommodate larger farming enterprises because of the ease with which corn was cultivated. While not sold at market, corn was used as animal feed to raise hogs and cattle which were the two staple livestock in the region. These animals provided a greater return on investments compared to selling corn as there was a large corn market in place.

The Intensive Livestock System quickly grew into a more scientific farming experiment with the transition into the twentieth century. New discoveries from the University of Nebraska, College of Agriculture were implemented as they were the most knowledgeable concerning local conditions. The standard by which the world would judge agriculture became production, efficiency, and knowledge.⁴ These standards were gained by implementing such ideas as crop rotation, soil tillage and seed selection which have all become the norm in modern agricultural endeavors. For the Livestock System found in Washington, County, the two most important innovations would be 1) the use of alfalfa in rotation with corn and 2) the means to prevent hog cholera, which were promoted by the University of Nebraska's Experiment Station.⁵ Northeastern Nebraska was affected by the drought that gripped the Midwest during the late nineteenth century, but quickly recovered and returned to a corn based livestock system. Purebred cattle became common in the area including Angus and Hereford (which were raised on the Gottsch farm) due to the close proximity to the Omaha stockyards, which were established in 1883 and drove the growth of the meat industry. The intensive livestock system of the Northeastern part of the state grew out of these innovations which the feed came from further west in the state to allow for even larger herds near the production sites of Omaha and Sioux City.

Leading up to World War I, both agriculture and the intensive livestock systems ran smoothly as there were no droughts or other natural disasters for the region to contend with and prices were steady. World War I added to the demand on

¹ Penny Sodhi, "The Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production Area: A System-of-Farming as the Basis" (Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office, 1986), 2.

² Ibid., 4-5.

³ O'Niell, 1875, pg. 28-29.

⁴ Supra note 1 at 9.

⁵ Sweedlum, 1940, 207.

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farmers for food products but was quickly followed by a depression in agriculture which continued through the Great Depression and did not end until the onset of World War II when the demand for crops dramatically increased.⁶ The 1950's were a good time for agriculture and livestock with the innovations, however there was a slow change to larger enterprises with less people engaging in the business of farming. This trend has continued in modern times.

Gottsch Farm:

The site of the Gottsch farm was settled in 1868 by A. Castetter. The property is located on the SW ¼ of the SE ¼ of section 33 on the border between Washington and Douglas County. The farmstead was settled near a spring feed creek that flowed into the Papillion river. The original Gottsch settler, Clous, made his farm right off of one of the Mormon Trails that bisected Washington County before crossing the Papillion River. This was not the site of the current Gottsch farmstead. Clous's son Charles eventually purchased the land where the current farm is located from Hans Mortensen on March 8, 1887 for \$1,800.⁷ Charles would then expand his farm by purchasing the land to the west from Clarence Hesse on November 15, 1901 for \$4,000 and land from M.D. Cameron on November 15, 1906 for \$2,000.⁸

This property was in a prime location as it was less than two miles from the growing village of Washington, which had sprung into existence during the 1880s through the work of Thomas Lindsay.⁹ The village thrived because the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad Company built a line at the southern edge of the village which led to the development of other areas of infrastructure including a post office, hotel, markets and a school. This allowed the Gottsch family a means to buy and sell product relatively close to home. Charles Gottsch is listed as having lived in Washington beginning in 1881 before moving out to his father's land.¹⁰

The Gottsch farmstead conformed to the norms of the region in terms of crops that were grown on the property and livestock that were raised. They grew corn and other standard crops and were heavily engaged raising cattle including a large herd of Hereford Cattle on 240 acres in 1920.¹¹ The farm was given the name, "Valley View Farm" by the surveyors of the county farm directory. During the early period, 1887-1930, the farm ran smoothly. The large barn, non-extant, was built prior to the farmhouse and second barn which were built in 1906-07 by Charles's son Fred.¹² Charles lived on the property until 1924 when he moved into Bennington where he would live out his last decade.¹³

The 1940s brought many changes to the Gottsch farm. This was a period of vast growth for the farm which included expanding their livestock facilities to include a new chicken coop as well as expanding other buildings to meet their growing need.¹⁴ The owner of the house was Charles's son Benhart, who owned the farmhouse built by his brother Fred. Life progressed as usual for the family through the war and into the early 1950s when Benhart and his wife Helene both passed away. The farm passed into the ownership of their son Glenn who made even more changes to the property including adding to the aesthetic appeal of the property by building a large stone retaining wall to the east that is still present. The current owners purchased the property in July 1984 and are cousins of the previous owner so the property and land have been in the family since the inception.

