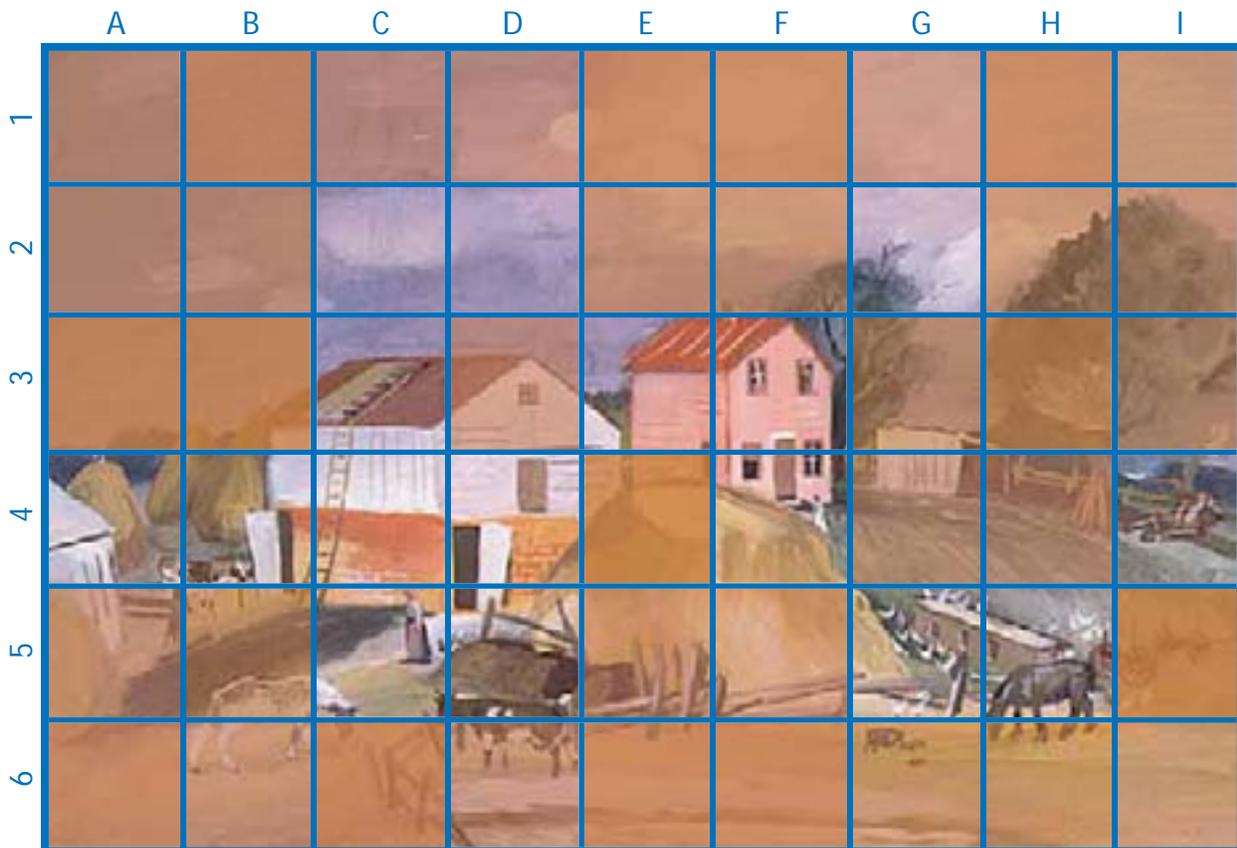


HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

HISTORIC CONTEXT STUDY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS, 1820-1960

Vol 4



prepared for the
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June 30, 2006

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Authorized and funded by the Minnesota Department of Transportation
and the Federal Highway Administration

ABSTRACT

This document is a supplement to the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* completed by Gemini Research for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT). The purpose of the Gemini study was to provide Mn/DOT and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office with a tool for evaluating historic farm resources. The context developed by Gemini Research provides an overview of the history of agricultural development in the state; farm types and farm practices by geographic region; the design and building of farm structures; and the variety of physical elements present on farms. The current study provides guidelines for the identification and National Register evaluation of archaeological resources associated with Minnesota farmsteads within the historical context provided by the Gemini Research study and is meant to be used in conjunction with that report.

On the cover: *Variation on Jukes' Farm* by Cameron Booth, gouache, 1937
(MHS Negative No. 18246)

I think that part of the problem has to do with the failure to consider farms as farms. What I mean is that too many of us seem to think that here is another domestic site from which we should extract some potsherds that we can subject to various analyses that might tell us about social status, supply-and-demand, and urban/rural differences. All of those fields, pastures, and outbuildings are sort of out there but not really relevant—or are they? I say they are, and I say that we need to give a great deal of attention to research issues pertaining to farming.

To move towards an archaeology of farms and farming, we must stop thinking in terms of potsherds and think in terms of landscapes, and to think not just of individual features but of entire feature systems. And we cannot afford to privilege single-component sites over what was truly the more typical farm site—a farm was, and is, really, always a dynamic work-in-progress. And so should be our thinking about the archaeology of farms.

Mary C. Beaudry
Trying to Think Progressively About 19th-Century Farms
Northeast Historical Archaeology Vol. 30-31 (2002):129-142

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
WHY DO FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY?	3
PRIMACY OF AGRICULTURE IN MINNESOTA HISTORY.....	3
LACK OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES OF MINNESOTA FARMS	3
THE SIGNIFICANCE OF FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY SITES.....	4
OBJECTIVES AND METHODS.....	7
OBJECTIVES.....	7
PROJECT SCOPE	7
GEOGRAPHIC AND TEMPORAL LIMITS	7
PROPERTIES	7
METHODS	8
APPROACH.....	8
LITERATURE SEARCH	8
UPDATING THE CONTEXT	9
REPORT STRUCTURE	9
LITERATURE REVIEW: PAST AND PRESENT APPROACHES TO FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY	11
MINNESOTA FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY: WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?.....	11
MINNESOTA SHPO STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS.....	11
NATIONAL REGISTER FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN MINNESOTA	12
MINNESOTA SHPO MANUAL FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS	12
HOW ARE OTHER STATES ADDRESSING FARMSTEAD SITES?.....	13
UPPER MIDWEST STATES	13
STATES IN OTHER REGIONS.....	14
OTHER APPROACHES TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF FARMSTEADS.....	16
COMMON THEMES IN FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY STUDIES.....	18
A RESEARCH FRAMEWORK FOR THE HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS: THE FUTURE	21
A RESEARCH ORIENTED APPROACH TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF FARMS	21
AN HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF FARMSTEADS.....	21
THINKING OF FARMS AS FARMS: AN INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY APPROACH	22
ASKING "QUESTIONS THAT COUNT" OF FARMSTEAD SITES.....	23
RESEARCH THEMES FOR MINNESOTA'S FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY SITES.....	24
LANDSCAPE HISTORY AND FARM DEVELOPMENT	25
FARMSTEAD ECONOMY.....	26
TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE AND ADAPTATION.....	27
SOCIAL GROUP IDENTITY, BEHAVIOR, AND INTERACTION.....	27
RURAL HEALTH AND SANITATION.....	28
RESEARCH PLANS FOR MINNESOTA'S FARMSTEAD SITES BY DEVELOPMENTAL PERIODS.....	31
PERIOD 1: EARLY SETTLEMENT, 1820-1870	33
PERIOD 2: DEVELOPMENT OF A WHEAT MONOCULTURE, 1860-1885	37
PERIOD 3: DIVERSIFICATION AND THE RISE OF DAIRYING, 1875-1900	41
PERIOD 4: INDUSTRIALIZATION AND PROSPERITY, 1900-1920	45
PERIOD 5: DEVELOPING THE CUTOVER, 1900-1940.....	49
PERIOD 6: DEVELOPMENT OF LIVESTOCK INDUSTRIES, 1900-1940.....	53
PERIOD 7: DEPRESSION AND INTERWAR PERIOD, 1920-1940.....	57
PERIOD 8: WORLD WAR II AND THE POSTWAR PERIOD, 1940-1960	61

