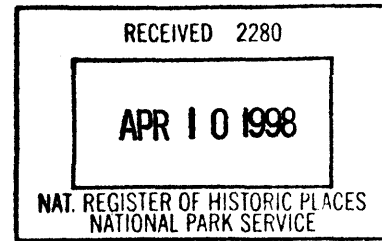


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



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 Drees Brothers General Merchandise
other names/site number Country Market

2. Location

street & number 812 Main Street not for publication
city or town Timber Lake vicinity
state South Dakota code SD county Dewey code 041 zip code 57656

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 03-30-98
Signature of certifying official Date

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 commenting or other official Date

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.
- other,

(explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Edson H. Ball Date of Action _____

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: commerce/ trade Sub: department store
domestic single dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: commerce/ trade Sub: department store

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

commercial vernacular

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation rock and concrete
roof metal/ tin
walls pressed metal

other cornice and detailing is shaped
metal

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

See Continuation Sheets

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.)

- 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce
Exploration/ Settlement

Period of Significance

1910 - 1947

Drees Brothers General Merchandise
Name of Property

Dewey County, South Dakota
County and State

Significant Dates 1910
 1920

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

(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

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Cultural Heritage Center, 900 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD

Drees Brothers General Merchandise
Name of Property

Dewey County, South Dakota
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>14</u>	<u>337821</u>	<u>5032580</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kathy Snyder Nelson
organization Timber Lake and Area Historical Society date September, 1, 1997
street & number PO Box 10 telephone (605) 865-3546
city or town Timber Lake state SD zip code 57656

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)

Drees Brothers General Merchandise

Name of Property

Dewey County, South Dakota

County and State

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name John and Patty Linderman

street & number PO Box 342

telephone (605) 865-3606

city or town Timber Lake

state SD

zip code 57656

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 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 Park Service

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Section number 7 Page 1

Physical Description

The Drees Brothers building is a single story structure located on the east side of Main Street in the downtown business area of Timber Lake. The town is the county seat of Dewey County, part of the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation. The building occupies most of three 25 foot city lots. North of the store, on the corner, is a gas station/convenience store. South of Drees and Trauger is a circa 1950 office building, and south of that is the Timber Lake Topic newspaper office, built in 1919. The wide street is bare of trees or green space.

The wood frame building has a concrete and rock foundation. The original (north half) of the building, measured 24 feet by 40 feet and was erected in 1910 as Drees and Trauger General Merchandise. An addition was placed on the rear of the building and the south half was added circa 1920. The roof on the north half of the building is gabled, while the south side is a simple slope. The building originally had a wood shingle roof, but is now covered by galvanized tin.

The store features a false front with a denticulated cornice. The entryway has been slightly altered as two exterior doors were added over the recessed entry. The storefront has three decorative pilasters, one on each end of the facade and one in the center of the building. There is a door and four plate glass windows on each side of the center pilaster. Most of the decorative features of the building, exterior and interior, were added when the south half of the building was added. The box cornices and decorative trim on the front of the building are molded tin with a variety of floral motifs. A transom window made up of small, square, leaded glass lights is intact under the masonite on the store front.

The building is covered with pressed metal siding that is made to resemble cut stone. The north side of the building features a brick chimney and a small hipped roof entry way that is not original. A shed roof through dormer is at the rear of the building in the living area. The attached garage is clapboard sided and a small entry at the back of the building is masonite sided. The garage was added sometime in the 1930s or 40s on the east end of the north side of the building. Some windows at the rear of the structure have been covered over. A new walk in cooler was recently built in the meat room but the high ceiling was left unchanged, and the interior of the building is largely intact.

The hardwood floors and tin ceiling throughout the merchandise area have not been changed. The pressed metal on the ceiling extends down the walls about 5 feet. 6x6 posts support the roof and run

Drees Brothers General Merchandise
Name of Property

Dewey County, South Dakota
County and State

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(8-86)

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down the center of the building spaced approximately eight feet apart. Original oak display cases were likely there before 1920, as a shipping stamp gives the name and address of George Drees, who was in partnership with his brothers Frank and Leo only until 1919.

