NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bonita Cañon

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Bonita Cañon is a "box" or dead-end canyon on the western slope of the Chiricahua Mountains in Cochise County, Arizona. It opens out in a slightly southwesterly direction into the Sulphur Springs Valley. Located at an altitude of about 5,160 feet, its walls within the historic district range up to 5,600 feet and are capped with outcroppings of volcanic tuff, carved and eroded over the years into a valley about a quarter of a mile wide. Bonita Creek lies, for the most part, along the northern edge of the valley, at the foot of the northern wall, with the valley floor south of the stream sloping gradually upward until it reaches the southern wall of the valley, which at its summit is lower than the ridge to the north.

Before settlement came, Bonita Canoniwas a beautiful little valley carpeted with wild grasses, watered by clear running streams, and decorated with a scattering of live oaks and Arizona cypress, all of which played host to a variety of insects, birds, lizards, and wildlife. Nomadic prehistoric Indians passed through it, using its water and taking advantage of the passage it provided through part of the Chiricahua Mountains. Nearby, but outside the district, are one or more caves containing pictographs and possibly sites of prehistoric habitation, and the potential remains that such sites may be discovered within the district, though none have yet been found. At the beginning of historic times, Chiricahua Apache Indians occasionally used the area, without leaving any permanent structures.

Stafford Homestead and Cabin (FR-25)

The first structure in the canyon, as far as its history presently is known, was the Stafford Cabin, along with such alterations to the landscape as a wagon road, irrigation ditches, orchards, and trees planted either for decoration or as windbreaks, or both.

In later years used as a guest cabin for Faraway Ranch and marked with a sign which read "Log Cabin" for that purpose, the Stafford Cabin originated as the homestead of J.H. Stafford and may have been built as early as 1879. It is a small log cabin with additions the oldest portions built of unpeeled logs which were squared and/or notched on the corners and chinked originally with a mixture of wooden wedges and gravelly mud. The cabin faces approximately 25 degrees north of magnetic east.

The first section, believed to be the original cabin, forming today the southeast corner of the enlarged structure, is 14 feet six inches square in plan. It has a single door centered on the east wall, and a stone chimney centered on its south end, the chimney flanked by a pair of windows. The chimney of fieldstone extends out roughly 2 feet 4 inches and is about five weet wide at grade and up to height of four feet, where it is stepped in equally on each side to a width of roughly four feet. The chimney is believed to be a 20th Century addition, possibly an alteration after acquisition of the Stafford Homestead by the Ericksons. The cabin is built of logs, ranging from 8 inches to a foot in dimater, and is 8 logs high in front (east) and back (west), 7 on the north and south ends, plus fourt forming the end of each gable. The gable roof originally was finished with wood shingles, which have been covered with roll green composition roofing. This portion has a concrete floor.

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As Stafford's family grew, he presumably added the second room north of the first and of equal size, except that these logs were slightly larger in diameter and the larger spaces between logs are chinked with small whole logs or poles cut to the proper length. This section has a door near the southern end of its east side and a window centered on the north end.

As Stafford developed a need for further space, he added a frame, board and batten exterior addition to the rear which extended to the west. It is not clear whether the present western addition is the one he built, much changed, or a later replacement, but its roof line is significantly different. The present exterior addition extends westward about 12 feet and runs the entire 28-foot length of the building. This addition features a back door, whose center is roughly 16 feet from the south end of the building, a horizontal double-width window whose center is 5 feet 10 inches from the south end of the addition, and the two smaller horizontal windows, centered 3 feet 6 inches and 8 feet 8 inches from the north end. This section has a shed roof which extends outward from the rear eaves of the gable roof over the older two sections, although at a shallower pitch. The south end of this addition has two horizontal windows filling mostof its length.

At a late date, a concrete porch six-feet wide was laid along the entire 29-foot wide eastern side, roofed by a shed roof finished with shingles over milled planks supported on five equally spaced 2 by 6 inch supports at the outer edge and with fifteen 2 by 6 rafters.

Another late addition was a garage, roughly 12 feet wide (north to south) and 18 feet long (east to west). It is of vertical board and batten construction. It has an assymetrical gable roof of its own with the peak ridge offset one third of the lenth of the garage from the east. The front of the garage has a pair of doors hinged to open out, each about 4 feet 6 inches wide. The garage is painted a faded mustard color, the doors white. The northernmost door has an unfinished window cut through on plank.

The interior of the Stafford Cabin's original room has the stone fireplace with a stone hearth on its south wall, the fireplace lined with brick. The interior walls are finished with wallboard and battens. Peeled log beams run the length of the room supporting the roof, with three on each side of the ridgepole, which is also a peeled log. One-foot wide planks run from the ridge to the eaves on top of the beams. The floor consists of three-inch planks, painted gray, and is recessed several inches below the surface of the concrete front porch and the level of the ground to the south. The second section is finished in the same manner. The rear addition has a concrete floor, and at the north end is partitioned off into a bathroom with hot water tank, stall shower, and the site where a toilet once was installed. The next room to the south has shelves on its north and west walls.

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Screen doors were added to the structure at an undetermined date. The concrete porch has a $K_{\rm E}$ brand(for "Kid Erickson," a nickname for Ben) marked in it by the northernmost frontdoor. The roofs were all reshingled at a late date with green composition shingles, and the walls of the rear addition were similarly treated. The top front log on the north half is rotted nearly half way through and requires partial or complete replacement. Due to the chimney falling outward, it was tied to the building with two grader blades across its end which are bolted to the building with a pair each of ½-inch diameter iron rods on each side of the chimney, which penetrate the log wall and are secured on the interior.

East of the Stafford Cabin is a meadow on the valley floor surrounded by Arizona Cypress and live oaks. Fifty feet north of the cabin is the stream bed with a row of walnut trees between the cabin and the stream. Sixty feet behind the cabin is a row of six cypress trees parallel to the cabin's rear wall, obviously planted as a windbreak. Extending from this row of cypress all the way westward to the fence around the main Faraway Ranch house was the Stafford orchard of fruit trees, probably principally apple and pear. The orchard is mostly gone, but a few old scattered fruit trees still live, amid gramma or bunch grass, native Arizona cypress and juniper trees which have reclaimed parts of the orchard by natural processes.

Martha Riggs House

On the north side of this orchard a short distance south of the stream bed is a 35-foot square concrete foundation, with porch extensions front and rear, which is all that is left of the Martha Riggs house which the Ericksons purchased and moved to this location to serve as additional guest quarters. It burned to the foundations about 1963 and possesses no integrity, hence no significance.

FR-1 - Faraway Ranch Main House

The present main house of Faraway Ranch is, superficially described, a two-story structure with a hipped roof finished in mineral composition shingles over earlier wood shingles. It is nearly square in plan, with exterior walls principally of adobe bricks plastered over both inside and out, with open porches filling its southwest corner on both floors. Additionally, a screened, shed-roofed porch has been added along the ground floor on the east side, and a glazed, shed-roofed porch constituting the guest dining room has been added along most of the north side.

In detail, the property is much more complex, and the building has gone through a number of yet ill-defined phases of addition and deletion.

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The first documentation on the main house is an 1892 pencil sketch, believed to be from the northwest. It shows a gable-roofed, picket (upright) log cabin, the gable ridge running generally east west and the roof finished in shakes. Partly concealed behind it are at least three different shed-roofed structures of unknown detail, save that the furthest from the picket cabin has an exterior wall of stone and is in the right location to be part of the stone/adobe cellar present in 1979. The picket cabin had a shed-roofed porch on its west side, which apparently was the front, facing toward the mouth of Bonita Canon. On its south side it had a shed-roofed addition. There remain many questions about the history of its development, but it has been described as having three rooms, possible two of them in the attached sheds to the east and south.

In 1897 or 1898, according to the caption on another photograph, a rectangular, two-story house with board and batten exterior and a hipped roof finished in shingles was built on the site of two of the sheds east of the picket cabin. It abutted the east wall of the picket cabin and the north wall of the stone/adobe cellar, whose walls appear to have been raised several feet with a new gable roof, the ridge running north south, constructed at this new height. This hipped-roof house appears to be largely intact today inside the present adobe-walled house. This constitutes the downstairs family dining room, kitchen and stair well, and upstairs, the stairway and hall in the center and the bedrooms immediately west and east, whose clipped ceilings on three sides reflect the outline of the original hipped roof. Although today, it is considerably lower than the complex hipped roof of the enlarged structure. All of the cabinetry and woodwork in this portion of the structure, except that between the family dining room and the new living room on the south, and the new guest dining room on the north, appears essentially that built by Neil Erickson in 1897 or 1898.

