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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form

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This form is used for documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Complete each item by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

_X_ New Submission _ _ Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Rural Architectural and Historical Resources of Brown County, South Dakota

B. Associated Historic Contexts

(Name each associated historic context, identifying theme, geographical area, and chronological period for each.)

Rural Education in Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945)
Rural Social Organizational Halls in Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945)
Religion in Rural Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945)
Agriculture in Rural Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945)

C. Form Prepared by

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D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archaeology and Historic Preservation. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

SHPO — 5-16-95

Signature and title of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Linda McClelland — 7/6/95

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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E. Statement of Historic Contexts

The Multiple Property Documentation "Rural Architectural and Historical Resources of Brown County, South Dakota" will discuss four historic contexts related to the rural resources of the county. The contexts included in this documentation include: Rural Education in Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945); Rural Social Organizational Halls in Rural Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945); Religion in Rural Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945) and Agriculture of Rural Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945).

Settlement of Brown County

As a result of a bill, introduced by Senator Pettigrew, to establish counties in the unpopulated portions of Dakota Territory, Brown County was first delineated on a territorial map in 1872. Brown County is located in the northeast part of the state of South Dakota, and the county was named for Alfred Brown, a fellow territorial legislator from Bon Homme County, South Dakota (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 23). The township lines of the county were also platted in 1872, but it was not until settlers from the east rushed for gold in the Black Hills in 1877 that the first squatters/settlers established themselves in Brown County a year later (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 26-29). The townships were surveyed in 1879 and opened for claim in 1880. From the onset, settlers established themselves in all townships of the county. The first village to be organized in the county, which was actually established in 1879 just prior to the county being organized, was the village of Columbia located in the center of the county (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 39). Within the county, both the villages of Columbia and Aberdeen fought for the right to become the county seat. Prior to a vote in 1890 declaring Aberdeen the county seat, the county offices had been moving back and forth between the two villages (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 71-73). In the 1880s a network of township roads were developed in the county, but the roads remained, for the large part, unsurfaced until the 1930s when gravel or concrete surfaces covered the dirt roads (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 395).

The settlement of Brown County was encouraged by travelers from the eastern United States seeking gold in the Black Hills, but was also as a result of the platting of railroad routes through the county. The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad reached Aberdeen on 6 July 1881, and a few years later additional lines including the Great Northern Railway and the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railway were established. The railroad lines met in Aberdeen and the city became known as the "Hub City." Along the new railroad lines towns quickly established and served the communities of farmers by providing goods and services (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 384-388). A number of the towns in Brown County were platted following the establishment of railroad lines in the area, including Mansfield, Nahon, Warner and Plana. Some towns rapidly increased in size as a result of the platting of the railroad through the town including Bath and Aberdeen. As a result, a majority of the towns in Brown County are located along one or more major railroad lines.

The railroad brought with it a large number of settlers to Brown County. Prior to the establishment of railroad lines within the county, the population of the county totaled 353 people in 1880. The first railroad lines were laid in 1881, by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad with others quickly following, and as a result the population of the county grew to 12,241 by 1885. This period known as the "Great Dakota Boom," continued for the next few years and then the growth of the county increased and decreased at a more stable pace (*South Dakota Legislative Manual,* 1903, 160).

Settlers to Brown County came from both neighboring states and foreign countries. American-born settlers came to Brown County largely from Missouri, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Minnesota and other Midwestern states. The largest ethnic groups to settle in the county included Germans, Norwegians and Swedes. Often ethnic groups would settle among each other and form a town. For example, many Welsh settlers located themselves near Plana and a number of Germans established themselves in Warner, Highland and New Hope (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 337-340). The railroad establishment in Brown County encouraged continued settlement of the area, especially of immigrants. The Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad continued to offer reduced fares for immigrants into the 1920s and 1930s (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 388).

Brown County's settlement was encouraged by its fertile farmland and agriculture continued to be the main industry of the county throughout its establishment and development. Helped by favorable weather and strong crop yields, people continued to settle in Brown County and the population increased by sixty percent from 1900 to 1910 with a total population of 25,867 in 1910, increasing to 31,458 people in 1930 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 389 and *Fifth Census of the State of South Dakota 1935,* 21). The population of the county fluctuated slightly, but remained stable through the 1950s, when the population totalled 32,543 (*Sixth Census of the State of South Dakota 1945*, 18).

Context 1: Rural Education in Brown County, South Dakota (1858 -1945)

Associated State Historic Contexts
IV. Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement (1858-Present)
E. Government and Education - Related Activities (1861-Present)

Education in South Dakota

Prior to 1865, there were no organized school districts in the state of South Dakota. Private schools had been established throughout the state, but public schools did not have their beginnings until the appointment of James S. Foster of New York, as the territorial Superintendent of Public Schools in August of 1864 (Schell 1975, 102). Foster, who had been involved in the educational system in New York, brought experience to South Dakota and led the efforts to establish public schools. Naturally, as the number of settlers in the state dramatically increased, so did the number of schools. At the time of statehood in 1889, South Dakota had 1,300 school districts, about half of which were township units. With each new settlement, a new school district was created. In 1883, the township district was established "to supplement the earlier common school district" (Bureau of Field Studies and Survey 1959, 3). Under the legislation school districts coincided with civil township boundaries allowing for several rural schools to be governed under one jurisdiction. The legislation creating the township district was replaced with new legislation in 1905, 1907 and 1913 which formed special township high school districts and independent consolidated school districts (Bureau of Field Studies and Survey 1959, 4). In 1907, the total number of

public schools in South Dakota had reached about 4,000, the majority of which were small rural schools (Erpsted and Wood, u.d., 7:1).

Schoolhouse buildings became the center of community life in many of the rural areas of the state and Brown County. In addition to classes, the buildings were used for concerts, plays, meeting space for various organizations and even church services. By 1931, there were 3,449 public school districts in the state (*Planning Schools for Brown County,* 3) and the depression of the 1930s demonstrated the need for increased state aid to public schools (Schell 1975, 310). Prior to this time, the financial support of public schools had come from local sources, primarily property taxes (Schell 1975, 309). In 1951, legislation called for school district reorganization, but by 1955 the measures were repealed and County Boards of Education were established (Schell 1975, 310).

