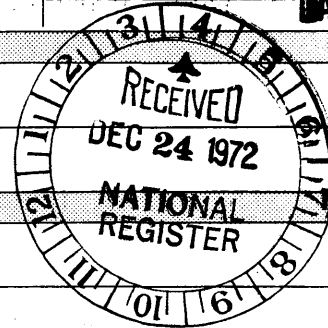


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>South Dakota</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Kingsbury</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE <b>MAR 20 1973</b>



1. NAME

COMMON:  
**Railroad Camp Shanty or (Surveyor's Shanty)**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**De Smet**

STATE: **South Dakota**      CODE: **4046**      COUNTY: **Kingsbury**      CODE: **077**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society, Inc.**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **De Smet**      STATE: **South Dakota**      CODE: **4046**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Kingsbury County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **De Smet**      STATE: **South Dakota**      CODE: **4046**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**South Dakota Historic Sites Survey**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1968**       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**South Dakota Historic Preservation Program**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**W. H. Over Dakota Museum, University of South Dakota**

CITY OR TOWN: **Vermillion**      STATE: **South Dakota**      CODE: **4046**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY NUMBER: **MAR 20 1973**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

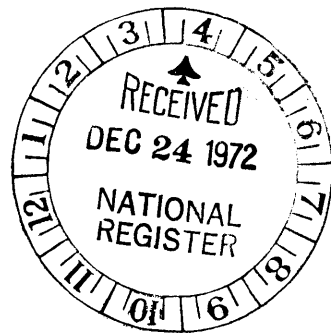
7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Railroad Shanty is a simple frame building measuring roughly 10' by 22' and covered with horizontal siding. The interior is unaltered and furnished with items described in Laura Ingalls Wilder's By the Shores of Silver Lake, including some of the actual Ingalls family possessions.

The shanty was built in 1878. Presumably in the 1880's or early 1890's the building was moved three blocks from its original location and was placed on a cement block foundation. Sometime between that date and the present, siding was placed over the original plank and batten, and two small additions were made: a lean-to and a porch on the south and east sides, respectively. The building was purchased in 1967 by the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society, Inc., a local group, and now serves as a museum.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)      **1878, 1879-80**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature  | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building was once the home of Laura Ingalls Wilder, prominent author of children's books on pioneer life. The shanty was built in 1878 by the Chicago & Northwestern Railway to shelter railroad personnel. It was converted into a home by the Ingalls family during the winter of 1879-80. The family's experiences in the shanty were the subject of Wilder's By the Shores of Silver Lake, one of her most popular works. Other Wilder books trace the lives of the author's family in their struggle to settle permanently in De Smet, South Dakota. Laura Ingalls Wilder stories drew heavily on her childhood experiences; she states, "I lived everything that happened in my books." Two million copies of her works have been sold, many of them in foreign countries. They have been translated into 26 languages.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1. American Guide Series, South Dakota, A Guide to the State, New York: Hastings House, 1952, p. 235.
2. Anderson, William, The Story of the Ingalls, Scranton PA: Harper & Row, passim.
3. Wilder, Laura Ingalls, By the Shores of Silver Lake, New York: Harper & Brothers, 1939, passim.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		44	23	08
SE	° ' "	° ' "		97	32	39
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

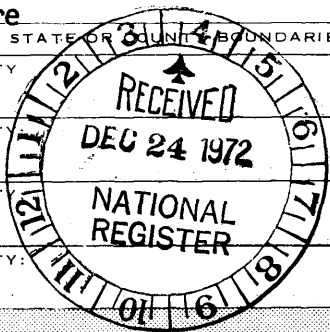
NO  
WM  
C

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1/10 acre**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Mrs. Leslie Dannenbring, President**

ORGANIZATION: **Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society, Inc.** DATE: **10-10-72**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **De Smet** STATE: **South Dakota** CODE: **40**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: *James E. Gillihan*  
**James E. Gillihan**

Title: Director, W. H. Over Dakota Museum, SD State Liaison Officer

Date: **10-17-72**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*Robert M. Utley*  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