An intermediate phase now involved removal of the shed-roofed addition to the south wall of the picket cabin, which occurred some time during the early 1900s.

The next phase was a major rebuilding which occurred allegedly in 1924, although possibly earlier and possibly in several phases. It involved razing the picket cabin and incorporating virtually the entire board and batten house and stone/adobe cellar into an enlarged hipped-roof adobe structure. Rooms added at this time included the living room, the bedroom downstairs west of the old family dining room, the new downstairs guest dining room along the north side of the old family dining room and kitchen, the upstairs west, southwest, and southeast bedrooms, and Lillian's office and a new bathroom north of the old original structure upstairs.

For perhaps a decade or more after this major addition, its exterior walls remained exposed adobe bricks. At an unknown date, presumably during the late 1920s or 1930s, the exterior walls were stuccoed to protect the adobe, and remain so today. The walls are painted a cream color.

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On the south side, east of the porches, the building has in the living room on the ground floor a large, double-hung window, with the upper portion, consisting of only a third of the height of the window, featuring leaded glass. Below the window is a built-in stone and concrete flower box. East of the window is the door into the living room, with a screen door also. This provides the main entry into the house. Still further east is another door, and screen door, into the pantry cellar. In the upstairs, the building has three large double-hung windows, each one over one, one each in the southwest bedroom, the upstairs hall, and the southeast bedroom.

The east side of the house has two double-hung windows in the second story, one each in the southeast and northeast bedrooms, and a small bathroom window near the northeast corner. Downstairs, a shed-roofed porch runs the full length of the east side, supported on 12 posts (one additional post possibly missing). About three quarters of the porch is screened in, and features two screened doors. Behind the porch, the east side of the house has on the ground floor a small double-hung window; one over one, into the storage pantry cellar, which is of adobe and stone. North of that, the kitchen wall is a wood frame extension into the porch which reaches a foot and ahalf or so further east that what is believed the location of the original wall, and is therefore, a comparatively recent alteration, with an aluminum sash door and window. Further north, an old door at the northeast corner of the building leads into a small heater room housing an old central heater.

The north side of the house features, east to west, upstairs, a small bathroom window, then five paired casement windows and one single. The downstairs featured west to east, a fully glazed wood-frame double door with a pair sidelites, leading out from the family dining room, and near the east side, a glazed single door leading out from the kitchen. These opened onto what may originally have been an open or screened porch, but this area has been enclosed by a wall about three feet high surmounted by windows and covered with a shed-roof to create the guest dining room. This outer wall incorporates at its east end, facing east, a door to the outside glazed with four lites. In the middle of the north wall is the Garfield Fireplace and its chimney, and on both sides of it this guest dining room is fully glazed with pairs of casement windows, five pair to the east of the chimney (the westernmost window being half size to accommodate the wider lower portion of the chimney), four pair to the west of the chimney (the first window being two-thirds the height of the others to accommodate the configuration of the chimney). On its west end, the porch has another such pair of windows.

The Garfield Fireplace mentioned above is a stone chimney about 12 feet high with a concrete cap from which a round, rusted metal pipe with a rain hood extends another 12 feet higher. The pipe is anchored to the roof about a third of the way up from the metal cap by a cast iron ring bolted on each side to a pair of metal tie rods (either solid iron bars or iron pipes about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches diameter), each of which extend at a 45° angle to the wall of the house beneath the eaves, where each is anchored.

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The fireplace and chimney is made of fieldstones which originally were used by soldiers of the 10th Cavalry in 1886 in building, near where the entrance road to the ranch leaves Highway 181 a square fieldstone monument recessed or stepped in once, halfway to its top. The soldiers carved their names, troop designations, dates, occasionally symbols such as a farrier's hammer, and in one large stone, Garfield's name. When by the 1920s this monument was beginning to collapse from natural deterioration, Neil Erickson dismantled it and used the stones to build this fireplace, with the "Garfield Stone" employed over the fireplace inside, and the other carved stones used both inside the dining room around the fireplace and outside on the chimney, placing them in such manner that the names were exposed. Thus, although the integrity of the monument as a structure has been

On the west side of Faraway Ranch the house has, upstairs, a pair of double-hung windows, centered, in the northwest bedroom. Downstairs, slight off-center to the south, is a double-hung window similar to that already described in the living room, with the upper third of leaded glass. This west side of the house also has a projecting shingled false roof that extends out from the first floor level as a decorative feature for a foot or so.

destroyed, the individual integrity of the inscriptions on the stones has, in many

instances, survived, along with their capability of providing data.

The southwest corner of the house features a recessed rectangle which is under the main hipped roof, but consists of open porches on both the ground and second story levels, with an "L"-shaped stairway connecting them. Downstairs, between the stairway and the west wall of the living room, a door enters northward an entry porch, to the left of which is a small bathroom beneath the upper part of the stairway, and another door leads from the entry hall into the northwest downstairs room. In the west wall of the living room, facing onto this porch, is another window similar to the one in the south wall of the living room. Upstairs, there is a door leading northward into the northwest bedroom, and from north to south, a window and a door leading into the southwest bedroom.

The house has an attic, largely unfinished, entered from a steep stairway located inside south of the main stairwell. The attic is lit by a pair of shed-roofed dormer windows facing south, a single shed-roofed dormer window facing west, and a similar window facing east. An architectural study of the interior of the attic may tell much about how the house was built, and its different phases.

The interior of the house is significant throughout for its vernacular architecture, but the built-in woodwork in the downstairs family dining room, featuring cabinetry, the stairwell, and other details, are especially notable as workmanship by Neal Erickson, and date probably from about 1898.

Throughout the building there is a mixture of Victorian and more modern furnishings, and among them are a number of small pieces of furniture made by Neal Erickson. Additionally, there are furnishings throughout all of the other buildings on the ranch. There are in storage some of the earliest furnishings used at the ranch, such as old iron

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bedsteads from the mid-19th Century, and a succession of stoves beginning with one marked with 1865 patent dates, which was second-hand even when the ranch was founded. Furthermore, throughout are records, documents, family papers, ranch business files, photographs, newspapers, newspaper clippings, magazines, and other such material gathered over nine its decades of history. There are also many items associated with and once the property of Lillian Erickson Riggs, Ed Riggs (such as a World War I pilot's uniform), Ben Erickson (a World War I soldier's uniform), Emma Erickson, and others associated with the ranch. Included also are items of clothing worn by the people of Faraway Ranch.

FR-2 - "Cowboy House"

The "Cowboy House," which provided guest quarters in later years although it may have originated as a bunk house for cowhands, is an "L"-shaped building, with the base of the "L" to the south. It has a shallow-pitched gable roof over each segment of the "L", and a roofed porch on the inside, or north and east sides, of the "L", supported on 8 posts. The roof and exterior walls are covered with a light brown, composition mineral rolled roofing material.

It has a variety of windows. The east end of the foot of the "L" features a pair of two, small double-hung windows, each one over one. The south side, or base of the "L", has, east to west, a four-lite casement sash cobblestone fireplace, another four-lite casement window, and a double-hung window, one over one. The west side or back of the structure has, south to north, a pair of four-lite casement sashes side by side, a six-lite casement sash farther north, another six-lite casement sash, a small four-lite casement window, and a pair of six-lite casement windows side by side. The north end, or top of the "L", features, west to east, a four-lite casement sash and, after a space, a six-lite casement window.

Facing on the concrete porch, north to south on the east side of the building, are a door, a pair side by side of six-lite casement windows, and another door. Facing north onto the porch from the base of the "L" are east to west, a double-hung sash and another door.

The interior is divided, north to south, into a bedroom, a closet, another bedroom, a bathroom, an entry or storage hall, and a kitchen, with a parlor or living room east of the kitchen in the base of the "L". The interior is painted in a variety of color schemes; the parlor has white wallboard walls and ceiling; the wood floor painted red; the kitchen has yellow wallboard walls and ceiling, with a green linoleum floor; the entry hall, once an open passageway subsequently enclosed, has a green tile floor and off-white walls; the bathroom has a green ceiling and upper third of the walls, while the lower part of the walls is finished with an imitation gray and white tile with black trim, and the floor is brown asphalt tile. The bedroom north of the bathroom has tan, off-white walls and ceiling, and the floor has a yellow and gray leaf-pattern linoleum; the northernmost bedroom has three yellow walls with green trim, a light green wall, and a brown pressboard floor.