Education in Rural Brown County

The first school district was organized in Brown County at Rondell in 1880, and the following year, two more districts were organized in the county (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 403). In 1881, the first schoolhouse in the county was built near the future town of Putney. The school was built by Hardy Campbell, who was also the founder of the town of Putney (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 403).

In 1882, the county superintendent reported that there were twenty-four school districts and ten of these had built schoolhouses. One of the earliest schools within the county was constructed in the town of Bath for the Bath Township School District in 1882. A bond issue appropriating $1,500 for the new school passed in January and by September the school building was opened (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 414). By the following spring, eleven additional school districts were established (mostly around a single school). Within the thirty-five districts, thirty-six rural schoolhouses in the county were teaching 1,145 children, and twenty-six of the schools had been constructed within the last year (1883) (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 404).

The early school districts were altered in 1883 when the territorial legislature passed a law providing for a township system of school organization (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 404). The legislation called for the school district to coincide with the civil township boundaries allowing for several rural schools to be governed under one jurisdiction. At the time, Brown County was divided into twenty-seven township districts.

In 1885, the number of rural schools in Brown County increased to forty-two, serving as facilities for 1,145 students, and the following year (1886) the number of rural schools dramatically increased to 106. The number of rural schools continued to grow and in 1893, there were 160 schoolhouses. Within the next two years, five additional rural schools were constructed in Brown County (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 409).

The township division of school districts did not last long in South Dakota, for by 1891 the state legislature argued that township districts could be divided if a majority of the residents signed a petition, but quickly the law was changed to require a vote. The twenty-seven rural school districts in Brown County were divided over the years, and by the 1940s there were seventy-one school districts operating seventy schools (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 406).

The rural school system remained strong in Brown County through the 1930s, but by the 1940s rural teachers were not as prepared as their predecessors and parents were demanding better teachers. As a result, a lack of qualified teachers forced some rural schools to close. The situation became so serious that by the 1950s, school district reorganization began to be discussed, and this caused the demise of the rural schools. In 1952 the Brown County District Reorganization Committee was chosen to evaluate the situation and the committee recommended a consolidation to ten school districts. The plan was approved by the Department of Public Instruction and the transition began. In 1959, the number of one-teacher common schools in the county had decreased to forty-eight and the number of two-teacher common schools was only five ("Master Plan of Reorganization," 38). By 1970 all rural schools in Brown County were closed (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 413).

Architecture of Rural Brown County Schools

Rural schools in Brown County were often vernacular form buildings of frame construction, although brick construction was not uncommon. Prior to the turn of the century, the rural schools in the county were often frame buildings with one-room, a rectangular plan, and a gable roof (Erpsted and Wood u.d., 7:1). But following 1900, the schoolhouses were often frame buildings with one to one-and-a-half stories, a square plan, hipped roofs and the inclusion of basements became more common (Erpsted and Wood u.d., 7:2).

In many of the small communities the first schools were often one-room frame buildings, and as the number of students and size of the community increased, larger, sometimes brick buildings replaced the earlier schoolhouses. For example, the town of Groton's first school was a frame building, which was replaced by a two-story brick schoolhouse and in 1935 this building was torn down and replaced by an even larger brick building (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 414).

The plans of the schoolhouses were often based on standard plan books for rural schools, common in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. By the twentieth century, the plan books, which had largely been commercial publications, were being used by state and federal educators (Gulliford 1984, 194). The idea was fostered that a proper environment led to an increase in learning. Thus, the use of standard plans allowed for the design of a proper health and educational environment in the rural schools. Areas of concern often dealt with health issues of the school children, including proper lighting, ventilation and heat.

With the use of standardized plans, the schools, although still largely vernacular in form, displayed more stylistic elements. Elements of the Craftsman Style, for example, commonly evident in standard plans are low pitched hipped roofs, overhanging eaves with exposed rafter ends, and multiple pane windows and doors.

In the state of South Dakota, legislation was passed in 1907 that required all plans for new schools to be approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (*Eleventh Biennial Report 1912,* 151). Often urban schools were designed by a builder or an architect, but rural schools generally were not and the use of standard plans could

ensure the quality of the environment of the schools. This requirement, in addition to further suggestions and standard plans presented in the *Eleventh Biennial Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of South Dakota, July 1,1910 - June 30,1912,* helped to ensure the quality of the schoolhouses erected in rural areas of South Dakota.

Surveys of Brown County undertaken from 1984 to 1992 identified twenty-seven extant rural schools in the county. Not all the schools retain sufficient integrity to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Twenty of the schools were one-story frame structures, with either a gable, hip, jerkinhead or combination gable-hip or gable-shed roof. Although less common, a total of seven rural brick schools remain in the county. Five of the schools are two-stories with a hipped or a flat roof, one school is one-and-a-half stories with a flat roof and one school is one-story with a flat roof. The dates of construction for the extant schools range from the 1880s through the 1920s, with the largest number of schools dating from the period of 1900 to 1920s. The growth of schools during this period coincides with the population increase of the county.

F. Associated Property Types

For the context of "Rural Education in Brown County (1858-1945)" the associated property types would include any buildings, sites and structures related to rural education in Brown County from 1880 to 1945. Property types to be considered eligible for the National Register would likely include schools, teacher housing, and related outhouses. The potentially eligible buildings should have been constructed during the historic period from 1880 to 1945. To qualify for registration the schoolhouses and teacher housing should retain a rural setting, and the form, materials and style should reflect their period of construction and retain a high degree of physical integrity.