RESEARCH STATUS OF MINNESOTA'S FARMSTEAD SITES BY FARMING REGION	65
REGION 1: SOUTHEAST DAIRY AND LIVESTOCK.....	67
REGION 2: SOUTH CENTRAL DAIRY AND LIVESTOCK	71
REGION 3: SOUTHWEST LIVESTOCK AND CASH GRAIN	79
REGION 4: WEST CENTRAL LIVESTOCK AND CASH GRAIN	83
REGION 5: EAST CENTRAL DAIRY AND POTATOES	87
REGION 6: NORTHWESTERN DAIRY AND LIVESTOCK	91
REGION 7: RED RIVER VALLEY SMALL GRAIN, POTATOES, AND LIVESTOCK	101
REGION 8: NORTHERN CUTOVER DAIRY, POTATOTES, AND CLOVER SEED.....	105
REGION 9: TWIN CITY SUBURBAN TRUCK, DAIRY, AND FRUIT.....	109
REFERENCES CITED.....	113
APPENDIX A: MINNESOTA FARMSTEAD TEMPORALLY DIAGNOSTIC ELEMENTS	
APPENDIX B: IDENTIFYING AND EVALUATING MINNESOTA FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY SITES	

INTRODUCTION

This research framework for the historical archaeology of farmsteads in Minnesota was prepared during 2005 and 2006 for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) by Two Pines Resource Group, LLC (Two Pines). The purpose of this study is to provide guidelines and criteria for the identification and National Register evaluation of archaeological remains associated with Minnesota's farmsteads. This study is a supplement to the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* prepared by Mn/DOT's consultant Gemini Research and is meant to be used in conjunction with that document (Granger and Kelly 2005a).

Mn/DOT's Cultural Resource Unit (CRU) acts on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in the review of projects that are receiving FHWA funding (including locally sponsored projects) to ensure the compliance of those projects with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. This responsibility includes the consideration of the potential effect of undertakings on significant cultural resources – including historic farms – as Mn/DOT plans and develops roadway projects.

Mn/DOT has prepared the farmstead context study as a means of facilitating the environmental review process that accompanies highway project planning. The creation of an historic context for Minnesota farmsteads and their archaeological resources will allow for more consistent future decisions about the identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of these properties. In particular, the historical archaeology component of the context will help Mn/DOT and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to identify and interpret archaeological resources found on Minnesota farm sites and efficiently evaluate the eligibility of those resources for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (National Register).

This study was conducted by Dr. Michelle Terrell of Two Pines. Liz Abel of Mn/DOT's CRU was the Project Manager and primary advisor for this undertaking. Scott Anfinson, Minnesota State Archaeologist, and David Mather, National Register Archaeologist for the Minnesota SHPO, also provided feedback on this study. Dylan Eigenberger, Julie Kloss, and Eva Terrell of Two Pines assisted with research and writing. This project continued work on farmstead cultural resources in Minnesota begun by BRW, Inc., Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center, and Rivercrest Associates, Inc. under contract with Mn/DOT.

Why Do Farmstead Archaeology?



Portrait of a farm family. Lac qui Parle County, circa 1905. (MHS Neg. No. 1867-A)

WHY DO FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY?

Agency representatives and consultants working in the fields of cultural resource management (CRM) and historic preservation are frequently confronted with, or may have even asked themselves, the following types of questions:

- “Is it necessary to conduct archaeological studies of farmsteads?”
- “What information can the excavation of a farmstead site provide that is not already well-documented?”
- “Are these sites really *historically* significant?”
- “What makes one farmstead site more significant than the thousands of others?”

Due to the widespread predominance of the agricultural industry, these questions are not unique to cultural resource practitioners in the State of Minnesota (see Klein and Baugher 2002; Wilson 1990). In recent years, historical archaeologists and preservation professionals across the country have begun to address how best to research and preserve archaeological resources associated with farmsteads - particularly within the context of projects driven by federal historic preservation laws and regulations. This document will set forth a framework for the archaeological examination of Minnesota’s farmsteads that builds upon the theoretical and methodological approaches to farmstead sites that have arisen out of these discussions and other archaeological literature. At the outset of this study, it is important to recognize why such a research framework is necessary, and why it is vital that the CRM community address the archaeological record of Minnesota’s farms.

▪ PRIMACY OF AGRICULTURE IN MINNESOTA HISTORY

The Great Seal of the State of Minnesota features a farmer breaking the prairie soil with a plow. This symbol of statehood speaks to the dominant economic, political, and social force that agriculture has been within the state. As the eminent industry of Minnesota for over 150 years, agriculture is “one of the state’s primary cultural activities” (Gimmestad 2002). Throughout Minnesota history, a significant portion of the state’s population has worked and lived on farms. Furthermore, agriculture constitutes one of the state’s most important land uses. In 1935, approximately 60 percent of Minnesota’s land area was used for farming and 203,000 farms were in operation within the state. While the total number of farms has declined (79,000 in 2002), more than 50 percent of Minnesota’s land area (28 million acres in 2002) is still used in farming (Granger and Kelly 2004:2.1; Granger and Kelly 2005:4.92). The number of active farmsteads in Minnesota continues to decrease as farms are consolidated into larger holdings or acreage is sold for development. Historical resources (both standing structures and archaeological remains) associated with one of the most fundamental aspects of Minnesota’s history are continually being lost through this process.



▪ LACK OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES OF MINNESOTA FARMS

To ignore the archaeological record of Minnesota’s farmsteads is, therefore, to turn a blind eye to the material culture of the majority of the state’s population; the archaeological remnants of its primary industry; and a considerable portion of the state’s history. But, for various reasons explored further in a later chapter, ignoring the archaeological record of farmsteads has largely been common practice in Minnesota. An examination of compliance reports on file at the Minnesota SHPO indicates that archaeologists routinely disregard farmsteads during Phase I

Why Do Farmstead Archaeology?

archaeological surveys or only minimally document their presence. Furthermore, farms with standing structures are primarily addressed as architectural properties with no consideration given to the potential for associated intact archaeological resources. Even in situations when farmsteads with National Register-eligible architectural resources have been mitigated prior to their demolition, their potential eligibility under National Register Criterion D has not been addressed, and their associated archaeological resources consequently destroyed.

While there are certainly some exceptions to this general state of affairs, it was not without reason that in 1997 Mark Cassell described the approach to the archaeology of Minnesota farmsteads as “limited and static” (Cassell 1997). Cassell attributed this condition to (1997:6):

- the relatively recent introduction of historical archaeology to the region;
- the perception that farmstead sites are too recent; and
- the belief that questions about the history of farming can be answered through documentary research.

While an increased understanding of historical archaeology and the presence of trained historical archaeologists within the ranks of CRM practitioners in the state has led to a greater awareness of the archaeological potential of Minnesota’s historic period sites, the perceptions and beliefs regarding the archaeological significance of farmstead sites that Cassell noted are still prevalent within the CRM community and agencies with regulatory oversight.

▪ THE SIGNIFICANCE OF FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

The lack of a consistent approach to farmstead archaeological sites necessitates the creation of an historic context - not only to provide a framework for the systematic identification and National Register evaluation of cultural resources associated with the state’s most vital industry and the people who worked and lived on farms - but to address the perceptions about this site type that have thus far clouded the pursuit of farmstead archaeology in Minnesota.

Research themes and questions for farmstead archaeology sites are presented in later chapters, but at the outset of this study some general tenets are provided here for why these sites, both in Minnesota and throughout the country, should be evaluated for their significance (Baugher and Klein 2002:2; Miller and Klein 2002:156):

- Agriculture has been a dominant economic, political, and social force.
- The majority of the population, particularly in the 19th century, worked and lived on farms.
- Farming has been a major transformative force of the landscape.
- Archaeology is a primary method for learning about the everyday lives of farm families.
- Farmsteads are often among the earliest sites within an area.
- Farmstead sites frequently have local significance and value.
- The excavation of farmstead sites can provide data on the following topics, among others:
 - Transitions in farming methods;
 - Use of space and its associated economic, social, and cultural meanings;
 - The formulation and function of rural social classes;
 - The influence of ethnicity on the rural landscape; and
 - Impacts of technological developments.



Lunch break during harvest time. Near Lafayette, Nicollet County, 1907. (MHS Neg. No. 18850)



Farmhouse ruins after a fire. St. Louis County, 1918. (MHS photo by Hugh McKenzie, Neg. No. 10229-A)

OBJECTIVES AND METHODS

▪ OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the historical archaeology component of the historic context study of Minnesota farmsteads is to provide guidelines and criteria for the identification and National Register evaluation of archaeological remains associated with Minnesota's farmsteads. Historic contexts are considered the "the cornerstone of the planning process" because the framework of time, space, and research themes provides a means of evaluating an individual property in relationship to similar properties and broader cultural, geographical, and historical patterns (National Park Service 1983). The *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* identifies eight temporal periods of agricultural development, and eight farming regions within the state. Archaeological sites will be evaluated in relation to these overarching temporal and geographical contexts.