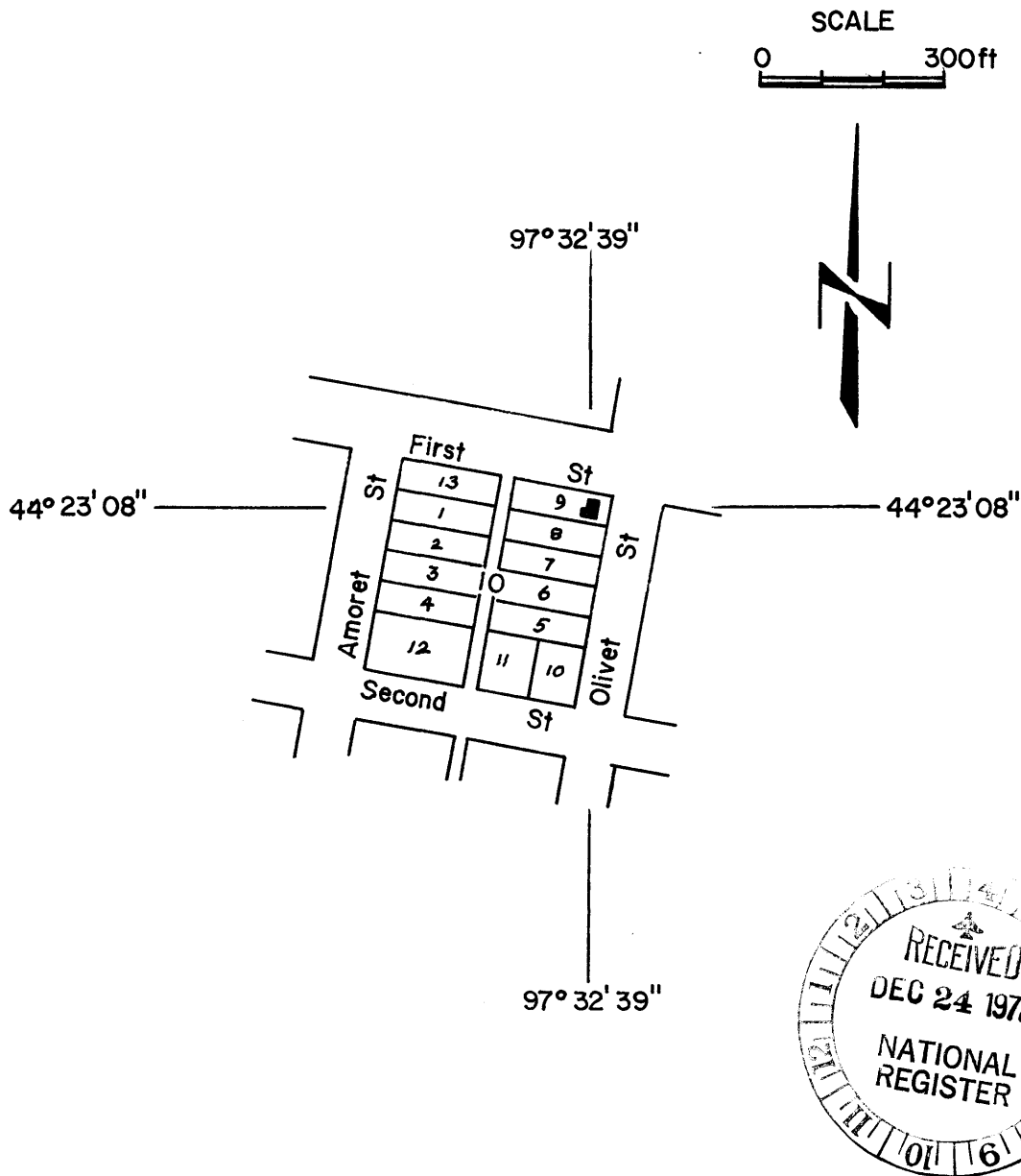
Date: *3/20/73*

ATTEST:  
*[Signature]*  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: *3-13-73*

Lot numbered (9), of Block numbered (10), Western Town  
Lot Company's Addition to the City of De Smet, in  
Kingsbury County, South Dakota

Township No. 111  
North, Range No. 56  
West of the 5" Principal  
Meridian, South Dakota



Note: Longitude and Latitude correct to the nearest two seconds

SOURCE: Model Rural Development Program, Watertown, South Dakota