Schoolhouses eligible would include both one-room schools, two-room schools and larger schools both of frame and brick construction. In addition to schools, one example of teacher housing was identified in the survey. A teachers house was constructed in the town of Barnard, circa 1910, by joining two gable schools moved onto the site. The property need not be an exceptional example of a schoolhouse or teacher housing because of the scarcity of the surviving rural educational resources within the county, but should retain sufficient integrity of design. The resource also

does not need to retain its historic function to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property can be eligible for the National Register under Criterion A: for its historical association with education in rural Brown County, Criterion B: for an association with a notable person, and or Criterion C: for its architectural significance within the county.

Context 2: Rural Social Organizational Halls in Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945)

Associated State Historic Contexts:
V. Depression and Rebuilding (1893-1929)
D. Social Organizational Halls
VI. The Great Depression (1929-1941)

In Brown County, various social organizational groups established themselves in the small rural towns at the turn of the century. Some of the groups were organized along religious or ethnic ties, but others in relation to a common set of principles and rituals. The organizations active in Brown County included the Modern Woodmen of America, International Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), the Masons, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Modern Brotherhood of America, Degree of Honor, the Maccabees, the King's Daughters and Sons, Royal Neighbors and the Knights of Pythias. The numerous groups, established for a variety of reasons, were important institutions to their communities both socially and philanthropically.

The establishment of lodges of fraternal organizations was popular in newly formed communities of Brown County, often because many residents had migrated from communities with lodges and an established social system. Therefore, as they moved to Brown County the new residents quickly established lodges of their former fraternal organizations and most towns in Brown County had at least one fraternal organization. The Masons and Odd Fellows were two of the most popular organizations in the county, however, other organizations included the Modern Woodmen of America and Workmen lodges (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 147). Additional fraternal organizations established in Brown County included the Ancient Order of United Workmen in Frederick (1896), Verdon (1908) and Groton; the Modern Brotherhood of America in Frederick (1903); the Degree of Honor in Frederick (1903) and Groton; the Maccabees in Plana and Groton; the King's Daughters and Sons in Rondell and Stratford (1918); the Royal Neighbors in Claremont (1930); and the Knights of Pythias in Groton (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 149). The organizations held formal meetings and membership events and participated in benevolent causes in the community. The lodges also supported/organized social events for members and the community, such as dances, dinners and card parties. The groups often raised money and supported

the construction of a meeting hall or a building with a meeting space and business rentals on the lower level. Often other social groups in the community would rent out the meeting space in the hall. The enrollment and participation in the local community lodges decreased as travel opportunities increased thus allowing easier access to social events, for example those available in the nearby county seat of Aberdeen. Also, the depression of the 1930s led to a decrease in attendance and by World War II many of the lodges were disbanding (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 149).

IOOF and Masons

Both the International Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) and the Masons first originated in England and the first Free Mason lodge established itself in the United States in 1733 (Schmidt 1980, 122). As the earliest fraternal group in the United States, the Free Masons served as a model for many other future organizations (Schmidt 1980, 122). The earliest Odd Fellows Lodge was established in Baltimore in 1802. Both these organizations held meetings, secret rituals, as well as social and benevolent events for its members. The IOOF was the first organization to offer financial support for its members, such as relief to the sick, orphans and aid in the burial of deceased members. The IOOF flourished in the United States from 1830 to 1895, during which period 2,012,840 members had been initiated (Schmidt 1980, 244). The growth of the Odd Fellows increased across the country, as well as membership in other fraternal organizations, and by 1915 IOOF membership reached 3,400,000. The decline of all fraternal organizations occurred in the twentieth century and by 1978 the membership of the Odd Fellows had decreased to 243,000 (Schmidt 1980, 245).

The International Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) established the first fraternal lodge in Brown County in the town of Frederick in June 1882 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 147). The Odd Fellows also established lodges in Groton in 1883, Warner in 1889, Verdon in circa 1905, and Hecla and Stratford in circa 1910. The Odd Fellows also had a sister organization known as the Rebekahs Lodge which was established in the communities of Frederick, Groton and Hecla.

The Masons, also a popular organization throughout the county, and the earliest lodge in Brown County, was established in Groton in 1884. Other lodges were established in

the communities of Frederick in 1886, Claremont in 1888, Warner in 1891 and Stratford in 1910 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 148).

Modern Woodmen of America

The Modern Woodmen of America (MWA) was organized as a fraternal assessment society on January 5, 1883 by Joseph Cullen Root. Root first formed the society in Lyons, Iowa, with the intentions to "clear away problems of financial security for the members' families" (Schmidt 1980, 218-219). Ironically, Root was expelled from the society because of a feud with the order's head physician. The society's motto is *Esto Perpetua* and the emblem consisted of an axe, beetle (mallet), wedge, five stars, and branches of palm (Schmidt 1980, 219). The society originally restricted membership to low-risk members and therefore excluded those living in large urban centers and those in the following professions, "railroad brakemen, firemen, engineers, switchmen, miners, employees in gun powder factories, wholesalers and manufacturers of liquor, saloon keepers, bartenders, balloonists, sailors on lakes and seas, plow grinders, brass workers, and professional baseball players" (Schmidt 1980, 219). The society originally also banned women, but in 1895 a womans group was organized, Royal Neighbors of America. The society participated in a number of benevolence activities, largely on a local level and as part of the insurance scheme which included an orphan benefit program providing monthly income and scholarships to young MWA members.

The Modern Woodmen of America established chapters in Frederick in 1894, in Mansfield in 1899, in Stratford in 1900, in Ferney in 1905, in Verdon in 1908 and also the towns of Plana, Barnard, Bath and Groton (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 148-149).

Architecture of Social Organizational and Community Halls

Social organizational halls and community halls, both public and private, were common in most communities of Brown County by 1920 (Erpsted and Wood u.d., 10:13). Most of the social groups organized as lodges and built private halls, largely between the late 1890s to the early twentieth century (Erpsted and Wood u.d., 10:13). Often the early

halls were designed as part of shared spaces in a building, with various businesses often on the first level and meeting rooms and ballrooms on the second level. The two-story fraternal halls and single-story halls were located in the central business districts of each community.