This document is meant to be a tool for Mn/DOT and the SHPO to assess the cultural significance of archaeological resources associated with farmsteads in Minnesota. Both of these agencies frequently encounter farm resources during their work and this tool will help them and their consultants to efficiently understand and evaluate them.

▪ PROJECT SCOPE

GEOGRAPHIC AND TEMPORAL LIMITS

As this study is a supplement to *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* prepared by Mn/DOT's consultant Gemini Research, it utilizes the same geographical and temporal limits outlined in that study. Therefore, this document will provide a research framework for archaeological remains associated with farmsteads located throughout present-day Minnesota that date to the period from 1820 through 1960.

PROPERTIES

Property Types. Property types associated with the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* include (Granger and Kelly 2005b:1):

- a farm
- a farmstead
- an individual farm element such as a barn
- a small group of farm elements
- a group or district comprised of several farms

The historical archaeology study, like the larger historic context study of which it is a part, is focused on farms that were developed and operated by a small group of people (typically a single family) as opposed to communal farms, or farms designed to serve companies or institutions (e.g., state hospitals). While the methodological approaches described in this study may apply to these uncommon farm types, they were not designed with them in mind.

For the purpose of this study, the historical archaeology of farmsteads will include not only the sites of former farms, but also archaeological deposits present on extant farmsteads. Standing structures, though, are discussed in detail in the context prepared by Gemini Research.

Objectives and Methods

Furthermore, this study is limited to archaeological resources that are located on farm properties. Facilities that support agriculture (e.g., creameries and grain elevators) as well as other rural resources (e.g., town halls and school houses) are not included in this study.

It should be noted that the historic context study of farmsteads also focused on EuroAmerican farms. Special farming practices or resources associated with American Indian agriculture, for example, were not included.

Definition of Property Types. The following definitions of property types are adapted from the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* (Granger and Kelly 2005b:1) and De Cunzo and Garcia (1992:234-235):

Farm. A parcel of land historically used for farming and having a headquarters complex. Generally comprised of a farmstead and adjacent land, but can also include non-contiguous parcels of land.

Farmstead. The headquarters complex of a farm. A farmstead is comprised of at least one dwelling as well as associated farm elements including domestic (privies, smokehouses, spring houses, wood sheds, etc.) and agricultural outbuildings (barns, granaries, livestock housing, etc.), and the surrounding work yard, gardens, and directly associated activity areas.

Farmland. In general terms, the land historically associated with a farm. Farmland may exclude land in long-term use for another activity such as gravel mining or quarrying. Farmland can include tilled fields, pasture or grassland, untillable land, woodlots, orchards, etc. The land associated with a particular farm does not need to be contiguous.

Distribution of Property Types. Farmsteads are a ubiquitous property type throughout the state of Minnesota. Geographic factors, though, have resulted in regional variations in farm types and farm practices. These variations are examined in the context prepared by Gemini Research (Granger and Kelly 2005a:5.1-5.30), and their archaeological reflections will be addressed in this context.

▪ METHODS

APPROACH

This study was comprised of research, synthesis, and writing. Due to time and budget constraints, this study did not include a fieldwork component. As previous farmstead studies sponsored by Mn/DOT did include the archaeological examination of farmstead sites, those results were combined with information gleaned from a review of completed archaeological studies in Minnesota and other states, as well as the field experience of the Principal Investigator and Project Manager, to assess the research framework developed during this study.

Future archaeological fieldwork using this research framework will certainly lead to the refinement of this document.

LITERATURE SEARCH

The primary method for the creation of a research framework for Minnesota farmstead archaeology sites was a literature review that included the examination of a variety of resource types. The primary types of resources examined included the following:

Approaches of Review Agencies: Two Pines reviewed the Minnesota SHPO's current contexts and guidelines for the historical archaeology of farmsteads and contacted the SHPOs of Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin to learn if they had developed any guidelines specific to farmstead sites. Two Pines also contacted archaeologists at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the St. Paul District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. This research provided information on how cultural resource agencies in the region were addressing the identification and National Register evaluation of farmstead archaeology sites.

Theoretical and Methodological Approaches. Two Pines conducted a review of general literature on farmstead archaeology published in professional journals and texts. These materials provided insights into the methodological approaches being used beyond Minnesota to identify and evaluate farmstead archaeological sites.

Previous Cultural Resource Studies. Two Pines examined reports for cultural resource studies conducted in Minnesota and other states that addressed farmstead resources. These sources provided examples of methodological approaches and research designs for farmstead sites.

Archaeological Data. Two Pines reviewed the available archaeological data for farmstead sites in Minnesota through a query of the Minnesota SHPO's archaeological database, a review of the SHPO site files, and the examination of reports of previous archaeological studies on file at the SHPO. The SHPO database query was conducted on site names containing the word "farm" or "barn" and on sites identified by type as a "farm," "home," or "homestead." Two Pines also contacted the Minnesota Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) to inquire about farmstead archaeology projects.

▪ **UPDATING THE CONTEXT**

It is the intent of this study to provide a research framework that will guide the archaeological examination of Minnesota's farmsteads for the next five years (through 2011). Because there is little data currently available on farmstead sites in Minnesota, research themes and questions identified for this study are broadly scripted. As data on farmstead sites are gathered using the current framework, some research questions may be answered, others finessed, and additional research needs identified. Furthermore, methodological approaches outlined in this study may require adjustment. Therefore, after five years this research framework should be revisited by the Mn/DOT CRU and the Minnesota SHPO and the appropriateness of the methods and research themes re-evaluated.

▪ **REPORT STRUCTURE**

This report contains a status report on farmstead archeology in Minnesota to date; an overview of current approaches to farmstead archaeology by CRM agencies in other states; a research framework for farmstead site identification and National Register evaluation; research plans for Minnesota farmsteads by developmental periods; and a summary of the current research status of farmsteads in Minnesota by region. Guides for the identification and evaluation of farmstead sites are provided in appendices.

Literature Review



Filberg Farm. Martin County, circa 1936-1946. (MHS Neg. No. 53637)

LITERATURE REVIEW: PAST AND PRESENT APPROACHES TO FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY

■ MINNESOTA FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY: WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

To date, the archaeological investigation of farmstead resources in Minnesota has been characterized by a general disregard for the site type. According to the site forms and reports on file at the Minnesota SHPO, less than 250¹ farmstead archaeology sites have been assigned a site number, and only two farmstead archaeological sites in Minnesota have undergone a data recovery (21RA0026 – Gibbs Farm Dugout, Ramsey County and 21SN0123 - Backes/Geers Farmstead, Stearns County). This situation has been fed in part by the absence of research guidelines dedicated to the identification and evaluation of this ubiquitous site type, and by a fear of “redundancy” in the information collected. This state of affairs has been exacerbated by the lack of:

- a detailed historic context for farming in Minnesota;
- identified National Register-eligible type sites for comparison of significance; and
- clear methods for the identification and National Register evaluation of farmstead archaeology sites.

MINNESOTA SHPO STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS

The *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* creates a new statewide context entitled “Euro-American Farms in Minnesota, 1820-1960” (Granger and Kelly 2005a:2.4). Prior to the creation of this context dedicated to Minnesota’s agricultural history, farmstead cultural resources within the state were evaluated within a series of broad statewide historic contexts developed by the SHPO (Minnesota SHPO 1993a). Within these contexts farmsteads are primarily associated with the periods of:

- *Early Agriculture and River Settlement 1840-1870; and*
- *Railroads and Agricultural Development 1870-1940.*

These two historic contexts are not limited to agricultural resources, but encompass a wide variety of activities that are directly and indirectly associated with agricultural production during the identified time periods including town site development, industrial growth, and the creation of transportation routes, among other topics. Each context provides a brief historical overview as well as examples of associated property types; a list of associated Minnesota properties on the National Register; and a bibliography of sources. The *Early Agriculture and River Settlement* context encompasses subsistence level farming and the transition to wheat monoculture within the southeastern portion of the state. Farmstead property types identified in this context include “claim shacks,” dugouts, soddies, and farm buildings. Within the *Railroads and Agricultural Development* context large scale farm production and diversified farming operations within the southern half and western portion of the state are addressed. Identified farmstead property types include subsistence level farms; diversified family farms; and bonanza farms.