The farmstead is indicative of the overall trend of livestock raising in Northeastern Nebraska because of its spilt purpose layout. With the majority of the property used for the livestock, they are given priority over the domestic sphere of the farm. During the period when the farm was at its peak performance, Hereford cattle spread across 240 acres in a large operation. By purchasing corn, the Gottsch farm was able to focus their attention on raising cattle and hogs which were more profitable. The plentiful fields also allowed for better livestock grazing which helped offset the cost of feeding the herds.

⁶ Olson, 1966, multiple chapters.

⁷ Found through the Washington County Assessor's Office at <http://www.co.washington.ne.us/assessor.html>

⁸ Ibid.,

⁹ Eicke, 1976, 4.

¹⁰ Ibid., Entire.

¹¹ Washington County Directory 1920. Pg. 24.

¹² LeMara Eicke, interview by author, Gottsch Farm, Washington County, Ne, December 31, 2015.

¹³ Obituary, Pilot Tribune March 1, 1934.

¹⁴ Supra note 12.

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Criteria C: Architecture

The Gottsch Farm is also significant in the area of architecture as it embodies the characteristics of late Queen Anne style farm houses. The Queen Anne style is characterized by a love of texture including siding such as fish scale and the appeal of multiple gables. There is also a flair for the decorative in Queen Anne style homes, including wood products that are often intricate in the bargeboard and the bracketing. The large windows at the front of the homes and wrap around porches typically complete the property.

The two story Gottsch farmhouse, built in 1907 by Fred Gottsch, embodies many of the Queen Anne stylistic features. The entrance to the house, the west facing façade, highlights the decorative features such as elaborate spindle work barge boards in the gables, fish scale siding for texture and large ornamental windows throughout the home. The front gable on the western side contains the formal dining room and is adjacent to one of two large porches. While not the typical wrap around porches, these porches are spacious with intricate unaltered spindle-work bargeboard and original eaves. Three of the largest windows have smaller upper partitions that are original stained glass windows. They are all of similar style although slightly different in coloration. The inside of the farmhouse is filled with large wooden door frames and the focal piece in the living room is a wooden staircase that is said to have been shipped over from Germany according to family oral history.¹⁵ The asymmetrical form of the property also follows the lines of the Queen Anne style homes.

The Intensive Livestock Production style properties were very common in Washington County around the turn of the nineteenth into twentieth century. Many of these properties have fallen into disuse and disrepair which is why preserving those that retain their historical features is of the highest critical importance. There are a few examples of the Intensive Livestock Production Properties in the county including the Scheer Farmstead (WNOO-129) and the George Kuhr farmstead (WN00-158), however none of these properties have been nominated to the Historic Register.¹⁶ The Scheer farmstead has a full complement of contributing buildings, structures and objects totaling in nineteen in total and the Kuhr house has almost as many with seventeen. While the Scheer farm's buildings are sporadically placed around the property, the Kuhr farm is organized into a distinct commercial and residential zone. There are limited examples in the region of a home that retains as strong historic features as are found at the Gottsch Farmstead.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography (Insert bibliography here – cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Eicke, LeMara. "The History of Washington Nebraska: A Struggle for Survival 1887-1976," 1976.

Kay, John et al. "Save America's Heritage: Nebraska Historic Building Survey- Washington County." May 16, 1986.

Olson, James. "History of Nebraska." Lincoln, University of Nebraska Press, 1966.

O'Neill, John. "Northern Nebraska as a Home for Immigrants." Sioux City, IA: Sioux City Times Print, 1875.

Sodhi, Penny. "The Northeastern Nebraska Intensive Livestock Production Area: A System-of-Farming as the Basis" (Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office, 1986), 2.

Sweedlum, Verne S. "A History of the Evolution of Agriculture in Nebraska, 1870-1930," Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Nebraska, 1940.

¹⁵ Interview with LeMara Eicke, December 31, 2015.