Individual communities also often established community halls to host social and entertainment activities such as dances and roller skating. The buildings were usually located in the prominent commercial center of the town and thus, they were centrally located to allow many people easy access.

Surveys of rural Brown County between 1984 and 1992 identified five extant fraternal and social organizational halls. Two halls were constructed by the Modern Woodmen of America, including a hall in Mansfield (1899) and a hall in Claremont (1928). In the town of Stratford, an Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Lodge that was constructed in 1900 remains extant. Two community halls also remain extant in the county, one in Barnard and one in the community of Westport. Brown Hall in Barnard, erected in 1893 as the Oneota Township Hall, was moved in 1911 near the railroad where it has continuously functioned as a community meeting place (Survey Form #0012190). The community hall erected in the town of Westport in 1936, was constructed to replace the first town hall that burned in the early 1930s (Survey Form #0015009).

Four of the extant halls in Brown County display frame construction, with one exception being the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Lodge in Stratford constructed of brick. The frame buildings are one and one-and-a-half stories with gabled and hipped roofs. Four of the five buildings also display a boom town false front facade. The potential eligibility of all the identified social halls is questionable based on issues of physical integrity.

The Westport Community Hall, constructed in 1936, is a one-story frame building with clapboard walls, concrete foundation and gable roof. The building has a boom town false front facade and displays a brick chimney and six-over-six double hung windows. The Modern Woodmen of America Hall in Mansfield, constructed in 1899, is a one-story frame building displaying a gable roof, clapboard walls and a boom town false front facade. The Woodmen Hall in Claremont, constructed in 1928, is a one-and-a-half story, hipped roof, frame building that has been altered with the addition of stucco to the exterior walls.

In contrast to the other halls erected, the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Lodge in Stratford features brick construction with a concrete foundation and shed roof. The building, located on Main Street, was built circa 1900 and also displays a false front.

F. Associated Property Types

For the context of "Social and Organizational Halls in Brown County (1858-1945)" the associated property types would include any buildings, sites and structures related to social and organizational groups in Brown County from 1899-1945. Property types to be considered eligible would include any buildings constructed by or in association with social and fraternal organizations and community halls erected for social purposes. Properties can be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under one or more of the following criterion; Criterion A for their historical significance and association with social and organizational halls in Brown County; Criterion B for an associated with a notable person that has made contributions to the social and fraternal organizations in Brown County; and/or under Criterion C for architectural significance and craftsmanship.

Common social and fraternal halls in rural Brown County, South Dakota are one and two-story frame structures, often located in the commercial area of a village. To qualify for registration the property does not need to retain its historic function. The buildings need to retain integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, materials and association in order to meet eligibility requirements of the National Register. It is not necessary for the property to be an exceptional example of the property type because of the scarcity of the surviving property type resources of the county.

Context 3: Religion in Rural Brown County (1858-1945)

Associated State Historic Contexts:

IV. Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement (1858-present)
H. Religion (1858-present)

By 1890, twelve religious groups had established themselves in the state of South Dakota, among them the Catholics were the largest group, closely followed by the Lutherans, then Congregationalists and Methodists (Schell 1975, 390). The first religious service in Brown County was held on June 27, 1880, when Father Haire said Catholic mass the first year of the county's settlement, and the next year the first Catholic church was constructed as a sod building (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 115). All of the major denominations established congregations in Brown County between 1881 and 1884. The establishment of the congregations was closely aligned to the completion of the first railroad to Aberdeen in 1881, bringing a period of significant population growth to the county. The county's settlers included members of seven denominations including Methodists, Lutherans, Presbyterians, Catholics, Episcopalians, Congregationalists and Baptists, with the Methodists and the Lutherans having the largest number of congregations throughout the county. Settlers were quick to form congregations in their new homes, sometimes even before their towns were established, and quickly after the establishment of the congregation often came the construction of a church building. In areas where the congregations may have been small it was not uncommon for two related denominations to share church facilities.

Herbert S. Schell, South Dakota historian, notes that "South Dakota's religious life has been strongly influenced by its immigrants. It has been estimated that about half of the state's churches were established by foreign groups" (Schell 1975, 389). The immigrant population in South Dakota was about one-third of the white population in 1890 with a majority of the immigrants coming from western Europe and just less than one-fourth came from central Europe (Schell 1975, 387-388). In South Dakota, the Germans were a prevalent immigrant group throughout the state and the Scandinavians, composed of Norwegians, Swedes and Danes accounted for about one-third of the immigrants (Schell 1975, 388). With the settlement of Brown County

came a number of groups from various ethnic backgrounds, bringing with them traditions and diverse religious beliefs. Religion, closely tied to beliefs and traditions brought from the homeland, became an important part of the settlers life and they quickly established congregations and constructed church buildings. The Lutherans and Presbyterians represented the strongest ethnic ties in Brown County, perhaps because they were first generation immigrants to the United States. A group of Scandinavian settlers organized and established St. James Lutheran Church in Gem township in 1881, and they were joined by Finnish Lutherans who established churches in Frederick and Portage townships. The Presbyterian Church in Plana was formed by a group of Welsh in 1887, and even the name of the church, " Welsh Presbyterian Church," reflected the strong ethnic and religious ties.

Methodists

The Methodist denomination was founded in eighteenth century England to espouse ~~to~~ the principles and practices by John Wesley, an Anglican revivalist. The denomination came to America with Irish immigrants and the Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in Baltimore in 1784 (Wyatt, Vol.3, 14-1). In 1799 the Church exhibited about 61,000 members and 272 clergy members with increased growth to about 4.5 million members and 20,000 clergy by 1920 (Wyatt, Vol.3, 14-1). The Methodists were well represented in Brown County, establishing ten separate congregations before 1900, all of which constructed church buildings for their services.

The first Methodist services in the county began in the city of Bath in 1881, in a local hotel, moving to a store and depot prior to the construction of a church in 1886 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 116). The first church, destroyed by a tornado in 1944, was replaced with the former Methodist Church building from the city of Putney (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 116).