¹ This figure is based on a query of the SHPO database for sites with the word “farm,” “barn,” or “dugout” in their site name, or sites that were identified by site function as being farms or homes. Only those sites that have been confirmed by an archaeologist and assigned a site number are included in this figure.

Literature Review

Two additional historic contexts that encompass agricultural properties are:

- *St. Croix Triangle Lumbering 1830s-1900s; and*
- *Northern Minnesota Lumbering 1870-1930s.*

Agriculture, as described in these contexts, is incidental to the lumbering activities that are the primary focus of these contexts. Farming of the cutover regions within the east-central and northeastern portions of the state are briefly described within these contexts and “properties associated with cutover agriculture” are identified among the property types associated with these contexts.

Due to the broad nature of these contexts, the history of agricultural development provided is very general and the information they contain is not sufficiently detailed to allow for the identification of specific farmstead types, which although named (e.g., diversified family farm) are not defined nor are their components described. It was originally intended that these contexts be modified and expanded upon as additional data became available (Minnesota SHPO 1993b:7). In the absence of more detailed information, though, these general contexts have allowed CRM practitioners within Minnesota to assign a site to an identified developmental period in the state’s history, but have not permitted them, or challenged them, to assess whether a given agricultural property, particularly an archaeological one, meets the criteria to be a significant resource within a given context.

NATIONAL REGISTER FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN MINNESOTA

Each of the Minnesota SHPO statewide historic contexts described above is illustrated with a list of selected National Register-listed properties associated with a given context (Minnesota SHPO 1993a). Although farmsteads with extant structures are included among the example properties, no farmstead archaeological sites are listed. Listed farmsteads were nominated to the National Register under Criteria A, B, and/or C. As of the writing of this study, no Minnesota farmstead properties have been listed on the National Register under Criterion D. This is not to say that there have not been farmstead archaeological sites that have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion D through the SHPO review and compliance process, but none have been formally listed.

In the absence of examples of National Register-listed farmstead archaeology sites to illustrate the SHPO statewide historic contexts, CRM practitioners have been without a touchstone for identifying and evaluating significant farmstead archaeological sites within each context.

MINNESOTA SHPO MANUAL FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

The lack of identified National Register-eligible farmstead sites in Minnesota has been fed by a fear of redundancy in the information collected and the stated belief in the *SHPO Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota* that “most historical archaeological sites from the recent past are not eligible for the National Register” (Anfinson 2005:19).

Current and earlier versions of the *SHPO Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota* has called out historical archaeology as a special consideration due to the sheer number of potential historical archaeological sites that could be generated through compliance projects (Anfinson 2000; 2005). In particular, the number of potential farmstead sites is cited: “If all farmsteads in Minnesota were considered archaeological sites, we could add 204,000 sites...to the [SHPO] database” (Anfinson 2005:17). In order to address the “major management issue” that historical archaeological sites have become, the Minnesota SHPO set out guidelines for sites post-dating the Contact Period (1650-1837), because it was felt that (Anfinson 2000:18):

- “Most Post-Contact sites can be discovered through an intensive literature search.”
- “Data redundancy is most commonly associated with sites from the Post-Contact period due to the information explosion that occurred near the end of the 19th century.”
- “Most of these sites will not be eligible for the National Register because the information they can provide usually can be more easily and more accurately obtained from sources other than archaeological excavation and analysis.”

Therefore, while all Precontact and Contact Period archaeological sites in Minnesota must be documented through the completion of an archaeological site inventory form, Post-Contact Period archaeological sites “do not always need inventory forms and, even if forms are filled out, they may not be added to the SHPO site database” (Anfinson 2005:18).

In compliance with National Register guidelines, the SHPO manual does advocate that archaeologists should pay attention to all sites older than 50 years in age, but archaeological fieldwork on Post-Contact sites must be justified and their historical significance, site integrity, and probability of answering important research questions clearly demonstrated (Anfinson 2005:18-19). This justification is hindered because, as previously noted, detailed historic contexts and research topics have not yet been developed for most historic period site types - including farmstead sites. Another stumbling block to the documentation of farmstead sites is the statement that “the presence of archaeological materials in test units may not be enough to confirm eligibility,” but rather artifacts “must be present in sufficient quantity and quality” and “retain sufficient locational integrity within the site” (Anfinson 2005:19). In the absence of comparable eligible sites, notions of what amounts and types of data are sufficient have been unclear.

What has been communicated in the past to CRM archaeologists in Minnesota is that Post-Contact archaeological sites are numerous; that their research potential is limited and/or redundant with the documentary record; and that they are likely to be ineligible for the National Register. This research climate has led to farmstead archaeology sites being generally ignored.

▪ HOW ARE OTHER STATES ADDRESSING FARMSTEAD SITES?

On a national level, historical archaeologists and preservation professionals have held several meetings on the topic of farmstead archaeology including a symposium at the California University of Pennsylvania in 1983; a workshop at the 1997 annual meeting of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology (CNEHA) in Altoona, Pennsylvania; a session of papers at the 1998 annual meeting of CNEHA in Montreal; and a meeting on the topic of “Farmstead Archaeology: Illinois’ Agricultural Legacy” hosted by the Illinois Archaeological Survey in 2004 in Springfield, Illinois (Baughner and Klein 2002:1). The CNEHA sessions resulted in a special double-volume issue of the journal *Northeast Historical Archaeology* entitled “Historic Preservation and the Archaeology of Nineteenth-Century Farmsteads in the Northeast” (Baughner and Klein 2002). These discussions and their resulting publications, as well as other articles on the topic of farmstead archaeology, have provided theoretical and methodological directions for the archaeology of agrarian sites. A concurrent development that has both prompted and benefited from this body of research is the creation of contexts and guidelines for addressing farmstead archaeological sites by state preservation and regulatory agencies. This section provides a synopsis of some of these programs.

UPPER MIDWEST STATES

Within the five-state region of the Upper Midwest (Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin), several state SHPOs have developed agricultural contexts and Wisconsin has assembled a bibliography on the architecture and archaeology of farmsteads (Beedle and

Literature Review

Gyrisco 1996). Thus far, though, South Dakota is the only state in this region to create an agricultural context that specifically addresses farmstead archaeological resources.

South Dakota. The South Dakota SHPO has developed specific guidelines for the evaluation of farmsteads under National Register Criterion D within the South Dakota agricultural context (Brooks and Jacon 1994:38-39). The key points of Criterion D eligibility are:

- The site must retain sufficient integrity and material culture for the researcher to answer questions about human behavior.
- A site could be considered significant if it contains information that could add to existing historical knowledge.
- It is suggested that the concepts of the household and the community be used as the primary units of analysis.
- Susan Henry's definition of a household as a domestic residential group is recommended (Henry 1991:7).

The conclusion is that an agricultural property in South Dakota could be considered significant under Criterion D "if enough of an archaeological assemblage remains to increase our knowledge of how the homesteaders adapted to life on the plains as part of a household or community" (Brooks and Jacon 1994:38-39).

STATES IN OTHER REGIONS

Beyond the Upper Midwest, several states have developed historic contexts that specifically address the archaeology of farmsteads including Delaware (De Cunzo and Garcia 1992); Georgia (Joseph et al. 2004); Kentucky (McBride and McBride 1989); and Pennsylvania (Grantz 1984), among others. The Delaware and Georgia contexts are examined in further detail here, as the historic context for the archaeology of farmsteads that was developed for the Delaware SHPO is comparable in scope to the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960*; and the Georgia context illustrates a joint DOT and SHPO undertaking.

Delaware. In 1990, the University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research completed a *Management Plan for Delaware's Historical Archaeological Resources* (De Cunzo and Catts 1990a). This plan provided a research framework organized into four geographic regions and five temporal periods. Four statewide research domains were also identified: domestic economy; landscape; manufacturing and trade; and social group identity, behavior, and interaction (De Cunzo and Catts 1990b:2). Recognizing that Criterion D (has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history) was the National Register criterion of significance most frequently applied to archaeological sites, research plans were developed for each of the research domains within the context of each of the identified time periods (e.g., domestic economy during the period from 1630-1730). Using this framework, archaeological sites are evaluated based on their ability to answer the identified research questions and issues. Historical archaeological resources considered significant are those that provide information relating to at least one of the research issues or questions identified in the research plan (De Cunzo and Catts 1990b:4).