¹⁶ Save America's Heritage: Nebraska Historic Building Survey, Pg. 55-115.

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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 #
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other (Name of repository)

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): WN00-121

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 7.25 acres USGS Quadrangle Kennard

(Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates. Delete the other.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

- | | | | | |
|----|----------|------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1. | Latitude | <u>41.394108</u> | Longitude | <u>-96.183787</u> |
| 2. | Latitude | _____ | Longitude | _____ |
| 3. | Latitude | _____ | Longitude | _____ |
| 4. | Latitude | _____ | Longitude | _____ |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

SW ¼ of SE ¼ of Section 33, Township 17N, Range 11E. See attached map for detailed boundary.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes all property historically associated with the farmstead, excluding the fields which are under separate ownership.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Griffen Farrar / Historic Preservation Researcher

organization Nebraska State Historical Society date 02/15/2016

street & number 1500 R. Street telephone 402-471-4770

city or town Lincoln state Ne zip code 68508

email griffen.farrar@nebraska.gov

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO for any additional items.)

Gottsch Farmstead
 Name of Property

Washington, Nebraska
 County and State

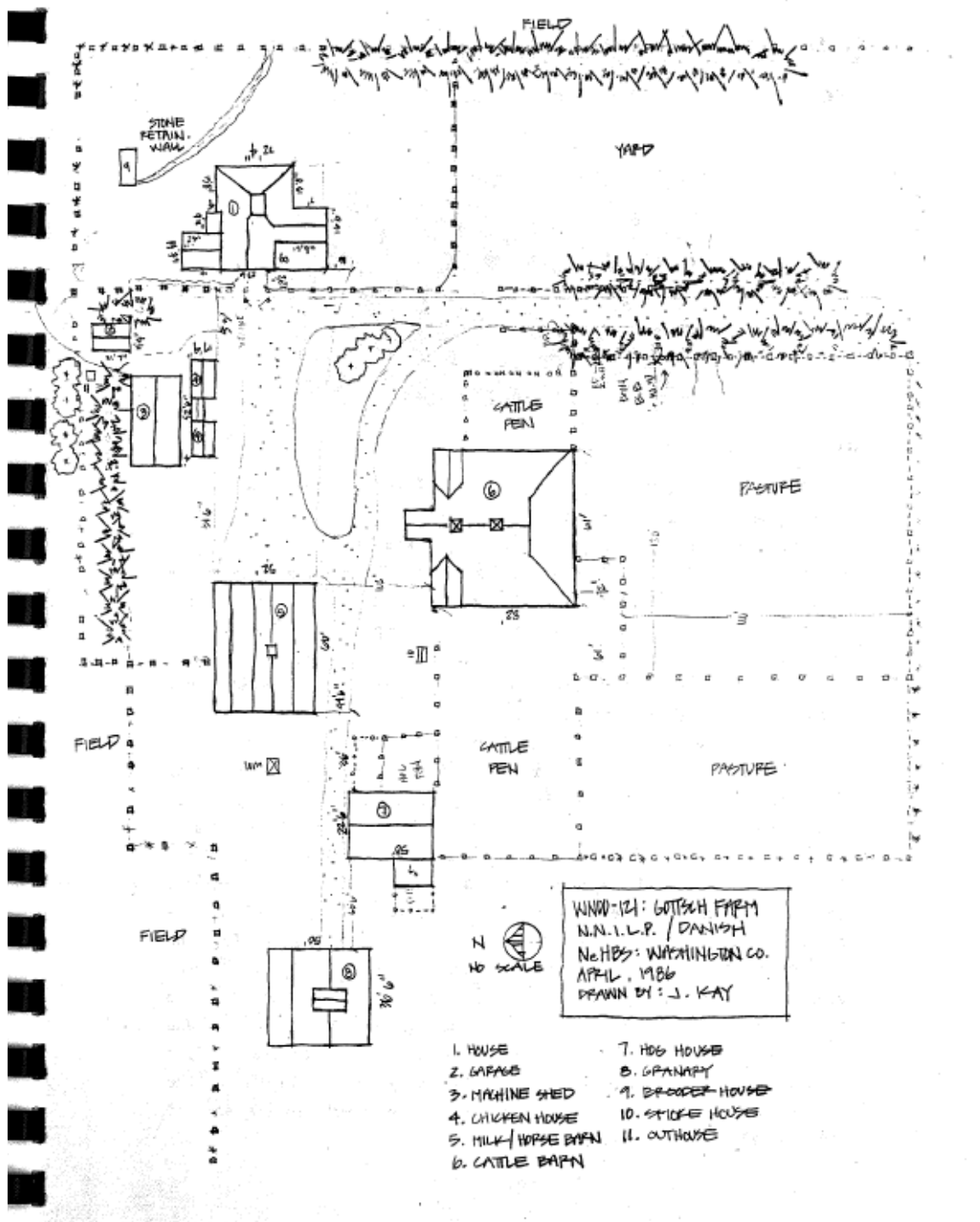


Figure 1: Gottsch Family Farm Plan, Washington County Survey, 1986. North is to the left, with the house located at the top of the plan. The underground cattle crossway connects the yard at the top to the pasture in the center under the main, tree-lined driveway. The Granary is outside the boundaries of the nominated property, as it is currently under separate ownership and use.