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The cowboy house is furnished with a variety of second-rate furniture. The north bedroom has a double bed, a night stand of four shelves, a wooden armchair, a rocking chair, a heater, a dresser, and a single bed. The second bedroom has a double bed, a dresser, a chair, and a heater. The bathroom had a bathtub, toilet, sink, and waterheater. The kitchen features a stove, two refrigerators, a sink and drainboard with cabinets above on its west wall, and a table with three chairs. The parlor, in addition to the fireplace on the south wall, features a sofa, a large table, a small wood table and chair, a low phone table, a dresser, and three other chairs, one partially burned, as well as three wood chairs in the closet between the parlor and kitchen.

The building is in generally poor condition.

FR-3 - Storage Shed

Separate and distinct from the storage shed attached to the garage, this small nearly square building, 9 feet by 9 feet six inches, faces 30 degrees north of magnetic east. Its gable roof, finished in galvanized corrugated metal, thus runs southwest to northeast. It has a small door in the front, and two six-lite casement windows on the northwest side. Three sides consist of wood frame with the upper two-thirds of the walls and the gable ends covered with horizontal 3-inch wide lap siding painted a cream verging on orange, with the lower third of the walls finished in galvanized metal embossed in imitation of a brick wall. However, the southeast side has galvanized corrugated metal in place of the embossed metal on the the lower third of its walls. The building has a concretefloor, and contained tools such as double-handled cross-cut saw, a power saw, and other items such sacks of cement or plaster.

FR-4 - Barn and Tool Shed

The barn at Faraway Ranch is a rectangular structure with a gable roof whose ridge runs generally east-west. It is actually oriented so that it faces 32° east of magnetic south. It consists basically of three rooms, two in front and one in the back. On the west end of the front is a rectangular room with a door on the south, and a six-lite casement window on both the west and north walls. This room is the "tack room" for storage of the horse gear, such as saddles, bridles, harness, and stirrups, currycombs, bits, etc. On its east wall are wooden racks for nine saddles each labeled with the name of a horse, north to south: "Red," "Nixie, "China," "Pebbles," "Doggie," "Tip," "Calico," "Andy's," and "Lil's." On the north wall, beneath and to each side of the window, are racks for three more saddles; on the west wall are racks for four more saddles. A wooden cabinet for stable tools fills the southwest corner of the building. At the time of this survey there were ten saddles, five bridles and bits, several piles of horse blankets, a nice pair of chaps, and a full complement of tools in the Tack Room. Overhead, there is a flat storage area containing locally manufactured horse canteens. The room has a plank floor.

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East of the tack room is a rectangular stable with some more horse gear in it. To the rear is a third room running the full length of the building which is an addition, covered by a shed roof which begins immediately under the eaves of the gable roof over the original two rooms, and extends north nearly doubling the size of the structure. This connects with the older structure through a doorway, and the addition contains, east of this doorway, abutting the former outside north wall of the original structure, three horse stalls. The walls of the original building, and the roof, were all finished in galvanized corrugated metal, now badly rusting, and this addition is roofed and walled in the same material.

This room has doors closed with gates which open to the west and the north into fenced corrals. Both of these stable rooms have earth floors.

To the east end of the original gable-roofed building has been added a small shed-roofed addition entered by a door on its south end and with an open window running in its east wall. Built of frame walls and plank roof covered with rusting corrugated metal, this is a tool shed, featuring a workbeanch on the east and shelves on the left.

Outside, just east of this tool shed, at the time of inventory, was an outdoor workbench featuring a vise with 1906 and 1910 patent dates, once broken at one jaw and repaired by a weld.

FR-5 - Tool Shed

Separate and distinct from the tool shed attached to the barn, this is a shed-roofed building of rectangular floor plan, roughly 9 by 14 feet. It is built of silver-colored corrugated metal over a wooden frame, both walls and roof. It has double in-swinging doors in front, six-lite windows on the northwest end and northeast (back) walls, and a small screened vent on the southeast end. The building faces 20 north of true magnetic southwest. In the interior, the building has a tool bench along the northeast wall, and a red cabinet with shelves along the northwest wall. The shed roof slopes downward from southwest to northeast.

FR-6 - Generator House

The generator house is a small square building with gable roof, aligned slightly northeast/southwest by 60 from true magnetic north/south. Its door is on the south side, and it has a small casement window on the west. The ridge of the roof runs north-south, and 5/8 of the roof is finished in corrugated metal, the remainder with a green composition roofing. The walls and gable ends are of field-stone set in a cement mortar. Inside, the building has a rectangular concrete block aligned east-west which served as a foundation for a gasoline powered generator, now missing. The building is in good condition.

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FR-7 - Garage

The five-stall garage, with a storage room equivalent in size to about another stall, is a gable-roofed, wood-frame building aligned with its long axis basically north-south, varying about 17° from the magnetic, to run slightly northwest-southeast. Its roof is of galvanized corrugated metal, as are the back wall on the southernmost two stalls, the south end wall of the building, and the front wall of the storage room. The back walls of the remaining three garage stalls and the storage room, and the north and south walls of the storage room, the latter separating it from the northernmost garage stalls, are of vertical wood planks, with flattened old tin cans nailed as sheathing over the cracks between planks of the north end. The sliding garage doors are of wood frame covered with sheet metal embossed to give the appearance of a brick wall. The lumber of the frame is milled. A separate wood bin or woodbox, with cover, stands along side the north end of the building. The galvanizing has failed on some parts of the corrugated metal which consequently has rusted in those places. The remainder is a grayish silver color.

FR-8 - Office/Garage

The "office" is a building 15 by 24 feet with its longer axis running generally north-south. It is split in half with a 12-foot wide single stall garage in the north half, the door on the east side, and a 12-foot wide office in the southern half. It has a gable roof, whose ridge runs north-south. The roof is finished in corrugated metal painted green, and the northwest corner of the metal on the roof has been peeled back as if by a strong wind.

The building's walls are of metal over a wooden frame. The metal on the walls is embossed to imitate a brick wall, but the siding was applied so that the embossed pattern intended to represent the mortared joints between bricks is raised rather than recessed. The walls are painted a cream color. The floor in the office is of planks. The office portion has a pair of double-hung windows on the west side, each six over six, and a single double-hung window on the east, with a door on the south near the southeast corner. The foundation of the structure is stone. The garage door rolls on an overhead track.

The interior of the office, both walls and ceiling, is finished with wallboard and battens, all painted light green, and storage shelves fill the north wall. The garage portion has no finish on the interior. The building has an attic, which is entered from double doors in the plank gable end on the north side.

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FR-9 - Faraway Ranch Guest Quarters/Bunkhouse

Including the front porch and rear shed-roofed additions or lean-tos, this is a rectangular structure, but without the porch and additions (which may originally have been another porch), would form a "T", with the head of the "T" being the stone portion possibly the earliest, and the upright portion of the "T" being the frame, board and batten-finished addition. The top of the "T" being to the west, the porch would then be to the right or north. The building was originally divided into three guest quarters, each of which was labeled in a sign made of rope tacked to a plank which hung at the edge of the porch in front of the respective doors. East to west, these were "Mizar," the name of the middle room is unknown, and to the west was "Alcore." The building has a single gable roof, the ridge of the gable running east-west, which continues to the outer limits of the concrete front porch on the north, where it is supported on three posts. There are architectural indications that the front porch once was lower. The roof is finished in brown composition shingles.

The western end of the structure, crossing the "T", is of stone, 19 feet in an east-west direction by about 27 feet, 6 inches. With the 31-foot long frame additions and porch to the east, this makes a building 49 feet long. The main portion of the wooden wing is thus 31 by about 7, finished, as mentioned above, in board and batten. To the rear of this, in a space corresponding with that filed by the front porch, have been built three different additions, all under a single shed-roof. West to east, the first is of stone but apparently not part of the original stone structure, and extends 8 feet along the east wall; east of this is a portion of wall of plywood, and still further east is a portion of wall made of 3-inch horizontal lap siding, which also was used on the southern beeven feet of the east wall of the building. Together the two-frame lean-to additions are about 22 feet long.

In front there are two doors and two double-hung windows facing north onto the porch, and a door in the stone portion facing east onto the porch. The stone portion of the building also has a double-hung window facing north. The west end of the building, in the original stone portion, has two double-hung windows with a door between them, which is offset from center. The east end has two double hung windows, one each in the board-and-batten and the lap-sided portions. The back side, facing south, features, west to east, a double, followed by a single, casement windows in the original stone wing, a double casement window in the section of stone wall that is apparently an addition, an aluminum casement sash in the section of plywood wall that follows, and a door and a double casement window in the portion of rear wall finished in lap siding. As the building is built partly into the sloping hillside—or possibly the hill has gradually filled against its back wall—a concrete retaining wall four feet high maintains a clear path from the back door to the east end of the building.