In 1882, two additional Methodist congregations were established in the towns of Mansfield and Frederick, respectively. The congregation in Mansfield grew to a membership of 103 in 1885, and by 1910 the church merged with the Presbyterians in town (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 116-117). The Methodist church in the town of Frederick was formed in 1882, the same

year the town was established. By 1886 a community church was erected in Frederick to serve both the Methodist and Lutheran congregations in town (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 117).

Between 1883 and 1887 Methodist congregations continued to be established in the county as towns were formed. A congregation was established in Detroit in 1883, and the community constructed a frame church the following year with the help of funds from the Church Extension Society. Although the town was abandoned by 1886, the church building was sold to the Evangelical Free Church of Webster in 1892 and moved to the town of Webster (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 117). The congregation in Putney was also able to construct a church with the aid of the Methodist Extension Board in 1887. The building, used until the 1930s, was sold to the Methodists in Bath (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 119). A Methodist Episcopal Church was established in 1884 in the village of Groton, and the congregation constructed its first church in 1897, replacing it with a brick building in 1911 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 118). Methodist congregation in Claremont was formed in 1886 and by 1908 the settlers erected a church building, which is currently being used as a museum (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 118-119 and Survey Form #0000977).

Other Methodist congregations and early churches in Brown County were established in Oneota (1888), Hecla (1892) with the construction of a church in 1900, and Liberty (1900) with the construction of a community church in 1908 in conjunction with the Lutherans (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society, 119-120).

The active congregations in Brown County include: Bath United Methodist Church in Bath; Frederick Methodist Church in Frederick; and Hecla United Methodist Church in Hecla and the Methodist Church in Claremont. Of the original ten Methodist churches in rural Brown County, only four are extant. While three are still being used for services, the Claremont church, which was replaced with a modern building, currently serves as a museum.

Lutherans

The Lutheran Church is a denomination of Protestantism based on the sixteenth century doctrines of Martin Luther. The first permanent Lutherans to settle in America were a group of Dutch on Manhattan Island (1623), followed by a group of Swedes in Delaware (1638), and in the eighteenth century a large number of Lutheran Germans settled in Pennsylvania. The Lutheran denomination, strongly prevalent in Brown County, is closely aligned with a variety of ethnic groups, including Scandinavians and Germans.

The first Lutheran Church in Brown County was established by a group of Scandinavian settlers, in Gem township, which organized St. James Lutheran Church in 1881. In 1892 the congregation joined the group in Bath and formed the Scandinavia Lutheran Church. Their first church building was constructed in 1896 and in 1925 the church was moved across the road and remodeled (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 122).

The Finnish Lutherans organized near Frederick in June of 1884 and officially organized in 1887 as the Apostolic Lutheran Church of Savo (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 124). The congregation moved across state lines to North Dakota and the early church building has been used as a museum. Another Finnish Lutheran church, the Savo Evangelical Lutheran Church, was organized in December of 1884 and their first church was built in 1888 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 124-125). A third Finnish Lutheran church was established in Portage township in 1887 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 125).

The Trinity Lutheran Church of Houghton, organized as the Norwegian Lutheran Church in 1884, and the same year, the Augustana Lutheran Church south of Claremont was organized (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 125). Norwegians also settled southeast of Frederick and organized the Aurland United Norwegian Lutheran Church by 1885 and twelve years later they constructed a church which was a replica of a church in the homeland of Aurland, Norway (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 125).

Over the years, as settlement increased so did the number of Lutheran congregations in Brown County. The first Missouri Synod Lutheran Church was established in the town of James in July of 1882 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 122). A year later, the town of Frederick organized the Grunseth Lutheran Church in 1883, renamed St. Paul's Lutheran Church in 1905 when the congregation was reorganized. In 1883, Lutherans were also meeting with missionaries in both West Hanson and Warner. The congregation in Warner disbanded for a few years, but was reestablished in 1898 as St. John's Lutheran Church (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 122-123). The congregation in West Hanson was officially organized by 1888 as St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 122). As early as 1887, Lutherans in the Columbia area began holding services and after joining with the congregation from Hecla, separated to form a separate congregation in 1917 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 126). Nine churches were organized in the county between 1888 and 1911. They include St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Highland township (1888); the German Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Church of Ferney (1900); St. John's Lutheran Missions Church in Groton (1893); St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Liberty (1908); the Lutheran Church of Randolph (1911); St. John's Lutheran Church of Hecla (1908); St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Stratford (1907); the First Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Groton (1907); and the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church west of Mansfield in New Hope township (1886) (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 126-128).

Eight Lutheran churches remain extant in the rural areas of Brown County. Churches can still be found in the following communities: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mina, Highland township; St. John's Lutheran Church in Warner; Scandinavia Lutheran Church in Bath; St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Stratford; Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Church in Frederick; Aurland United Norwegian Lutheran Church in Frederick; Augustana Swedish Lutheran Church in Claremont; St. John's Lutheran Church in Columbia and the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church in Frederick. At the time of survey (1984-1992) all these buildings were still being actively used as churches, with the exception of the Aurland United Norwegian Lutheran Church in Frederick which was vacant.

Presbyterians

American Presbyterianism can trace its roots to Scottish, Scotch-Irish and English Presbyterianism. In 1882, the first Presbyterians services were held in Brown County in the village of Frederick. In the same year Welsh settlers in Plana formed their own congregation, and by 1887 had constructed a frame church. Three other Presbyterian congregations were established in Brown County including the Warner Presbyterian Church in 1887, the First Presbyterian Church of Stratford in 1906 and the First Presbyterian Church of Groton in 1881. In the Mansfield area a Presbyterian Church was also established in 1905, but since Mansfield is located in both Brown and Spink counties, the church is actually located in Spink County (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 131-132).

During the surveys of Brown County from 1984-1992 two extant Presbyterian churches were identified. The Welsh Presbyterian Church was constructed in Plana in 1887, and the First Presbyterian Church of Stratford was constructed in 1909 .