Gottsch Farmstead
Name of Property

Washington, Nebraska
County and State

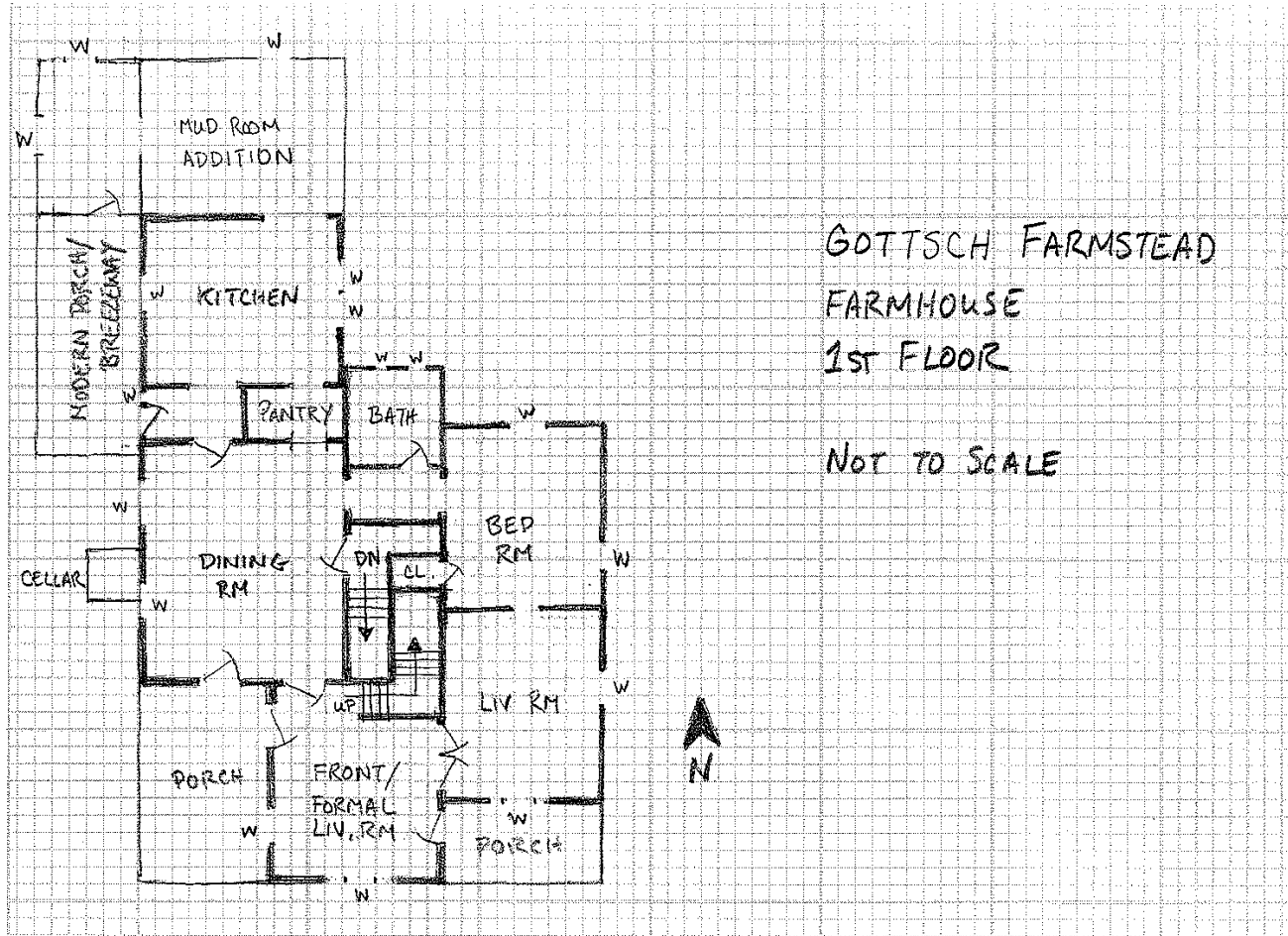


Figure 2: First Floor Plan, Gottsch Farmhouse.

Gottsch Farmstead
Name of Property

Washington, Nebraska
County and State



Figure 3: Aerial Photo of Gottsch Farmstead located in the farmhouse showing original barn. North is to the top. Date is unknown.

Gottsch Farmstead
Name of Property

Washington, Nebraska
County and State



Figure 4: Historic photo of the farmhouse, date unknown. Many of the architectural details present in this photo, including the barge boards, bracketing, siding, and spindlework porches survive on the present house mostly unchanged.

Gottsch Farmstead

Washington, Nebraska

Name of Property

County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property Gottsch Farm

City or Vicinity Bennington Vicinity County Washington State Nebraska

Photographer Griffen Farrar Date Photographed May 4, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera.

1. Farmhouse, ¾ view, front and west facade, view northeast.
2. Farmhouse, front façade, view north.
3. Farmhouse, ¾ view front and east facade, view northwest.
4. Farmhouse, rear façade and mudroom addition, view south.
5. Farmhouse, west façade and breezeway addition, view northeast.
6. Farmhouse, detail of fish scale shingles and bargeboard decoration in gable, view northeast.
7. Farmhouse, detail of formal living room door, view northwest.
8. Farmhouse, detail of living room window, view north.
9. Farmhouse interior, detail of stained glass in formal living room, view south.
10. Farmhouse interior, central staircase in formal living room built of imported German materials, view northeast.
11. Farmhouse interior, dining room looking towards formal living room, view south.
12. Farmhouse interior, dining room display cabinet, can be accessed through pantry on other side of the wall, view north.
13. Farmhouse interior, door hardware detail.
14. Garages and barn seen from the Farmhouse, view west.
15. Barn exterior, main façade, view west.
16. Barn exterior, side façade, with metal silo and windmill, view north.
17. Barn interior, hayloft front wall with access to hay hood, view east.
18. Barn interior, hayloft, view west.