The *Management Plan for Delaware's Historical Archaeological Resources* also identified historical archaeology management needs for the SHPO. Among the priorities identified was the development of a specific context for historical archaeology sites associated with the context "Agriculture and Rural Life in Delaware, 1830-1940" (De Cunzo and Catts 1990b:34). This context was labeled as a priority due to the need to identify, evaluate, and treat large numbers of 19th- and early 20th-century farmsteads during large-scale compliance surveys. In 1992, the University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research completed an historic context for

agricultural and rural archaeology sites in New Castle and Kent counties in Delaware for the period from 1830-1940 (De Cunzo and Garcia 1992). This context contains an historical overview and narrative of the significant broad patterns of agricultural production and associated sociocultural developments; a synthesis of prior archaeological research on farmsteads; definitions of associated property types; archaeological research questions and evaluation criteria for the identified property types; and goals, priorities and information needs for each property type.

Within the context for New Castle and Kent counties, farmstead sites were evaluated for integrity (physical and temporal) and significance. For farmstead sites to retain adequate physical integrity they “must exhibit integrity in the archaeological expressions of their defining components” such as dwellings, domestic and agricultural outbuildings, and associated utilitarian and nonutilitarian landscapes (De Cunzo and Garcia 1992:312). Archaeological strata, features, and material culture associated with the period of significance of these components must remain intact and substantially undisturbed so as to “retain their original contextual, functional, and temporal relationships to each other” (De Cunzo and Garcia 1992:312). Sites with compromised integrity were still considered eligible within the Delaware context if: “1) they represent a “type” of farm that occurred only in comparatively small numbers in the area of and at the time of the site’s occupation; 2) they represent a “type” of farm poorly documented in the documentary and oral records; 3) the [farmsteads] also exhibit good architectural integrity such that the architectural and archaeological resources supplement and complement each other in the information they contain; or 4) the farms of which the [farmsteads] were a part during the period significance, also contain extant landscape features, such as agricultural fields, or other property types, such as Agricultural Outbuildings, with good integrity that date to the period of the [farmsteads]’ significance” (De Cunzo and Garcia 1994:312-313). Farmstead sites with temporal integrity must either “a) represent short-term occupations and exhibit physical integrity relating to the period of occupation, or b) represent long-term occupations and exhibit physical integrity relating to either (1) the occupation of an identifiable period within the overall occupation of the [farmstead] or (2) the entire period of occupation, such that change within the context of a single property can be explored” (De Cunzo and Garcia 1994:313).

Criteria for significance within the historic context for agricultural and rural archaeology sites in New Castle and Kent counties in Delaware is assessed on the basis of historical documentation and oral history; representativeness; ability to answer research questions; and association with a person or event of local, regional, or national significance. To be considered significant within the context, farmsteads dating from the period 1830 to 1940 must be extensively documented by a diverse body of resources, and for farmsteads from 1880 to 1940 oral sources should also be available (De Cunzo and Garcia 1994:313). Guidelines for how much documentary evidence is sufficient are provided in the context, and sites types that are exceptions to this rule, such as rare sites or site types that are typically poorly documented, are also identified. Farmsteads are also evaluated on how representative they are of the farm types identified in the historic context (De Cunzo and Garcia 1994:314). Furthermore, in order to be considered significant a site must be able to answer research questions related to at least one of the context’s identified research domains (Domestic Economy; Landscape; Manufacturing and Trade; and Social Group Identity, Behavior, and Interaction) (De Cunzo and Garcia 1994:315). Lastly, for a site to be considered significant for its association with a person or event of local, regional, or national significance, it must contain intact archaeological resources that can be directly associated with that person or event (De Cunzo and Garcia 1994:315).

The historic context for agricultural and rural archaeology sites in New Castle and Kent counties in Delaware was tested against previously identified archaeological sites associated with the context. The results of this analysis found that agricultural and rural sites were underrepresented in previous studies, particularly those occupied between 1880 and 1940, and that the archaeological potential of sites with architectural resources was not evaluated (De Cunzo and

Literature Review

Garcia 1994:350-351). Based on the results of this evaluation and the development of the context, goals, priorities and information needs were identified. Among these goals was the further development of the historic context; mechanisms for keeping the database of identified and potential archaeological sites associated with the context up to date; and the creation of a committee of Delaware archaeologists to review the proposed property types and develop standards to ensure the adequate research of the site types (De Cunzo and Garcia 1994:352-359).

Georgia. The historical context developed for the state of Georgia illustrates a recent trend towards departments of transportation and SHPOs partnering in the creation of statewide contexts. In 1999, the Transportation Research Board hosted a “National Forum on Assessing Historic Significance for Transportation Programs” (Baugher and Klein 2002:3). Held in Washington, D.C., this meeting generated discussion on the need for usable historic contexts to facilitate the evaluation of common types of archaeological sites such as 19th- and 20th-century farmsteads. Since that meeting, the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has funded a statewide context on historic archaeological resources for use by GDOT and the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Completed by New South Associates, the context entitled *Historical Archaeology in Georgia* includes a section on farm resources (Joseph et al. 2004:89-96). An overview of the physical features, spatial patterning, and refuse disposal patterns associated with farmsteads is provided in this section, as is a summary of past archaeological studies of farmstead properties in Georgia. With regard to future farmstead archaeology work in Georgia, it is observed that sites with standing architecture and those sites that have not been plowed have proved to be the best preserved sites (Joseph et al. 2004:95). It is also noted that archeological deposits associated with farmstead sites include artifacts from sheet midden contexts as well as discrete features, and that while the use of mechanical stripping to identify features can be useful it is problematic in areas where sheet midden refuse disposal is the primary source of material culture. Topics recommended for future research on Georgia’s farmstead sites include (Joseph et al. 2004:95-96):

- Refuse disposal techniques and their temporal and social dimensions
- Farmstead settlement patterns and their regionality
- Reflections of ethnicity in farmstead settlement patterns and material culture
- Economic and social status within the farmstead landscape
- Social status within farms (e.g., between farmers and their tenants)
- Farmstead subsistence patterns

The context for *Historical Archaeology in Georgia* does contain a section on assessing the eligibility of historic sites that provides an overview of the National Register guidelines including the seven aspects of integrity and the eligibility criteria as they apply to historic sites. No specific guidelines for evaluating farmstead sites are provided.

▪ OTHER APPROACHES TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF FARMSTEADS

In addition to the previously mentioned double-volume issue of the journal *Northeast Historical Archaeology* entitled “Historic Preservation and the Archaeology of Nineteenth-Century Farmsteads in the Northeast” (Baugher and Klein 2002), and Mark Cassell’s Wisconsin case study (Cassell 1997), numerous other studies have examined the archaeological potential of farmsteads. Frequently cited publications are John Wilson’s article in *Historical Archaeology* entitled “We’ve Got Thousands of These! What Makes an Historic Farmstead Significant?” (Wilson 1990) and the Fort Drum Cultural Resource Project (Louis Berger and Associates, Inc. 1994).

Wilson sought to devise guidelines for determining National Register significance of farmstead sites during the early stages of CRM surveys. Wilson suggests that the following key questions

may assist in determining which sites are eligible for the National Register, which are not, and which may be potentially eligible (Wilson 1990:30):

- Are features and archaeological deposits temporally and spatially distinct?

This concern relates to the National Register question of integrity, both in terms of modern disturbance and sequential historic occupation.

- Was destruction of superstructure catastrophic (as opposed to deliberate)?

This is another integrity question, concerned with demolition practices and effects of natural disasters on site classes. Generally, superstructure demolition or deliberate burning will leave a more distorted artifact and feature record than will such catastrophic events as natural fires and floods.

- Is there a good record of successive occupations, relative to the record for similar sites in the study area?

A sense of the extent and reliability of the archival record within the area is necessary to answer this question.

Wilson's example of a multi-household farmstead site with excellent research potential is one where successive dwellings and outbuildings have been constructed in different areas of the farmyard; all owners and occupants of the property are recorded; and the farmstead was destroyed by an accidental fire on a known date (Wilson 1990:30). On the opposite end of Wilson's spectrum is a farmstead with low research potential due to multiple rebuilding episodes at the same structure locations; destruction of the farmstead after a thorough housecleaning; and complete removal of the standing superstructures (Wilson 1990:30).