The interior was not evaluated due to its present occupancy by park staff, but a prior investigation indicated that interior walls are variously of plaster, plasterboard, and

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stone, and that the structure is at present divided into two apartments in use by families.

FR-10 - Swimming Pool

The swimming pool is an oval, home-made structure northeast of the main house, built of concrete and, except for the top foot or two, sunk into the ground, graduated in depth from the south end to the north. It is in deteriorated and unusable condition.

FR-11 - Windmill

The windmill stands to the southwest of the barn and at the northeast corner of the man-made pond or "tank" which served as a reservoir for the water. It consists of a standard pyramidal metal frame surmounted by a small platform and a metal bladed windmill. The frame is in fair condition, the rotor is in ruins, only a quarter of its framework and fragments of four of its blades remaining in place. The vane is missing.

FR-12 - Tank

The "tank" is actually a rectangular open air pond, retained above the grade of the floor of the valley, to the north, by a man-made three-sided embankment faced on the outside (to the north, west and east) with large fieldstones or small boulders from the creekbed. It is at present dry, and its interior and top surfaces are covered with native grasses.

FR-13 - Stone Fence on face of ridge north of creek

Apparently, erected during the 1890s, probably to separate Erickson cattle and horses from Stafford stock, the stone fence climbs directly up the ridge north of the creek to a natural outcropping of rock which prevents it from being outflanked. It is a deteriorated rubble wall topped by barbed wire.

FY-14 - Corral, Fences, Chutes, and Gates

Surrounding the house and dividing the ranch into various segments are a variety of board, wire, and barbed wire fences and associated gates. They served such functions as keeping stock out of the lawn area around the house, out of the kitchen garden northeast of the house, and out of other portions of the property.

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significance in architecture. As a typical small family farm and cattle ranch, not one of the great spreads financed by Eastern or European capital and never absorbed by such larger enterprises, but as a very fine example of a pioneer ranch established and operated by a single family, the Erickson Ranch has significance in agriculture both as a type and as a pioneer in this region, with respect to the cattle industry as an outstanding type specimen of a pioneer ranch of the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, and is especially notable and significant because it maintains an integrity of fabric and historic setting that most of its peers have lost through alteration, demolition, or absorption into larger enterprises. Faraway Ranch, at first known simply as the Erickson Ranch, was typical of small cattle ranches in the west for many The ranch also represents a continuation of the story of the military post of Fort Bowie, located nearby, and the closing of the military frontier and indeed, of the frontier itself. Neil Erickson and his wife, Emma, came separately to Arizona in association with the military; Emma with an officer's family, and Neil as an enlisted man, eventually a 1st sergeant, in the 4th Cavalry. Accepting his discharge from the Army in the same year, the southwestern military campaigns ended with the surrender and exile of Geronimo (1886), Erickson chose to stay in Arizona, marry, homestead, and establish a small cattle ranch. Thus, his career represents, personally, transition from a military frontier to a settled agricultural and ranching region. The ranch itself reflects this transition further, for Fort Bowie provided protection and a market for the products of the ranch during its first eight years, providing nearby military support in case another Indian outbreak occurred, providing medical care in emergencies for civilians such as the Ericksons who lived nearby, and purchasing local produce and cattle until such time as the development of mining camps during the 1890s, the founding and growth of towns along the railroads, provided alternate markets. a microcosm, the Erickson Ranch represents, both in its fabric and associatively in the career of this single family, the essence of the closing of the western frontier: the end of the Indian wars, the coming of the railroads, the development of mining camps, and the growth of a settled agriculture and cattle industry. Furthermore, the Erickson Ranch is of significance in Social History as the home of a family of Swedish immigrants. the history of their Americanization, and of their succeeding generations. of significance, and the sequence of historical events here represented has no known equal in the National Park System.

5. Faraway Ranch as an early Arizona "dude" ranch-History of the "guest ranch" Industry. While probably not the earliest "dude" or guest ranch in Arizona, Faraway Ranch became in part a guest ranch as early as 1917 and continued as such until the late 1960s. It was probably most successful in this aspect of its history in the 1920s and 1940s, and no doubt would have been during the 1930s except for the Great Depression. But as measured from its representation in the professional literature of the guest ranch industry of the period, it was an active component of this industry in southern Arizona.

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- 6. Neil Erickson and Early Development of the U.S. Forest Service in Arizona History of Conservation. Early in the 20th Century, Neil Erickson began a third career (after the military and ranching) as a forest ranger in the Chiricahua section of Coronado National Forest, part of which would one day become Chiricahua National Monument. He carried on U.S. Forest Service management and paperwork from his ranch, using at different times a room in the main house, and a separate little office building, as his headquarters. Subsequently, he was transferred to the Dragoon and Whetstone Mountains sections of Coronado National Forest, on the far side of the Sulphur Springs Valley, and still later to Walnut Canyon National Monument in northern Arizona. At the latter area, he and his wife lived in the Old Headquarters, a log cabin structure which is on the National Register at local level of significance. Neil Erickson was one of the earliest forest rangers in Coronado National Forest and in Arizona, and future research is needed to more clearly define his role in the history of the U.S. Forest Service in the West under the theme of Conservation.
- 7. Faraway Ranch and the founding of Chiricahua National Monument History of Conservation. While Neil Erickson was familiar with the strange and wild rock formations southeast of his ranch, it remained for his son-in-law, Ed Riggs, who had married Lillian Erickson, to promote this "Wonderland of Rocks" as a tourist attraction and to seek its preservation as a national monument. Undoubtedly conservationist motives were mixed with commercial motives, for as a tourist attraction the rock formations would bring guests to Faraway Ranch and keep them occupied while there, going on horseback tours into the region. But however mixed the motives, the result of Ed riggs' promotion of these natural wonders was the establishment of Chiricahua National Monument in 1924. Subsequent to creation of the Monument, Riggs was hired by the National Park Service to supervise construction of new horse and hiking trails in 1934 and 1935, including trails up Rhyolite Canon, to the summit of Sugarloaf, and up Echo Canyon to Echo Park. Thus, in the 1920s and 1930s, Faraway Ranch, through its relationship with the founding of Chiricahua National Monument, had a significant impact on tourism, conservation, and the preservation of natural features in southern Arizona. Furthermore, the ranch has significance in association with Ed Riggs and the important role he played in this aspect of its history.
- 8. Faraway Ranch as an enterprise developed and managed by a woman. When Neil Erickson was assigned to Forest Service duties distant from his ranch in 1917, his daughter, Lillian, aided by her sister Hildegarde, took over management of the Erickson Ranch and began immediately its development as a "guest ranch," not in place of but as a supplement to its continuing activities as a cattle ranch and small farm producing some fruits and vegetables. (It would be drought, rather than the development of guest ranching activities, which seems to have brought to a close the raising of fruits and vegetables for sale.) Although her sister, Hildegarde, soon married and moved away, Lillian remained and continued development of the "guest" or "dude" ranch enterprise, and it was probably she who gave the property the (continued on next page)

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FR-16 Water Trough

In the middle of the main corral, west of the barn, is a small, rectangular, long concrete water trough for watering stock, in deteriorated condition.

FR-17 - Pig Pen

Northeast of Building FR-6 is located a pig pen consisting of a rubble stone wall enclosure.

FR-18 - Animal pen or cage

South of the "Cowboy House" (Building FR-2) is located a frame and wire pen of unknown use, enclosed not only on four sides, but also on top, for some small animal(s).

FR-19 - Cobblestone-edged Paths

A number of paths have been delineated around the ranch with lines of cobblestones on each side, such as eastward from Building FR-2 between buildings FR-7 and FR-8.

FR-20 - Bridge over Newton's Wash

Southeast of Building FR-2 and southwest of Building FR-8, a frame footbridge, in poor condition, crosses the dry bed of Newton's Wash.

FR-21 - Ranch Roads

As indicated on site maps, a number of ranch roads, all dirt-surfaced, criss-cross the area. The trunk road runs along the south edge of the valley, passing south of all of the buildings and structures except Building FR-9 and Water Tanks FR-22. On the Stafford property, an earlier alignment of this road is visible south of the most recent alignment and undoubtedly provided pioneer access to Bonita Canyon and the Stafford homestead, hugging more closely the south slope of the canyon and leaving a maximum of bottom land for development as an orchard. In later years, drought killed much of the orchard and freed flatter land for a new alignment. Other roads, poorly defined, pass along the west side of the house, the north side of Building FR-7, and reach the vicinity of the barn, splitting to terminate a short distance north and west of the barn. Another branch road leads from the trunk road northeast directly to the barn.

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FR-22 - Water Tanks

Southeast of the main house, high on the ridge to the south, are two water tanks, fed from the well, FR-23, located east of the house. These apparently replaced FR-11 as storage for water.