19. Barn interior, first floor showing central trough infilled with wood planks, view west.
20. Chicken Coops, front façade, view north.
21. Pig Barn, front façade, view south.
22. Pig Barn, back and side façade, with pig pens and windmill, view northwest.
23. Pig Barn interior, view south.
24. Cattle underpass linking front pastures under central drive, view east.
25. Non-contributing barn, view southeast.
26. Non-contributing stone retaining wall, view northeast.

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.























EICKE





THE HOUSE
SORRY
FOR CONVENIENCE









1908























UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Gottsch Farmstead

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEBRASKA, Washington

DATE RECEIVED: 6/24/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/15/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/01/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/09/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000516

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 8-8-2016 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Locally important Farmstead with full complement of outbuildings

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept AtC

REVIEWER J. Grubbs DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/~~N~~ see attached SLR Y/~~N~~

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



RECEIVED 2280

JUN 24 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

June 21, 2016

J. Paul Loether
National Register—National Historic Landmarks Programs
National Park Service
1201 "I" Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Gottsch Farmstead
17201 Dutch Hall Rd, Bennington vicinity, Washington County, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nomination for the above referenced property to the National Register of Historic Places. This form has met all notification and other requirements as established in 36 CFR 60.

If you have any questions concerning this nomination, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ruben A. Acosta". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Ruben A. Acosta
National Register and CLG Coordinator
Nebraska State Historical Society

Enclosure

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