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National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

Statement of Significance

Drees Brothers General Merchandise is historically significant under Criteria A for its association with the settlement and development of Timber Lake and the region as well as the growth of commerce in the area. It is also significant under criteria C as a representative example of early commercial architecture in the rural areas of South Dakota. Since its original construction in 1910 the store served the community of Timber Lake and the surrounding region, especially the Tribal groups living on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation. The well maintained building continues to serve Timber Lake as a country store and is one of only a few intact false front, wood frame historic structures on the main street of the small community.

Historical background and significance:

Timber Lake had its beginnings in homesteading. In 1909, 10,000 claims were made available on the Standing Rock and Cheyenne River reservations. The major influx of settlers came to the area in 1910. The Department of the Interior established the site of Timber Lake along the north side of the lake by the same name, under the provisions of the 1908 Homestead Act.

Tents housed the first businesses and residents. Soon a half dozen lumber yards were in business, bringing in regular shipments of building materials on the railroad. A building boom was in progress all summer in 1910. Hotels, a drug store, a bank, a meat market, and Drees and Trauger General Merchandise were among the first businesses to open. They began to supply homesteaders with groceries and the articles they needed to turn their homestead claims into homes. They also stocked colorful shawls, blankets and other items that their Indian customers wanted.

Of all of the early businesses started in Timber Lake, only the Drees Brothers Store/Country Market has continuously operated to the present day.

The store's first owners, Frank, Leo and George Drees and Dan Trauger, successfully sought to do businesses with the Indian population of the region. The store undoubtedly was one of the places where native peoples and white settlers came into close contact. Frank Drees learned to speak some of the Lakota language of the local tribes. Drees and Trauger built two small cabins behind the store where customers who traveled into town by horse and wagon could stay while they conducted business in town. A fifty cent deposit was required to stay in one of the cabins, but this money was

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refunded upon return of the key and the person staying was not obligated to conduct business at the Drees and Trauger store. The cabins have long since been demolished. The owners also traded with the Indians for their beaded buckskins, moccasins and other hand-crafted items.

In 1912, Dan Trauger sold his part of the business to the Drees brothers, and the name changed to Drees Brothers General Merchandise. This is the name by which the building was known for most of its period of significance. The store has changed names several more times through the years and is presently known as the Country Market. Although the name has changed the building's history continues on. Many of the local citizens can attest to the important role the store played during the good times and bad. Nearly all of the early owners sold supplies on credit and boxes of account books still on hand affirm the fact that some accounts were never paid. One owner was even known to accept a load of coal from workers at a local coal mine in exchange for groceries.

During the West River homesteading period, many of the buildings were cheaply built and were either lost to fire or structural decay or have been remodeled beyond recognition. The significance of this structure lies in the fact that it has remained virtually unchanged for the past 75 years. Since 1920, the building has seen few changes. A garage was added to the rear of the property, a new roof was put on and a new meat freezer was added in 1996. Timber Lake remains a small rural community and the Drees Brothers/Country Market is still a focal point of the community's business area.

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Bibliography:

Golden Jubilee, 1910-1960, Timber Lake, South Dakota, Minnie Long, editor, 1960.

Timber Lake and Area, 1910-1985, Timber Lake and Area Historical Society, Ginny Cudmore and Jim Nelson, editors, 1984.

Timber Lake Topic (newspaper)

Timber Lake and Area Historical Society archives

Personal interviews with Minnie Long, Isabel Kamps, Cynthia Torevell, and other area residents over 90 years old, summer 1997.

Drees Brothers General Merchandise
Name of Property

Dewey County, South Dakota
County and State

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(6-85)

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Verbal Boundary Description:

Lots 13, 14, and 15 of Block 16

Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes all property historically associated with the store.