FR-23 - Well

Near the west end of the Stafford orchard, just east of the main house of Faraway Ranch, is a well with a small walking beam pump, which the National Park Service has modified by the addition of electrical connections and new piping. The pump is a Jensen straight lift Jack, Serial No. 115, size 25 DC, rated at 35 strokes per minute, manufactured by the Jensen Brothers Manufacturing Company, of Coffeyville, Kansas. The well may originally have featured a windmill.

FR-24 - Faraway Ranch Cemetery

A typical integral feature of remote early ranches in the west, the ranch cemetery consists of a small rectangle of land, 20 by 30 feet, fenced with an ornate iron fence on top of a stone foundation. Here are buried Neil and Emma Erickson. Outside the fenced boundary to the east is buried Lewis Prue, another early pioneer to the area, one who had settled just outside the mouth of Bonita Canon. The cemetery, with an extended boundary to include the Prue grave, is a discontiguous part of the Faraway Ranch Historic District.

Justification for large acreage in Faraway Ranch Historic District

The boundary of this historic district may be considered large in contrast to more compact urban historic districts, but it is not large in terms of rural historic districts. It contains only the small headquarters portion of Faraway Ranch: that portion which contained buildings and structures, terrain altered by man-made features such as orchards, windbreaks of trees, fences, roads, and the like. The bottom land is believed to have been the site of the Army camp which may possess historical archeological values. Within the boundary are 25 dispersed historic structures, located at some distance from each other, but connected by and including such features as paths, roads, fences, orchards, windbreaks, decorative landscaping, and other features, requiring a sizeable boundary to encompass them all. The boundary described above is believed necessary to protect surviving historic fabric, landscaping, orchards, roads, fences, and potential historical archeological values.

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1400-1499	X ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	XCONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	X_AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	XMILITARY	X social/humanitarian
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Faraway Ranch Historic District has significance in the areas of: archeology, historic; agriculture; architecture; conservation, settlement; industry (cattle and guest ranching); military history; and social history (specifically Black history, women's history, and immigrant history with this one family as a case study). The district is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history (settlement, the Indian wars, the end of the frontier, the conservation movement through National Forests and National Monuments), in all of the specific categories cited above, and is associated with the lives of individuals who were of significance locally (J.H. Stafford, Emma Erickson, Ed Riggs) or regionally (Neil Erickson, Lillian Erickson Riggs, and Captain Charles Cooper and his daughter, Forrestine). The main house at Faraway Ranch embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction, and the ranch as a whole possesses a high degree of integrity. Furthermore, the site of the military "Camp at Bonita Cañon" may be likely to yield through historic archeology information important in history.

These areas of significance are present in the Faraway Ranch Historic District as discussed in detail below:

- 1. Stafford Homestead, c. 1879—History of Settlement, Association with J. Hughes Stafford. Established about 1879, the Stafford Homestead was the earliest settlement in Bonita Cañon and matches in date the earliest homesteads in this general vicinity in the hugh Sulphur Springs Valley immediately to the west. It has been entered separately in the National Register of Historic Places under the title, "Stafford Cabin," at regional level of significance historically as one of the earliest structures in the area, and of the early ones, the best preserved. Its agricultural significance is also recognized, but also of significance are the remains of Stafford's irrigation ditch, roads, the surviving original fruit trees in the Stafford orchard, and trees planted west of the cabin either for decorative purposes or to serve as a windbreak or both. Stafford himself was a significant pioneer in the area, some of whose descendents still lived in southeastern Arizona a century later.
- 2. Site of U.S. Army "Camp at Bonita Canon," 1885-1886--Military History and Social History of Black Americans. This was a cavalry camp established during the Geronimo Campaign to deny the hostile Apaches access to the water in Bonita Canon as well as use of the canon as a route of travel through the Chiricahua Mountains. It is the only such temporary campaign camp site associated with the Geronimo War identified for portection in the Southwest. It has potential through historical archeology to yield information important

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in history. It was garrisoned principally if not solely by, and probably established by, elements of the 10th U.S. Cavalry, a regiment of Black enlisted men with White officers. While stationed there, the Black enlisted personnel erected a fieldstone monument to President Garfield, who had been assassinated five years earlier. The monument consisted of stones carved with the names, troop designations, dates and other inscriptions by the enlisted men of several 10th Cavalry troops. Located just west of the ranch, it was dismantled in the 1920s because it was disintegrating, but many of the individual stones, with their carved inscriptions, were preserved intact, and used in building the so-called "Garfield Fireplace" and chimney in a new guest during room being added to the main house of Faraway Ranch. The carved stones preserve there today, the inscriptions carved by these Black soldiers, and are the one tangible remnant of the military "Camp at Bonita Canon.

The camp made its way into literature when it served as the scene of part of an autobiographical novel, When Geronimo Rode, by the female novelist, Forrestine Cooper Hooker, daughter of Captain Charles Cooper, 10th Cavalry, who was one commander of the camp. Thus, the "Camp at Bonita Cañon" has significance in the military history of the Indian Wars as the site of a campaign camp and as a site with potential to yield data regarding the life on campaign of cavalrymen and specifically, the men of a Black cavalry unit, is associated with the activities of one of the first Black regiments in the Regular Army, with implications for Black social history, and furthermore was embodied in the fictional literature of the 1920s pertaining to the western frontier.

- 3. Erickson Homestead, c. 1887--History of Settlement. Neil and Emma Erickson were not the first to homestead Bonita Canon or this general region, following J.H. Stafford by seven or eight years, as well as others. Erickson's homestead was nevertheless one of the early and pioneer homesteads in the region, and proved to be much more permanent than the Stafford homestead, which eventually it absorbed, and many others.
- 4. Erickson Ranch, 1887-1917--Significance in Agriculture, Architecture, Industry (the cattle industry), Social History (immigrant Americans), Associative Significance involving Neill and Emma Erickson, Significance in relation to the Closing of the Frontier, Significance as having Distinctive Characteristics of a Type (Small, pioneer family-owned cattle ranch). The main house of Faraway Ranch has significance representing a blending over a period of time in architectural styles and materials of the indigenous adobe and stone Pueblo/Spanish/Mexican and the more recent wood frame European/American. Furthermore, as an example of vernacular frontier construction of a house built by the family that was to live there, with no particular training for such a task, and representing a continual history of addition and subtraction from 1887 to the late 1920s, the main house of Faraway Ranch is of at least regional

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name "Faraway Ranch," as that name does not seem to pre-date the guest ranching activities. Lillian soon married Ed Riggs-his second marriage-but seems never to have transferred wholly to him management of the ranch. Lillian became totally blind in the 1940s, and lost her husband several years later, but with the aid of hired hands, continued to run Faraway Ranch as a combined cattle and "dude" ranch well into the 1960s. As "The Lady Boss of Faraway Ranch," she was the subject of a feature articles in the Saturday Evening Post of March 15, 1958. As time passed, Lillian herself became increasingly prominent in southern Arizona as an Arizona pioneer, having been born at Fort Bowie while it was still a frontier military post, and Faraway Ranch has significance in association with her long and unusual career.

9. Faraway Ranch as a property that has yielded and is likely further to yield information important in history. Faraway Ranch was acquired by the National Park Service in 1979 with its buildings, many of its furnishings, and most of its business and personal papers, photographs, diaries, magazines, periodicals, and other such materials intact. While the Erickson heirs have kept certain family heirlooms, the majority of the Faraway Ranch furnishings remain intact and possess integrity. The same is true for business and personal papers. Both categories--furnishings, and papers/records--may yield information important in history. The furnishings, for example, provide the potential for important historical studies in material culture, for older patterns of objects were not scrapped when replaced by newer ones, but were simply set aside and stored. Thus, there are generation after generation of stoves, from old specimens with 1865 patent dates which were already old and second-hand when the ranch was established, through a succession of models to the most modern. The same is true for beds, and for other categories of furnishings and tools. Thus, the furnishings themselves, through study, may provide important historical data on such topics as the development of the economy of southeastern Arizona, availability of goods at different times, the influence of the growth of the railroads on ranch life, the life style of early ranch families and other such subjects. Additionally and even more significant, both personal family correspondence, such as Neil Erickson's letters to his fiance during the Geronimo Campaign, written partly in Swedish, many other papers relating to all phases of Erickson's career, diaries, the business papers of Faraway Ranch, the register of a Fort Bowie boarding house run by Emma Erickson, and many others, provide an unusually complete and outstanding historical record of both business and personal affairs of the family that founded, developed, and operated this ranch. The documents and furnishings in relation to this ranch, in view of their great integrity, are unquestionably of at least regional level of significance along with the ranch. Consequently, all of the furnishings, papers, documents, and records of the Faraway Ranch are considered an integral part of the property included in this nomination. The property as a whole is believed likely to yield information important in historical archeology, military history, architectural history, agricultural history, conservation history, the history of settlement, the history of the cattle and guest ranching industries, and several categories of social history, including the ending of the frontier, women's history, Black history, and immigrant history as represented by a case study of this family.