Catholics

Six Catholic Churches and congregations were established in Brown County from the 1880s to the early twentieth century. The first church was established in Columbia, soon after settlement of the county. The second parish, St. John the Baptist Church, was established in Groton in 1882, and the congregation did not build a church until 1907-1908 when it received its first resident priest (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 129). St. Frederick's Catholic Church, the third parish in the county, was started by eight Catholic families in the Frederick area in 1883, that also supported the construction of a church the same year (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 129). The Sacred Heart Catholic Church was organized in Westport, soon after the town began in the late 1880s. The last Catholic congregation to establish in Brown County was located in Highland township in 1914, but since this was such a small congregation the members joined St. Mary's in Aberdeen in 1930 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 129-131). The rural survey of Brown County, (1984-1992), identified only one extant Catholic church, the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Westport, constructed in 1914.

Additional Denominations in Brown County

Other denominations in the county, although not represented in large numbers, include an Episcopalian congregation which formed the Trinity Episcopal Church in Groton in 1883; the First Congregational Church of Columbia, incorporated in 1883, and the first church, which served both Columbia and Houghton, was built in 1887 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 133); Baptists formed congregations in Frederick, Franklyn and Highland township between 1883-1900.

F. Associated Property Types

The property types associated with the historic context "Religion in Brown County (1858-1945)" would typically include churches, parsonages, outhouses and outbuildings. To qualify, the buildings and structures needed to historically relate to the context of religion within the county and be constructed within the historic period from 1858 to 1945. The buildings and structures are potentially eligible if they retain integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. In accordance with the criteria established for the National Register of Historic Places, the properties, since they are owned or used by religious institutions, are eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places only under Criterion C for architectural significance. Thus, the properties must gain their eligibility from their architectural character or method of construction, but the properties do not need to retain their historic function to be eligible.

The majority of the buildings identified in the surveys of Brown County from 1988 to 1992 were churches constructed between 1883 and 1922. All of the eighteen extant churches identified in the surveys of rural Brown County were one and one-and-a-half story frame structures, with a gable roof. The majority of the churches were vernacular form buildings, but a number contain elements of the Gothic Revival Style and the Classical Revival Style, as well as steeples and bell towers.

The churches constructed by the various denominations in Brown County represent both frame and brick construction methods and vernacular form buildings, as well as those with stylistic features. To date a number of churches have been individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places for their architectural significance. The Trinity Episcopal Church in Groton, listed on the National Register of Historic Places on January 27, 1983, is a one-story frame building constructed in the Gothic Revival Style and displays board and batten walls, lancet arch and stained glass windows. The Aurland United Norwegian Lutheran Church in Frederick (1903-1905), individually listed on the National Register on April 16, 1982, is a one-story frame building with a gable roof, with an interior decoration displaying Gothic elements in the altar and accompanying furniture. A third church in the county to be individually listed is the Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Church in Frederick. The one-story, frame church, constructed in 1884, was listed on the National Register on May 31, 1984, as a well preserved example of a Finnish vernacular religious structure. Lastly, the Augustana Swedish Lutheran Church, constructed in the town of Claremont in 1899, is a large frame church building with both Gothic Revival and Classical Revival features. The church was individually listed on the National Register on December 20, 1988 for both its architectural significance and its ethnic significance.

Religion and its institutions has played an important role in Brown County from the time of its settlement. Congregations of all denominations were quickly formed in the county as settlers made their new homes, and with these new congregations the construction of churches closely followed and most of the established denominations in Brown County, remain as active congregations today (1995). In Brown County a number of resources remain, primarily churches, which are related to the context of religion. The potential eligibility of these properties for the National Register of Historic Places must be determined by the architectural significance and historic integrity of the properties.

Context 4: Agriculture in Rural Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945)

Associated State Historic Contexts

IV. Permanent Rural and Urban Pioneer Settlement (1858 - present)
- C. Permanent Farm and Ranch Settlement (1858-1893)
  - 1. Farm Settlement

V. Depression and Rebuilding (1893-1929)
- E. Changing Rural Patterns and Impact of New Farm Technologies
  - 1. Pattern Book Structures
  - 2. Rural Industries and Agribusiness

VI. The Great Depression (1929-1941)

Brown County, located in the central lowlands of northeastern South Dakota, is land consisting largely of flat to gently rolling hills originally covered by tall to medium height grasses. Thus, the land east of the Missouri River, in South Dakota, became known for its agricultural and high crop potential. The first large group of settlers came to Dakota from 1878 to 1887. The Aberdeen Land Office in Brown County was opened on October 1, 1882 and nearly 1,000 entries were filed that same day (Fite 1985, 11). From 1868 to 1890, 39,442 farmers in the state made their final homestead entries and gained title to their land, which was a valuable commodity to acquire because it quickly increased in value (Fite 1985, 11). Land east of the Missouri River was settled first, and it was not until land agreements were made with the Sioux that the area west of the Missouri was open for settlement. Land conditions, west of the Missouri, were not as fertile as those to the east and thus, ranching became more popular than crop production in the western part of the state (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 12-13).

Brown County, typical of other counties east of the Missouri, was largely settled during the latter half of the first Dakota Boom, from 1880 to 1890. The railroad companies played a role in the settlement and agricultural development of the state by distributing brochures and pamphlets that described the state's favorable crop and climatic conditions. The first wheat crop was harvested in 1880 and the production of agricultural crops became the livelihood for most settlers. (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 89). The number of settlers reached 8,000 in the county by 1883 and the number of farms was as high as 2,441 by 1885 (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 89-90).