The Fort Drum Cultural Resource Project was a multi-year (1985 to 1991) study of cultural resources located within the 107,265-acre Fort Drum Military Reservation in New York. Due to the presence of a large number of 19th-century farmsteads within the military reserve, requirements were developed for the classification and evaluation of these sites (Louis Berger and Associates 1994:1.21). During the course of the survey more than 200 farmsteads were inventoried, 71 underwent minimal archaeological testing, and 22 were advanced to a Phase II evaluation (Louis Berger and Associates 1994:4.2).

Phase I investigations during the Fort Drum study had two objectives: 1) to create a detailed site plan that would allow the property to be assigned a site type; and 2) to conduct a preliminary assessment of the variety of material culture associated with the site and to identify any site disturbances (Louis Berger and Associates 1994:2.6). Sites were cleared of vegetation in order to identify existing foundations and then plans of the site and individual structures were created. Shovel test strategies included the "cruciform," which consisted of four shovel tests placed at a 20-foot (ft.) interval along transects emitting perpendicular from each of the four principal walls of each structural remnant; an "X" of two transects of shovel tests at a 20-m interval placed across the farmstead; and the use of 20-ft. shovel test grids (Louis Berger and Associates 1994:2.8-2.9). Sites that appeared to have information potential underwent Phase II investigations. Phase II testing commenced with a 20-ft. shovel test grid (if not performed during the Phase I). This method was found effective for assessing the distribution and concentrations of artifacts within the farmstead. While some test units were placed near outbuildings and in yard areas, most were concentrated around the farmhouse, which was where the greatest number of artifacts was typically discovered during shovel testing (Louis Berger and Associates 1994:2.11). During initial seasons of the research program, 3-by-3 ft. test units were primarily used, but in later seasons it was discovered that hand excavated trenches, or contiguous units, provided greater information

Literature Review

on site stratigraphy and the artifacts contained within certain soil strata. Three sites within Fort Drum underwent data recoveries. These investigations used the same excavation techniques employed in the Phase II investigations, but with more intensity (Louis Berger and Associates 1994:2.13). The results of the Fort Drum archaeological fieldwork indicated that the portion of the farmstead site that was most proximate to the dwelling yielded the greatest concentration of artifacts, and that some of the farmsteads had undergone extensive landscaping (i.e., filling and leveling) activities (Louis Berger and Associates 1994:2.18, 2.19).

Of the research issues raised at the commencement of the Fort Drum Cultural Resource Project, the examination of settlement patterns – both at a regional and site-specific level – proved the most successful (Louis Berger and Associates 1994:4.1). While efforts were made to study consumer behavior, artifact assemblages rarely contained a sufficient amount of datable materials to address this area of research (Louis Berger and Associates 1994:2.21). Market networks were more successfully examined through the identification of the point of origin of various artifact types (Louis Berger and Associates 1994:6.14-6.15).

▪ COMMON THEMES IN FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY STUDIES

Common themes set forth in the above-referenced studies of farmstead sites are:

- Sites should be analyzed within overarching contexts.
- Farms should be evaluated in their entirety (dwellings, fields, outbuilding, fences, etc.).
- Research questions should recognize that historical archaeology is not limited to archaeological data.
- Documentary evidence should be combined with archaeological evidence to produce a more complete picture of the past.
- Sites that best answer research questions have standing architectural elements or recognizable ruins and have not been plowed or mechanically graded.



Maurice Lucier Farm near Greenfield. Hennepin County, 1948. (MHS photo by Wallace Kammann, Neg. No. 77537)

Research Framework



Aerial of a farm and contour plowed fields. Near Jordan, Scott County, May 1949. (MHS photo by Ver Keljik, Neg. No. 68977)

A RESEARCH FRAMEWORK FOR THE HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS: THE FUTURE

As demonstrated in the previous chapter, the current knowledge of the archaeological record of Minnesota's farms is limited. Furthermore, the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* (Granger and Kelly 2005) illustrates the variety of farm types and farming practices in Minnesota and the relationship of those variations to historical trends and geographic constraints. To date, not only have few farmstead sites undergone archaeological testing, but archaeologists working in Minnesota have (in the absence of a detailed historic context for farming) failed to recognize the variety and complexity of farmsteads. Until we have begun to gather data on Minnesota farmstead archaeology sites that accurately reflect the agrarian history of the state, too few farmstead sites have been properly evaluated for farms to be eliminated from survey due to concerns about data redundancy. Therefore, the following research framework has been developed to specifically address, in a systematic and uniform fashion, the research potential (both documentary and archaeological) of individual farmstead archaeological sites in relation to their temporal and geographical contexts.

This research framework has benefited from several previously developed approaches to historical archaeological sites and the remains of farmsteads. This study gained inspiration from the theoretical discussions of how best to address 19th-century farmsteads set forth in the special volume of *Northeast Historical Archaeology* (Baugher and Klein 2002) and, in particular, Mary Beaudry's emphasis on looking at the farmstead within the landscape of the farm, and the importance of asking research questions about farms and farm work (Beaudry 2002:129-142). Other influences were the research orientation of the Management Plan for Delaware's Historical Archaeological Resources (De Cunzo and Catts 1990a); the field methods of the Fort Drum Cultural Resource Project (Louis Berger and Associates, Inc. 1994); George Miller and Terry Klein's system and John Wilson's guidelines for assessing the research potential of farmstead sites (Miller and Klein 2002:155-166; Wilson); and the evaluation criteria of the historic context developed for agricultural and rural sites in New Castle and Kent counties in Delaware (De Cunzo and Garcia 1992).

▪ A RESEARCH ORIENTED APPROACH TO THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF FARMS

As archaeological sites are primarily eligible to the National Register under Criterion D (have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history), this document sets forth a framework for the identification and National Register evaluation of Minnesota farmstead sites that is focused on assessing the research potential of farmstead sites. Significant sites are those that have the potential to yield information that will address research themes and questions for farmstead sites associated with the identified temporal and geographical contexts outlined in the statewide context for Minnesota farmsteads.

▪ AN HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF FARMSTEADS

Of primary importance in the approach to the archaeology of farmstead sites in Minnesota is the realization that to conduct archaeological investigations of these properties is to undertake an historical archaeological study.

Historical archaeology is often mistakenly understood to be merely the archaeological investigation of the historic period (the opposite of precontact archaeology). Another common misperception of historical archaeology is that it is a method for studying the past that uses both archaeological and historical data with the purpose being to "test" one body of data against the other, or to verify the contents of the archaeological or documentary record (i.e., Faunal remains

Research Framework

recovered during archaeological excavations at the Smith farmstead indicate that they raised pigs. The agricultural census confirmed that the Smith family kept pigs.). The purpose of archaeology is not to confirm what is already documented. Instead, the value of historical archaeology is in the ability to bring together multiple, independent lines of evidence to achieve a more accurate and complete understanding of the past. In 1988, Kathleen Deagan stated that this ability to synthesize multiple sources of data was ideally suited to the examination of the interrelationships between economic development and related human social processes (Deagan 1988:8).

Certainly the evolution of farming in Minnesota and its role in the economic development of the state is well-documented. What is under-represented in the documentary record is the effect of the economic development of farming on the built environment, the agrarian landscape, and the everyday lives of Minnesota's farm families and the rural communities of which they were a part. How advances in agricultural technology, economic trends, and the development of a market economy influenced farmstead landscapes, the prosperity of individual farm families, and consumer choice and behavior, are examples of research topics that can be best understood through the combination of written documents and material evidence. Historical archaeology is well suited to addressing these historical issues and others related to farming in Minnesota.

▪ THINKING OF FARMS AS FARMS: AN INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY APPROACH

In order to begin to address research topics suited to the archaeological examination of farms, Minnesota archaeologists must begin to think of farmsteads, not simply as domestic sites, but, as defined in this context, the headquarters complex of a much larger farm. "Farm buildings are the farmer's factory," wrote agricultural engineer E. A. Fowler in 1913, and, after the initial settlement period and the movement away from subsistence farming into cash crops and market participation, farms were in the business of producing a product, be it crops, produce or livestock, as efficiently as possible within the technological and environmental parameters of the era and geographic location in which they were operating. The revenue generated from the sale of the product was in turn reinvested in raw materials (e.g., seed, fertilizer, feeder cattle, etc.), assets (e.g., buildings and machinery), or labor and infrastructure (e.g., domestic goods and materials). This industrial process, and the supporting complex of structures and machinery, makes a farm more akin to an industrial site with a residential component – like a brewery occupied by a resident brewer and family – than it is like a stand alone domestic structure.