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All structures discussed in the Description section of this nomination are deemed to have significance except the Martha Riggs house, which has lost all integrity through demolition by fire. Thus, the significance applies not only to all buildings, but to all such structures as wells, fences (whether stone, plank, pole, or wire), trees planted whether as windbreaks, landscaping, or in orchards, windmills, tanks (artifically created ponds or reservoirs, including the dame or embankment), swimming pools, roads, documents, and furnishings.

Thus, the Faraway Ranch Historic District represents and illustrates many themes and sub-themes in American history which are recognized by the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings. It possesses a high degree of integrity and may be of National level of significance as a historic district representative of a type..

The foregoing statement of significance is based upon a century of history of which the following is a summary based on primary source materials, the data having been synthesized in no other form.

History of Faraway Ranch Historic District

Although Bonita Canon and its water sources were undoubtedly used by nomadic Apache Indians and their prehistoric predecessors, a veteran of the Mexican War names J. Hughes Stafford was reportedly the first settler in Bonita Canon in 1879 or 1880, built the first historic structure there, and developed a homestead with an orchard. The region was still a theater of Indian warfare, as yet unpenetrated by railroads or other development. Stafford erected a log cabin at an unknown but early date; a cabin which, with many changes and a succession of additions down through the years, still stands today. He raised a family here and successfully weathered the trials and tribulations of frontier life in an unsettled, semi-arid environment still subject to raiding by hostile Indians. Until its abandonment in 1894, Fort Bowie reportedly served as the principal market for most of the fruit and vegetables Stafford raised, although concurrent with the decline of the military post, other markets developed in the form of towns along the railroad, mining camps, and agricultural settlements, which superseded the soldiers as customers.

In 1885 the U.S. Army entered into what in retrospect, although not apparent at the time, would be its last Indian campaign in the Southwest, against the hostile Chiricahua Apache Indians under the chief known by his Spanish name of Geronimo. As a part of this campaign, the Army established a temporary cavalry encampment in Bonita Canon, both to deny the hostile Apaches access to the then-reliable water sources in the canon, and to deny them its use as a travel route across the Chiricahua Mountains. The post consisted of tents, a jacal stable, and an existing cabin of uncertain origin

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perhaps leased from Stafford, which was used as an officer's quarters. The camp seems to have been garrisoned exclusively by troops of the 10th U.S. Cavalry, a regiment of Blacks with White officers, detailed to duty there not from nearby Fort Bowie, but from more distant Fort Grant, although administratively the camp was a sub-post of the military District of Bowie.

One of the camp's commanding officers, Captain Charles Cooper, 10th Cavalry, apparently had leased the cabin as his quarters, and had his wife and daughter with him. "Camp Bonita Cañon," a shortened version of its official designation, the "Camp at Bonita Cañon," made its way into literature when the captain's daughter, Forrestine, subsequently published in 1924 a quasi-autobiographical novel several of whose chapters were set at this location.

Undoubtedly partly as recreation, to occupy some hours of boredom, the enlisted men of the Black cavalry stationed there erected a fieldstone monument whose stones they carved with their names, dates, troop designations, and other data, which was dedicated to President James A. Garfield, who had been assassinated five years earlier. Many years later, decaying and falling to pieces, the monument was disassembled, probably about 1924, and its component stones with their incised inscriptions were used in construction of a "Garfield Fireplace" in the guest dining room at Faraway Ranch. While the integrity of the Monument per se has been destroyed, the integrity of many of the individual stone inscriptions has been preserved as a significant, tangible remnant of a structure associated with the Camp at Bonita Canon, documenting some of the men who served there and illustrating what they did with some of their spare time.

The 10th Cavalry, which served here represents a significance in social history in addition to the significance of the camp in relation to this last Southwestern Indian war, for the Blacks brought no essentially different military values to the army. But the service of Blacks in these regiments, the 10th Cavalry being among the first Black units in the Regular Army, led to the building of a fine military record which proved that Blacks could fight as well as Whites, and although these were segregated regiments, this fact served as one step over a period of more than a century in the ultimate breaking down of segregation and discrimination in the United States. Having Blacks serve along with Whites in the Regular Army, even in segregated units, was nevertheless a step forward from the previous status under which Blacks were not allowed to serve at all, and as such it was a first small step towards equality before the law beyond that represented by the Emancipation Proclamation and the 14th Amendment to the Constitution.

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At the same time the Blacks of the 10th Cavalry were serving against Geronimo, a 4th Cavalry sergeant of Swedish extraction was campaigning elsewhere in southern Arizona against the same hostile Indians. Nels Erickson had been born in the province of Skone near Christianstad, Sweden, on April 22, 1859. As a boy he worked on a farm, and in 1869, when he was ten years old, his father emigrated to America to find better work. Erickson's father was employed by the Northern Pacific Railroad, and was killed by Indians about 150 miles west of St. Paul Minnesota, in 1871. Eight years later, Nels decided to try his fortune in America, himself, and sailed on a Cunard vessel which landed him in Boston Massachusetts, on May 5, 1879. He then worked for an uncle, John Nielson, on the latter's farm near Princeton, Massachusetts. Later that year, in the fall, he went to Boston where he found employment in the Washburn and Moon Iron Works on Grove Street in Worcester, Massachusetts. During the summer of 1881, he worked on the farm of A.B. Whitcomb near Sutton, Massachusetts, and that fall went to Boston again where he found employment in the Bay State Sugar Refining Company near the East Boston Ferry. At one of the industries he worked for, an Irish payroll clerk changed his name on the pay vouchers to "Neil," and while he worked for the sugar refinery he met another Irishman whom he told of his life history and of his father's death at the hand of Indians. This middle-aged Irishman told Neil that the U.S. Army was even then fighting Indians out in the West.

Erickson had no real desire to enlist, but after a particularly hot and unpleasant day in the sugar refinery, he decided to find out more about the army. He could not yet speak good English, which may have contributed to the fact that almost before he realized it, a glib recruiting sergeant had him enlisted. By the time he had been transferred to the recruiting depot in New York, for two weeks, then to the training depot at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, Erickson had decided that if he was going to be a soldier, he might as well go to Minnesota to fight Indians and avenge his father. Besides, he had heard there were a lot of Swedes in Minnesota. But of course, there were no longer any Indian wars in Minnesota, so when Colonel Ranald Mackenzie solicited volunteers to join the 4th Cavalry campaigning in the southwest, Erickson decided to put in his name. His new regiment, veteran of many Indian campaigns, especially against the Kiowa and Comanche in Texas and the Sioux and Northern Cheyenne in Wyoming, was then headquartered in Santa Fe, but he was assigned to Troop E stationed at Ojo Caliente, New Mexico, an Indian agency. Subsequently, in the spring of 1882, Erickson participated in Colonel George A. Forsyth's campaign against Chief Loco and a band of hostile Apaches. Campaigning with Apache scouts serving with the Army, and after chasing an Apache band into an unexpected encounter with Mexican troops in northern Sonora and viewing the resulting carnage, Erickson soon lost his desire for revenge against Indians for his father's death and came to sympathize with them. After returning to Ojo Caliente, Troop E was transferred to Fort Craig, New Mexico, to help rebuild that post. Then in 1883, Erickson participated in the campaign against Chato, ending up with typhoid fever while at Camp Richmond on the Gila River. He was transferred to Fort Bayard to recuperate, then again to Camp Richmond. Erickson's English improved with time, although he still corresponded in Swedish and still signed his letters "Nels."

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While at Fort Craig, Erickson met another young Swedish emigrant, Emma Sophia Peterson, who was living with the family of an officer, either as a relative or as a governess or in some other such capacity. In courting her, the young sergeant was competing with at least one officer as her suitor, but she declared she would never marry a soldier, although in one enlistment, Erickson had gone from private to acting first sergeant of his troop, a most responsible position. Shortly after the end of the Geronimo Campaign, Erickson's five-year enlistment was finished, and with this romance as motivation, he accepted his discharge on October 10, 1886, with the intention of marrying Emma and homesteading. They were married in Tucson in 1887. While he had been serving with the Army and while she was living at Fort Bowie, each separately had seen Bonita Canon and fallen in love with this then well-watered little valley, and it was there they would settle.