Most settlers involved in farming were operating small farms in which they invested almost everything back into their property (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 15). As agriculture continued to be an important industry for the state of South Dakota, institutions such as the State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts, established in 1887, as well as the first Territorial Fair in 1885 aided the promotion of farming as a profession (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 17). The platting of the railroad through the state and county also helped with the dissemination of information and the promotion of agricultural education throughout the area (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 22). With the invention of new farm machinery such as endgate seeders, corn planters, drills, binders, threshers and gang plows in the 1880s, farmers were able to plant more acres than before (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 16). Wheat was the main crop produced in the early farming days of the county and served to be profitable until the droughts of the late nineteenth century.

Agriculture was hit hard in the 1890s as a result of droughts. Major droughts in 1889-1890 and 1894 reduced crop yields and government assistance was needed to help farmers across the state (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 18-19). Drought conditions encouraged the development of irrigation systems, but with little government funding, this solution was not highly feasible. Other solutions to the drought conditions which proved to be feeble were the idea of artificial rain, promised by proposed "rainmakers," and the use of salt, which had been somewhat successful in nearby Minnesota and Wisconsin (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 90-91).

Hardy Webster Campbell, a resident of Brown County, promoted a system of dry farming. He began farming in 1879 and continued his efforts through the drought years. His farming system advocated the use of a packed subsoil and a loose surface mulch. The railroad companies were particularly interested in his efforts and settlement in the county and had him manage demonstration farms along the railroad routes (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 20).

Following the droughts a diversification of crops began to reduce dependence on a single crop. In addition to the growth of crops such as wheat, corn and alfalfa, especially in central and northern South Dakota east of the river, dairying and livestock raising was also begun as diversification efforts (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 18). Even after diversification, wheat remained the predominant crop.

The number of farms in Brown County reached its peak in 1890 with a total of 2,527 farms averaging 274.9 acres, slightly larger that the average farm size for the state at 227 acres. Only five years later, in 1900, the number of farms in the county decreased to 1,921 and the average farm size in South Dakota had increased to 362 acres with successful farmers acquiring land abandoned during the hard times of the droughts (SD Crop, 9; Brooks and Jacon 1994, 19).

The next large wave of settlers came to South Dakota during the period known as the "Second Dakota Boom" from 1902 to 1915. Droughts that continued during some of these years led to an uncertainty of agricultural crops. During the drought of 1911 it was discovered that alfalfa did well and therefore it became a highly valued crop throughout the state (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 21-22). Farmers in Brown County continued to try a variety of crops, including alfalfa, potatoes and sugar beets, as well as new varieties of wheat and other crops, in the search for a grain, grass or crop that could withstand drought and cold and following 1900, the planting of corn was encouraged as a hearty crop. (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 95). Wheat, which had been the major cash crop, was now being raised along with corn, barley, oats, potatoes, alfalfa, brome grass and sweet clover. Dairying began to develop as an industry in the 1910s in an effort to continue to diversify agricultural production (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 24). Farmers also raised hogs, poultry, dairy and beef cattle (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 97).

The demand for food greatly increased as a result of World War I, thus crop prices increased as well as the value of agricultural lands throughout the state. With the end of the war, demands decreased and farm prices collapsed, creating a farm depression. In 1917, the state of South Dakota passed a rural credit law that provided thousands of farmers with low cost loans, but unfortunately the program failed in the 1920s (Fite, 16).

The importance of raising livestock increased in the 1920s, as a result of a livestock shortage. In addition, livestock was a good source of income and was a valuable and profitable asset. Other ventures such as raising pigs and turkeys were also introduced in Brown County during this period (History Committee of Brown County Museum and Historical Society 1980, 103).

Developments in agriculture in the 1920s included new technology leading to improved machinery to help with farming activities. Machinery such as tractors and combines helped with all aspects of the farming process, especially small grain farming. The combine, for example, allowed the farmer to complete the threshing himself and reduced his labor costs. Although combines were available widespread use did not occur until after the Great Depression (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 26). The use of trucks and automobiles on farms also increased during the 1920s, decreasing the overall production time. The hardships, as well as mechanization efforts begun in the 1920s, began forcing the small farmer out of farming. Many small scale farms were unable to afford expensive equipment and could not compete with the larger scale farms that could produce more with less labor. The average farm size increased to about 545 acres by the late 1930s (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 29).

In the 1930s farmers were hit by hard times throughout the state ranging from the Great Depression to drought, dust storms, plagues of grasshoppers and severe winters. The depression was so severe that from 1929 to 1932 the statewide crop revenue dropped from $17 million to $6 million (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 27). As a result of these numerous problems, farm foreclosures were common. During this period of hard times, a number of Federal Relief efforts were enacted to help aid farmers, including grain and seed loans. The Roosevelt Administration enacted the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933 to help raise farm prices to a level equal to that before World War I. Two other agencies, both established in 1935, were initiated to help the farmers including the Soil Conservation Service and the Rural Electrification Administration. The Resettlement Administration, created in 1935 and replaced by the Farm Security Administration in 1937, was also initiated to help farmers. The problems of the thirties finally ended in the early forties when favorable weather conditions brought more moisture and overall farming conditions were improved (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 28-29).

In the 1940s agriculture in the state and county once again focused on helping the war effort, especially through the growth of flax and soybean (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 29). Prosperity was once again possible in this time period, and farmers were able to experiment with new crops, expand operations and improve farming practices with the help of new machinery. Agriculture remained the primary industry in the county and the largest crops were spring wheat (37.3%), corn (21.3%), oats (22.2%) and small grains (16.9%) (SD Crop and Livestock Report, 11).

In 1945, Brown County had 2,096 farms and as the number of farms continued to decrease in the county, the average size of the farms increased (SD Crop and Livestock Report, 4). The 1950s to present day has shown a continuing trend toward larger farms, forcing the number of individual farmers to decrease over the years.