Therefore, in developing a research framework for the archaeology of Minnesota farmsteads an industrial archaeological approach is adapted that evaluates (and values) the entirety of the site not simply the associated domestic assemblage. Just as industrial archaeology is driven by the need to document industrial sites before their remnants disappear, so too is the archaeology of farmsteads driven by the realization that the once ubiquitous remains of the agricultural industry are rapidly disappearing. Not only are these sites vanishing through abandonment or destruction, but also farms, like all industries, have a tendency through their very operation to destroy their own history (Council et al. 1992:2). As farming practices change and new technologies become available, old, obsolete, and unprofitable buildings and farm elements are removed or abandoned as the farmstead is modernized. Industrial archaeology seeks to document the earlier manifestations of industries through the recording of the physical remains (sites, structures, and landscapes) of the industry being studied (Palmer and Neaverson 1998:4). Emphasis is placed on the documentation of technological advances; economic and transportation networks; spatial patterning and site layout; as well as the influences of the industry on the lives of its owners and workers (Gordon and Malone 1994:11; Palmer and Neaverson 1998:4-7). Among the documentary sources used are company archives; worker's journals and diaries; industry histories; pictorial sources; maps; and plans (Palmer and Neaverson 1998:105-128). Field techniques consist of recording sites through detailed site survey maps, diagrams, profiles and elevations of extant structures and excavated subsurface remains. The level of documentation is

phased from (1) basic visual recording (exteriors only of extant structures); through (2) descriptions and photographs (both interiors and exteriors of standing buildings); or (3) measured plans and elevations; to (4) a full report of the site's architectural, social, regional, and economic history (Palmer and Neaverson 1998:85-89).

Adapting an industrial archaeological approach to the research of farmstead causes the archaeologist to look beyond the farmhouse and to evaluate the farmstead as a workplace within the context of the landscape and history of the entire farm of which it was a small part. As William Adams noted, "Thus, a 640-acre farm comprises a site. The farm is a higher-order subsystem, containing many other subsystems. It must be studied in its entirety, not in pieces" (Adams 1990:93). The industrial archaeology approach calls for an awareness of the arrangement, function, and development of each element of the farmstead headquarters complex, as well as its relationship to the fields and lands that were owned, leased, or controlled by the individual or family that operated the farm; as well as the woodlots; drainage ditches; fence lines, and all other elements that mark the industrial landscape of the farm.

Evaluating farmstead sites has been previously perceived as problematic in Minnesota due to the paradox of the abundant number of artifacts from unstratified deposits that are readily encountered during shovel testing of a farmyard and the general lack of, or inability to locate, features containing stratified deposits. This frustration has been fed by a precontact archaeological model that identifies sites through the presence of artifacts and evaluates sites as potentially eligible for listing on the National Register if they contain intact features and diagnostic artifacts. For example, a single lithic flake encountered during an archaeological survey constitutes a precontact archaeological site, while identifying a single machine-cut nail or piece of window glass as an historical archaeological site, while perhaps equivalent, is understandably not tenable. In our artifact-driven past approach to farmstead site identification and evaluation, archaeologists have been drawn to the area immediate to the farmhouse, because it is the location of the greatest concentration of artifacts on a farm. It is not uncommon, though, in the field of industrial archaeology for National Register-sites to be documented that possess minimal artifactual evidence. When conducting industrial archaeology, it is recognized that the foundations and machinery of the industry under investigation are in fact also "artifacts" and that the careful mapping and documentation of those elements increases our understanding of the history of the industry. That is not to say that stratified archaeological deposits should not be sought, but they should be regarded as one archaeological data set that can address research themes, while ruins/foundations and their physical arrangement are other archaeological data sets that can be combined with non-archaeological data sets such as documentary records and oral history (Little et al. 2000). It is the integrity of each of a site's data sets and their ability to communicate information that is to be evaluated. To that end, while archaeological data may come primarily from the farmstead, research topics should be related to the entire historic property.

▪ ASKING "QUESTIONS THAT COUNT" OF FARMSTEAD SITES

In formulating a research framework for farms, we must consider the research potential of farms and the appropriate research themes and questions to ask of this site type. The title of this section is borrowed from the plenary session of the 1987 annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, which was titled "Questions that Count in Historical Archaeology" (Honerkamp 1988:5). The position papers given in that session sought to challenge historical archaeologists to think about and discuss the reasons that they conduct historic sites research and, in particular, to reflect on "*what* is important to know and *why* it is important" (Honerkamp 1988:5-6). In Charles Cleland's paper presented in this session, he observed that in the absence of organizing theory historical archaeologists produced results that varied from substantive research to "obvious answers to naïve and self-evident questions" (Cleland 1988:13). The same observations and statements could be made of the state of farmstead archaeology in Minnesota

Research Framework

to date. While some archaeologists have asked “questions that count” of Minnesota’s agrarian record, the lack of a consistent research guidelines and evaluation criteria has led other archaeologists to not ask substantive research questions, or to not excavate farmstead sites at all because the information gathered is not regarded as important. In part this variation in approach can be traced to the perception of farmstead sites as a redundant archaeological resource (as explored in the previous chapter), but it is also the result of a circular cycle resulting from the inadequate exploration of the research potential of the cultural resources associated with farmsteads. In other words, if we do not create substantive research designs, then we will not get results that will make a contribution to our understanding of the past, and the lack of meaningful results discourages further research and enforces the perception that farmstead sites are not worthy of excavation.

As we pursue the archaeology of Minnesota’s farmsteads, we must keep in mind the unique ability that historical archaeology has to draw upon multiple categories of evidence in its examination of past human behavior. In other words, it is not limited solely to documentary or archaeological evidence and hence is “neither history nor prehistory” (Deagan 1988:7). As such, we need to take advantage of the fact that we have at our disposal a documentary record that can be combined with the archaeological record to frame research questions rather than to limit ourselves to research questions solely dependant on artifacts (precontact archaeology) or documents (history) (Cleland 1988:16). Too often we ask limited and generic questions of our sites, or we further the perception that research questions about farmsteads can best be answered through documentary research, because we are not asking questions specific to archaeological data.

In formulating research plans for farmstead sites, we must avoid falling into the following traps:

- Asking unanswerable questions
- Asking questions with obvious answers
- Asking questions that are too general
- Asking questions that can readily be answered through documentary research

▪ RESEARCH THEMES FOR MINNESOTA’S FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

The previous sections describe an approach to the archaeological record of Minnesota’s farmsteads that is grounded in the methods of historical archaeology and which advocates recasting farmsteads as industrial complexes comprised of structures, machinery, and household/worker cultural material that cannot be divorced from the overarching industrial landscape of the farm. Inherent to this approach is the understanding that farmstead sites have multiple associated data sets (architectural, archaeological, and documentary), and that significant farmsteads are those that retain sufficient integrity of this data to yield information (Criterion D) that will further our understanding of the history of farming in Minnesota.

Defining what is “important information” and developing research questions that will reveal that information is an imperative aspect of evaluating National Register eligibility. Yet, archaeologists struggle with conceiving the aforementioned “questions that count.” The National Register bulletin *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Archeological Properties* (Little et al. 2000) reminds archaeologists that research questions for a property need not be numerous or exhaustive, and may even be limited to a single important research question. In identifying research questions for Minnesota farmstead sites, it is also necessary to realize that to date too few farmstead sites in Minnesota have been archaeologically investigated for the full spectrum of possible research questions to be generated. Furthermore, as some questions are answered, we are likely to generate others. With this in mind, the following chapter contains research plans for each farming period identified in the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960*, while the subsequent chapter contains a status report for each farming region identified in the

context. Within each research plan or status report, sample research questions and research needs are identified. The research themes and questions generated for each temporal period and geographical region are by no means comprehensive, but are meant to identify some of the key areas that the archaeological investigation of farmstead sites can contribute to our understanding of farms in these eras or regions.

In addition to research needs for individual farming periods and regions the following overarching research themes are identified.

- Landscape History and Farm Development
- Farmstead Economy
- Technological Change and Adaptation
- Social Group Identity, Behavior, and Interaction
- Rural Health and Sanitation

These themes identify topics for which site-specific research questions can be formulated. Farmstead archaeological sites considered potentially eligible within the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* must provide information relevant to at least one of the following research themes and/or research questions or needs specific to the temporal periods and geographic regions identified in the following chapters.