Many details of subsequent Erickson family history need to be researched, and inconsistencies and conflicts between different sources need to be resolved, but the main outlines are clear enough. It was probably the year they were married, certainly no later than 1888, and one source claims as early as 1886, that Neil Erickson laid claim to a part of Bonita Cañon, taking over what was probably the site of the officer's quarters of the now-abandoned military camp as their homesite. It is not clear who had built the two or three-room building--possibly J.H. Stafford, possibly someone else. It is equally unclear what Neil Erickson did with it. He may have demolished all but one room of it, making use of that one surviving room as what is now the cellar in the main house at Faraway Ranch, or that cellar may represent original new Erickson construction c. 1887.

The early years of the Erickson homestead, full of struggle on the part of the young couple to make a living, and likewise full of separation, are full of confusion and conflicting evidence. Neil spent much time away from their homestead, working for other ranchers to make money, working in Lordsburg for awhile, and in the mining town of Volcano in 1891. He became a naturalized citizen on November 16, 1893. And he worked off and on for quite some time in Bisbee, both in the smelter as an employee of the copper company, and as a carpenter building homes for people. He seemingly was away from the homestead more than he was there.

His wife's activities during this decade are at present no clearer. Prior to their marriage she had ventured into business by running a civilian boarding house or hotel on the military post of Fort Bowie. Subsequently, she seems to have worked in the Arlington House in Tombstone as a manager or desk clerk. She gave birth to their first child, Lillian, at Fort Bowie in 1889, where the military's post surgeon and the post hospital could provide medical assistance.

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The structural history of their main house in Bonita Canon is similarly vague and confusing. An early photograph was captioned that the Ericksons' first construction at Bonita Canon—a "picket" or upright log cabin with gable roof finished in shakes, the gable running east—west—was "located" in 1886. If so it must have been done after his discharge in mid-October of that year from the Army, or if earlier, while he was on a pass or leave. While it is possible that it was located in 1886, and perhaps even built then, other data suggests 1887 or 1888 as possible dates. Whichever, this structure apparently provided their first accommodations. That same photograph carries a claim that the stone/adobe cellar was constructed in 1888, but does not make clear whether or not it was partially a rebuild of an earlier structure. Certainly it existed in association with the "picket cabin in 1892 when a penciled sketch of the building was made.

The "Gay Nineties" seem to have been that for the Erickson Ranch at least in one respectthe supply of water was fairly reliable, which it would not be in later years. During
the next two decades the Ericksons planted an orchard which featured peaches, pears,
apples (some of which they converted to cider, some of which they converted to vinegar),
plums, almonds, cherries, and apricots. Some of the fruit they canned, some of it
they made into jam, some of it they pickled, some of it they jellied, and all of these
products they sold. They raised alfalfa, wheat, potatoes, and corn. A few dairy cows
provided them with milk, cream, butter, and cheese. They raised pigs and rendered some
for lard. They raised chickens and turkeys. They raised a few horses and many cattle,
although their herd was probably never larger than 150 head at a given time.

Diaries and other data hitherto researched unfortunately provide very little data on the structural history of the ranch. The history of a succession of barns and outbuildings is almost completely unknown, although the plethora of available ranch records may provide hidden data or clues. An 1896 diary documents construction by Erickson of a rock fence on a mountain—the one north of the ranch which is still there? The same early 20th Century photo whose caption claims the "picket" cabin dates from 1886 also indicates that the two-story hipped roof board—and—batten component of the main house, connecting the "picket" cabin's east side with the north wall of the stone/adobe cellar, dated from "1897 or 1898." It is known that Erickson obtained the lumber with which he built this two-story house as a payment for work he did for one of the members of the Riggs family, who had bought a sawmill and moved it to a new setting in nearby Pinery Cañon to cut and mill lumber. Erickson frequently did small carpentry jobs, helped in raising a windmill, or performed other such work for neighboring ranchers to supplement the small income from his own ranch. He was a self-taught carpenter, although his grandfather in Sweden had apparently been an accomplished carpenter and cabinet—maker.

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In 1903, Erickson entered the employment of the U.S. Forest Service as one of the first employees of the Chiricahua Forest Reserve, created July 30, 1902, with the title of Forest Reserve Ranger. In March 1907, the area became the Chiricahua National Forest and Erickson became a Forest Ranger. He used his ranch as his headquarters. In June 1917, the Chiricahua National Forest merged with Coronado National Forest under the latter name, and Erickson was promoted to District Ranger, assigned to the Dragoon-Whetstone District, clear across the vast Sulphur Springs Valley in the Dragoon and Whetstone Mountains and far from his ranch. Erickson and his wife consequently left management of his ranch to his daughters, especially Lillian, a graduate of Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, with several years of experience as a teacher in Bowie and elsewhere behind her. In April 1921, Erickson accepted a transfer to Walnut Canyon National Monument in northern Arizona, where he would serve until his retirement in December 1927. During and after those years, he visited and perhaps lived for some months in California. But eventually he returned to his homestead ranch and lived there through the mid-1930s until his death in 1937.

When Neil Erickson was transferred to the Dragoon-Whetstone Ranger District in 1917, his two daughters, Lillian and Hildegarde, took over management of the family property of J.H. Stafford, which had been vacant probably since 1913. Lillian, the eldest daughter and an aggressive businesswoman, had been sent away to school, first in Willcox, then to college in Galesburg, Illinois, and had taught school for some years. It was apparently she who gave the ranch the name, "Faraway," and who started the practice of taking in guests, providing them for a fee horses to ride and eventually guided trips into the Chiricahua Mountains. She thus, began to develop Faraway Ranch as a "guest" or "dude" ranch in 1917. Five years later, in 1923, she married Ed Riggs, son of another pioneer family in the region, a family contemporary with the Staffords in settling the area in 1879. Lillian was Riggs' second wife, his first one having died. About the same time, Hildegarde married and moved to California, leaving Lillian and Ed to manage the ranch.

It about this time that Ed Riggs began developing trails into the "Wonderland of Rocks" southeast of Faraway Ranch, and promoting the area widely as a tourist attraction. Neil Erickson had not been unaware of the existence of this scenic and geological treasure house because if he had not penetrated it earlier in search of stray cattle, an incident in the early 1890s which represented one of the last Indian scares in southeastern drew him into this maze of fractured rock. An Appache named Massai had escaped east of the Mississippi from the train taking his band from Bowie Station, Arizona, to exile at Fort Marion at St. Augustine, Florida, and had made his way on foot all the way west along the railroad back to his homeland, where he continued to roam and scare the wits out of settlers for a number of years. Among the settlers he scared were the Ericksons and the Staffords, for he stole a horse from the Staffords and Neil helped to track him southeastward through the Chiricahua Mountains and this area of spectacular rock formations. Neil Erickson must also have been familiar with these geological features during his years with the U.S. Forest Service in this area. But it

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was his son-in-law, Ed Riggs, who saw the potential this geological wonderland had to draw tourists, many of whom would patronize the guest ranch he and his bride were developing out of the old Erickson Ranch, and would further patronize guided pack trips or single day rides from Faraway Ranch into the area of rock formations. It was largely as a result of his efforts that the area was set aside in 1924 as Chiricahua National Monument.

It apparently was also in 1924 that the main house of Faraway Ranch took its present form, but the evidence is by no means conclusive and further fails to indicate whether the last additions and deletions were made by Neil Erickson or by Ed and Lillian Riggs, or both. The old picket cabin was demolished and a number of adobe rooms and an outside porch were added to the structure and the roof raised. The 1897 or 1898 frame structure was incorporated into the enlarged ranch house, preserving all of Neil Erickson's built-in cabinetry. The one later change was the plastering of the adobe walls to protect them, which apparently occurred either during the late 1920s or during the 1930s. Further research may clarify the date.

Economically, Faraway Ranch had depended in part on the cattle industry, in part on the "guest" or "dude" ranch business, since 1917. As increasing dry spells and droughts plagued southeastern Arizona, the fruit trees withered, and the guest ranch business largely supplanted the raising of fruits and vegetables, other than perhaps a few for domestic consumption. The guest ranch business had several profitable aspects, from providing the basic room and means to profitably renting mounts to visitors and supplying guides for trips into the Chiricahua Mountains. The 1920s were moderately prosperous years, and even the years of the Depression—1930 through 1932—the ranch was fairly successful due to fairly heavy summer use by survey crews of the Bureau of Public Roads working in the vicinity who needed a place to stay. After some lean years, Ed and Lillian leased, in an abortive and short—term experiment, a by—then abandoned CCC Camp some distance up the canon (outside the boundaries of this Historic District and now gone), which they operated briefly as Camp Faraway, and then sublet to others to run. War brought that experiment to a close by 1942.