Architecture of Farmsteads in Brown County

Agricultural properties in Rural Brown County include farmsteads and homesteads, grain elevators, grain bins and even a few ranches. Very few homestead houses were identified in the surveys of Brown County between 1984 and 1992, but some of the farmstead land remains in the hands of the relatives of the original homesteaders. A majority of the farmhouses and barns located within the county are of second generation construction dating to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Farmsteads were the most significant agricultural property type identified in Brown County. Typical farmsteads include a large number of outbuildings and structures related to the practices of farming, for example: barns, garages, granaries, machine sheds, silos, Quonsets, chicken coops, corn cribs and outhouses. The form of these outbuildings and structures is largely vernacular and a majority of the buildings display frame construction. Barns identified throughout the county include frame construction with gable, gambrel and jerkinhead roof forms. Also often located on farmsteads are abandoned buildings and structures no longer being used, in addition to buildings and structures moved onto the farm site.

Most farmhouses are second generation houses which are larger and often more elaborate in form and style than the vernacular form first generation house had been. It is not unusual for the first generation or even a homestead house to be extant on a farmstead. These houses could be original to the site or they could have been moved onto the farmstead from a nearby farm. Many of the early farmhouses are vernacular in form with little reference to stylistic details or features. Although many farmstead buildings are devoid of any reference to architectural style, the second generation farmhouses in Brown County often do display architectural styles, including American Foursquare, Craftsman, Dutch Colonial, Queen Anne and Italianate styles. The farmhouses are typically of frame construction with one to two stories.

As early as the 1910s sample farmhouse styles were featured in agricultural experiment station bulletins, and it was not uncommon for farm families to order their houses or plans for houses and outbuildings from one of the many available catalog plans (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 47).

F. Associated Property Types

Property types associated with the historic context "Agriculture of Rural Brown County, 1858-1945" include a number of buildings and structures directly related to farming and agricultural development in Brown County, South Dakota. Agricultural facilities are historically significant for their association with the agricultural development of the state of South Dakota and Brown County. A large number of farm related buildings and structures were constructed throughout the county, as farming served as the major industry, even prior to statehood in 1889. Surveys of rural Brown County from 1984 to 1992 have identified 127 agricultural properties that contribute to the architectural and historical significance of the county and the largest number of agricultural properties included occupied and abandoned farmsteads, including homestead sites.

Property types to be included in this context would include agricultural facilities in rural Brown County, South Dakota located on farmsteads, homesteads, ranches and additional related buildings and structures, for example grain elevators and storage bins. Typical farmsteads in the county would include a farmhouse and numerous related farm outbuildings and structures including, but not limited to barns, silos, garages, chicken coops, granaries, secondary houses, outhouses, grain elevators, sheds and stables. Many of the farm related buildings and structures are vernacular in form and do not depict any particular architectural style. A majority of the buildings and structures display frame construction and are devoid of any particular architectural style. Organizations such as the USDA Midwest Plan Service published standardized plans for farm buildings beginning as early as the 1930s (Brooks and Jacon 1994, 47). The design of farmhouses and associated buildings, for example garages, dating to after the turn of the century often depict architectural styles and features of styles such as the Queen Anne and Craftsman styles. The polygonal shed, found throughout the county, is a distinctive property type associated with the agricultural context.

Ranches and related ranch houses, outbuildings and structures are an associated property type of the agriculture historic context. Additional agricultural property types include homestead houses and their related buildings and structures, in addition to individual properties such as grain elevators and storage bins.

Examples of farmsteads potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places in conjunction with this Multiple Property Nomination include, but are not limited to the Anna Herron Farm in West Hanson Township; the Melchoir Ryman Farm in Warner Township; and the Art Karl Farm in West Gem Township. All three of these farmsteads' main houses, barns and related outbuildings display sufficient integrity of design to be listed on the National Register under Criterion C.

In order to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places the property must relate to the historic context of "Rural Agriculture in Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945)." The construction of the agricultural facility should have been within the historic period from 1858 to 1945. Moved structures are eligible only if they were moved during the historic period. The main buildings, including the residence and barn, of a farmstead or ranch must retain sufficient integrity to be listed. The integrity of the less integral outbuildings of the property are not required to meet National Register standards to be included as resources of the nominated property.

An agricultural facility may be eligible under National Register Criterion A: History, if the facility is related to an agricultural period or event that relates to the agricultural history of Brown County, South Dakota. An agricultural property may be eligible under Criterion B, if the property is associated with the lives of a person significant to the agricultural context of Brown County, South Dakota. An agricultural property may be eligible under Criterion C: Architecture, if the property represents distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or is the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values. Due to a large number of surviving agricultural resources in the county, the property must retain a high degree of integrity of design, location, workmanship, materials, setting, feeling and association to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

G. Geographical Data

All resources of this Multiple Property Documentation Form will be located within the boundaries of Brown County, South Dakota.

H. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

The Multiple Property Listing of "Rural Architectural and Historical Resources of Brown County, South Dakota" is based upon architectural surveys undertaken between 1984 and 1992. The entire area of Brown County was surveyed with the exclusion of Aberdeen and Ordway townships. The surveys of Brown County, South Dakota were conducted by the following firms and individuals: Kurt P. Schweigert of Tellus Consultants, Inc. (1991) completed the northwest quarter of the county; Barbara M. Kooiman and Mary Kay Schmidt of U.S. West Research, Inc. (1992) surveyed the southwest quarter of the county and Brad Tennant of Aberdeen, South Dakota surveyed the northeast quarter of the county in 1988 and the southeast quarter of the county in 1989.

The surveyed properties identified included standing structures throughout the county that retained a sufficient degree of architectural integrity, including those properties which are potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Properties surveyed included only those properties that appeared to be at least fifty years old. Surveyed properties included all property types and resources including, but not limited to residences, farmsteads, schools, churches, recreational areas and commercial buildings. The largest percentage of resources were farmsteads and agricultural related buildings and structures.

The Multiple Property Documentation Form currently outlines four historic contexts: Agriculture in Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945); Education in Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945); Religion in Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945); and Social and Fraternal Organizations in Brown County, South Dakota (1858-1945). Six nominated properties, in association with the four historic contexts, are included with this Multiple Property Nomination as the first phase of nominations. These properties were chosen because they are outstanding representatives of properties within the developed historic contexts.

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