In 1923, Lillian had been thrown from a horse and landed on her head, suffering as a result a subsequent blurring of her vision. Nineteen years later, in 1942, she suddenly and unexpectedly lost all of her eyesight, a consequence of that fall. Only monentarily daunted, she continued to manage, with the help of her husband, both the cattle and guest ranching businesses, and even undertook during the late 1940s to write a novel documenting early family history, a task she completed though she could never find a publisher. Eight years after she had become blind, in 1950, she lost her husband, Ed Riggs, to a fatal stroke. Yet for nearly a quarter of a century more, until 1974 at the age of 85, Lillian Erickson Riggs continued with the aid of a succession of foremen and other employees, to run Faraway Ranch as both a cattle ranch and as a guest

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ranch. Already famous throughout southern Arizona and, through generations of guests nationwide, Lillian reached a new pinnacle of fame when in 1958, the <u>Saturday Evening Post</u> magazine published a feature article on "The Lady Boss of Faraway Ranch." Throughout her seventies and until just shy of her 85th birthday, Lillian Riggs continued to go out riding horseback nearly every morning with her foreman, and to supervise him in running the ranch. Finally in late 1974 or early 1975, Lillian was forced by increasing infirmity to enter a rest home in Willcox, and she died in April 1977.

After the death of Lillian Erickson Riggs, her brother, Ben, and other members of the family approached the National Park Service with an offer to sell the ranch, which lay right at the entrance to Chiricahua National Monument where pressures were building for tourist development, whereas the family preferred to have the land preserved as open space. During the ensuing two years, the NPS successfully proceeded through the steps necessary to acquire the property and through evaluation of its significance recognized the importance of the furnishings and papers and acquired them also, completing acquisition early in 1979.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Faraway Ranch Historic District is irregular, and although encompassed by the four UTM references supplied above, actually encompasses less land than the rectangle they represent. Its southeast corner lies on the southern boundary of Section 26, Township 16 South, Range 29 East, directly south of the summit of the small peak in Section 26 which is near that section line. The boundary of the district

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Major Bibliographical

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			Vol.	I, No.	33	3 (July 15, 1932). p. 5 (Letter from Neil Erickson)
11	11	11	Vol.	IV, No	. 6	(November 1934), p. 15 (News note)
11	19	11	Vol.	IV, No.	. 9	(February 1935), p. 18 (News note)
11	11	11	Vol.	V, No.	4	(September 1935), p. 9 (Advertisement)
11	11	11				(October 1935). p. 8 (Letter from Lillian Riggs)
11	11	11	Vol.	V, No.	6	(November 1935), p. 15 (Advertisement)
11	11	11	Vol.	V, No.	7	(December 1935), p. 7 (Advertisement)
			Vol.	V, No.	8	(January 1936) p. 11 (Advertisement)

Manuscript Material

Faraway Ranch Collection:

Papers of Neil and Emma Erickson. This collection of material includes: Neil Erickson's letters, largely in Swedish, to his fiance, Emma Peterson, during the Geronimo Campaign (1885-1886) from and to various Arizona military posts; Neil Erickson's Erickson's diaries, which take several forms such as entries on commercial advertising calendars, clippings from newspapers published principally in Willcox and Bisbee, which contained news items about the Ericksons and occasionally featured interviews with Neill about his early Arizona experiences; ledgers containing accounts of a boarding house run by Emma Peterson at Fort Bowie, photographs of Erickson as a cavalryman at various locations; a photo of the Peterson house in Sweden; photographs of the Erickson Ranch before 1917 and an 1892 drawing of the Ranch; Neil's naturalization papers; and a wide ranch of other materials.

Papers of Lillian Erickson Riggs. This collection of material includes: records and documents pertaining to the management of Faraway Ranch as a cattle and guest ranch, 1917-c. 1970; personal reminiscences of Lillian about early day events; personal letters of Lillian's; the manuscript of and correspondence pertaining to her unpublished novel, "Westward into the Sun" 483 pp.; photographs of Lillian, Hildegarde, her parents, her husband, and guests at Faraway Ranch, and of the Faraway Ranch buildings during the 1920s and 1930s; and a wide range of other materials.

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Books and Articles (continued)

Erickson, Neil, "Sgt. Neil Erickson and the Apaches," <u>The Westerners Brand Book, Los Angeles Corral</u>, 1948, pp. 121-130.

Hooker, Forrestine C., When Geronimo Rode (Garden City: Doubleday, Page & Co., 1924.) (Autobiographical fiction).

Steele, A.T., "The Lady Boss of Faraway Ranch," The Saturday Evening Post, March 15, 1958 (Vol. 230, No. 37), pages 28-29, 132, 134-135.

Stewart, Janet Ann, Arizona Ranch Houses: Southern Territorial Styles, 1867-1900. (Tucson: Arizona Historical Society Historical Monograph No. 27, 1974. Pages 56-63 deal with Faraway, but the whole monograph is relevant.

Military Records

Erickson, Neil, Indian Wars Pension File SC 12392, (also 20335, CZ 581365, XC2581,365, Record Group 15 (Records of the Veterans Administration"), National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Department of Arizona, District of Bowie, Field Reports of Troops Stationed at Posts and Camps, 1879-1886: Field Reports, June 30, 1886; July 1, 1886; July 10, 1886; July 20, 1886; August 10, 1886; August 20, 1886. Record Group 393 (Records of United States Army Continental Commands, 1821-1920), National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Regular Army Muster Rolls: Troop E, 10th Cavalry, (Captain J.M. Kelley, commanding), October 31, 1885, February 28, April 30, 1886; Troop H, 10th Cavalry, (Captain Charles Cooper, commanding), October 31, December 31, 1885, February 28, April 30, June 30, 1886; Troop I, 10th Cavalry (Captain T.A. Baldwin, commanding), August 31, October 31, 1886. Record Group 94 (Records of the Adjutant General's Office, U.S. Army, 1780s-1917), National Archives, Washington, D.C.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Verbal Boundary Description (Continued)

the boundary between Sections 27 and 34 until it meets the northern shoulder of the paved road known both as State Highway 181 and as the main road into Chiricahua National Monument. The boundary then curves northwesterly and west-north-westerly along the outer edge of the northern shoulder of this road to a point where Bonita Cañon narrows, midway between the east and west boundaries of Section 27. The boundary then runs due north along the half section line, across Bonita Creek and up the ridge on the north side of Bonita Cañon to the 5,600-foot contour line. The boundary then follows the 5,600-foot contour line eastward until reaching a point due north of the small peak aforementioned. It then runs south across Bonita Creek to the southern border of Section 26 where it meets the point of origin.

A discontinuous additional segment of the Faraway Ranch Historic District consists of the Faraway Ranch Cemetery, which is located roughly 800 feet northeast of the southwest corner of Section 27, immediately south of Highway 181. Its boundary consists of the outer limits of the existing cemetery fence and its foundation, on the north, south, and west sides, however, because there is one grave outside that fence to the east, the boundary continued arbitrarily along the line of the southern and northern fences, extending beyond them 30 feet to the east, terminating in a line parallel to the east fence of the cemetery, creating a rectangle 20 by 58 feet.

Note: Boundary includes all known resources. However, due to lack of historical map data, and limitations of existing descriptions, the precise extent of the military "Camp at Bonita Canon" is unknown. While logical limits are included within these boundaries, it is possible that it extended further west. If in the future any significant archeological resources there are identified by survey or testing, the district boundary will be extended to include them.

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Key to Faraway Ranch

Map of Buildings and Structures

Assigned	
Number	Building or Structure
FR-1	Forever, Borok Main House
FR-1 FR-2	Faraway Ranch Main House
	"Cowboy House"
FR-3	Storage Shed
FR-4	Barn, tool shed and tack room
FR-5	Tool Shed
FR-6	Generator House
FR-7	Garaĝe
FR-8	Office/Garage
FR-9	Guest Quarters/Bunkhouse
FR-10	Swimming Pool
FR-11	Windmill
FR-12	Tank
FR-13	Stone Fence north of Bonita Creek
FR-14	Corral, Fences, Chutes, and Gates
FR-15	Ranch Fences and Gates
FR-16	Water Trough
FR-17	Pig pen
FR-18	Animal pen or cage (just south of FR-2)
FR-19	Cobblestone edged paths (vicinity of FR-2, FR-7, FR-8)
FR-20	Bridge over Newton's Wash (southeast of FR-2)
FR-21	Ranch roads
FR-22	Water Tanks
FR-23	Well
FR-24	Stafford Cabin
FR-25	Ranch Cemetery (off site plan to southwest - see USGS map)