LANDSCAPE HISTORY AND FARM DEVELOPMENT

As emphasized earlier in this chapter, farmsteads cannot be thought of merely as rural domestic sites, but rather we must think of farmsteads as the industrial complex of a larger working farm. This approach to farms requires the archaeologist to think about the greater landscape of which the farmstead and farm are a part. The landscape history of farming and agriculture can be studied on a variety of levels: national, regional, sub-regional, local, and site-specific (De Cunzo and Catts 1990a:8). The *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* identifies nine agricultural regions within the state of Minnesota. The distribution of sites within these regions and their relationship and connections to topography, waterways, roadways, local town, and urban centers are little understood. Examining the agricultural landscape at the regional level will shed light on farmstead site selection; frontier settlement patterns; and reasons for farm abandonment, among other topics. Furthermore, coupling these regional studies with the examination of farm types and their periods of operation will help us further understand, and refine, the historic context of Minnesota's farming trends and their periods and locations of adaptation.

At the site-specific level, the landscape history of a farm and the interrelationship of its features and elements reflect the decisions farmers made in response to topography; changes in technology; social identity; market access, and efficiency of operations among other topics. Change, or stability, in the location and arrangement of structures and farm elements over time may reflect whether progressive farming tenets were adopted or the effect of other factors on farm life. Examination of the success and failure of farms that altered their landscape will help us to further our understanding of these historical processes. Both archaeological and documentary data can be used to more fully understand the topics of landscape history and farm layout. For example, during the Fort Drum Cultural Resource Project, farmsteads were categorized into five types of layouts identified by Henry Glassie (1986) using structural and/or archaeological data. The five farm layout types are: (1) linear; (2) linear square; (3) hollow square; (4) bisected; and (5) a residual category with no discernible pattern. As information on farm layout is currently limited in Minnesota, particularly its transformation over time, gathering data on farm layout using these categories may indicate regional or temporal trends, evidence of ethnic or cultural differences, or more appropriate categories of farm layout within Minnesota's farms.

Research Framework

Research for this theme will require the mapping of farmstead sites on a regional level, as well as detailed mapping of elements of individual farms including structures, roads, fences, tree lines, etc. Archaeological information is critical to identifying the location, dimensions, and function of previous farm buildings and other elements; as well as their age; length of use; and construction materials. Information on associated farm land and changes in holdings and the use of space (e.g., cultivated fields, pastures, and woodlots) can be garnered from plat maps, old roads, and fence lines, and aerial photographs. Perhaps the most effective means of synthesizing data on landscape history and farm development is through the creation of "site biographies" or "ethnographies" that describe the development of a farmstead, its associated households, and larger farm landscape through time using architectural, archaeological, and documentary evidence. This approach will lead to a greater understanding of rural and agricultural culture and society (Klein and Baugher 2002:168).

FARMSTEAD ECONOMY

In a research framework that visualizes farmsteads as industrial complexes, the economic role of the farm is as significant a research theme as the documentation of the physical development of the site. The *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* clearly demonstrates that the historical trajectory of Minnesota farming has had a synergistic relationship with economic trends. Farm production has historically responded to the economics of supply and demand on local, regional, national, and even international scales. While these historical trends and the general response of Minnesota's agricultural community to them is well documented and analyzed on a state-wide, or county level, what is not documented is how these trends related to patterns of production and consumption on individual farms. For example, while the documentary record can paint a broad picture of how farming transitioned from diversified subsistence farms to full participation in a market economy during the fourth-quarter of the 19th-century what that transition looked like on individual farms - its rate of adaptation, the events that led to that transition, and the changes it engendered - is little understood.

The historical archaeological examination of farmsteads within their temporal and geographical contexts is well suited to furthering our understanding of farmstead economics. Scales of examination include the economics of the farm as a whole as well as that of the household. Research topics associated with this theme include investments in land, buildings, equipment, livestock, and domestic furnishings and their change over time; responses to periods of economic stress (e.g., droughts and the Great Depression); how household composition (number, age, and sex of family members) influences farmstead economics; consumer choice and behavior of farm families; home production of materials and the marketing of excess goods; influences of trade networks and market access; and the transition of farms from primarily producers of goods to consumers (De Cunzo and Catts 1990b:6-7; Cabak et al. 1999:39).

Foodways, or the production and consumption of food, is a sub-set of farmstead economics. Examination of archaeological deposits for materials associated with food consumption such as faunal and botanical remains; glass and ceramic vessels; and implements for food processing shed light on farmstead subsistence patterns and their change over time. These materials will answer questions of self-sufficiency versus market participation; food preparation and storage; dietary patterns; and dining patterns. In thinking about how a farm produces and consumes food archaeological evidence should be classified as that which is produced on site for consumption on site; that which is produced on site for market consumption; and that which is produced elsewhere and brought to the farm to be consumed.

Research for this theme will require archaeological remains of the primary buildings of the farm from the site's period of significance so that site development can be examined in relationship to economic trends, as well as the recovery of intact archaeological deposits. Recovered material

culture is imperative to assessing market access, consumer choice and behavior, foodways, and evidence for home production of goods. This data combined with available documentary information such as census records (population and agricultural), deed records, tax assessments, and farm ledgers will provide a more complete picture of the economic participation of individual farms.

As archaeological studies of farmsteads take place that utilize this research framework, the comparative data generated will be of utmost importance to answering research questions about community and regional economics as well as social, ethnic, and religious influences on farmstead economics (De Cunzo and Catts 1990b:7). Without comparative data, a farm that is a successful exception in the midst of an economic downturn will skew efforts at regional interpretations (i.e., Despite the Depression, farms in Nicollet County fared well). In comparison to other sites, though, it will provide information on what variables account for its economic success.

TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE AND ADAPTATION

Another research theme that is closely tied to the industrial landscape of the farm, and which the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* also demonstrates had a significant impact on the development of Minnesota farming, is the adaptation of new technologies in the practice of agriculture. In the first century of farming in Minnesota, farmers transitioned from using horse drawn equipment on small subsistence farms to the management of large-scale farming operations using specialized machinery and structures.

The historical archaeological examination of this research theme will provide information on how individual farms implemented technological changes. Related research questions included: Did farmers adopt new forms of technology readily? Did they use new forms of technology in the way that they were intended? How did technological developments change the landscape and built environment of Minnesota's farms? When did these changes occur? Are there regional patterns to what types of farming methods and technologies were adapted? Are the farming periods and regionalisms defined in the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* truly reflected on the ground?

Research for this theme will require the remains of the primary buildings of the farm so that site development in response to technological changes can be documented. In particular, the structural remains of barns and outbuildings will shed light on the adoption of new means of keeping livestock, while faunal remains will provide evidence for slaughter patterns. Recovered archaeological materials including tools and equipment will provide insights into technological advances, while botanical and faunal remains can address seed crop and livestock breed improvement. These results should be combined with available documentary information such as census records (population and agricultural), deed records, tax assessments, and farm ledgers. Again, as with the theme of farmstead economy, research into technological change and adaptation will benefit from comparison with other farmsteads.

SOCIAL GROUP IDENTITY, BEHAVIOR, AND INTERACTION

The research theme of social group identity, behavior, and interaction encompasses the common research topics of gender, ethnicity, and economic and social class, as well as less common subjects such as rural childhood, family and kinship, religious beliefs, and membership in political, social, and economic organizations (De Cunzo and Catts 1990b:8). BRW, Inc.'s Phase II investigation of the Wuamett Farmstead illustrates how a single artifact – in this case a button from the Pillsbury Academy – can elucidate religious affiliations and education preferences (Halverson et al. 1998:128-145).

Research Framework

Examples of research topics associated with this theme include the developmental cycles of families including the process of children inheriting farms and related changes in the built environment and operation of the farm; the formulation and function of rural social classes; the influence of ethnicity on the rural landscape, settlement patterns, material culture, and the built environment; and how social status is conveyed in an agricultural setting and the role that buildings, machinery, and land holdings play.

Research for this theme will benefit greatly from historical archaeological methods. In order for these topics to be adequately researched documentary evidence including census records (population and agricultural), photographs, deed records, tax assessments, and farm ledgers must be combined with information gleaned from artifacts, and the careful documentation of a farm's layout, development, and building histories. Comparative data on the level of communities and regions are essential to the examining how ethnicity, class, and economic status are reflected on farms.

RURAL HEALTH AND SANITATION

The topic of rural health and sanitation is one that has been largely ignored in the documentary record on farms, but is one that is well suited to historical archaeological investigation. Among the topics related to this subject are the procurement of freshwater by rural families; the treatment of ailments; rural motherhood; death; personal hygiene; refuse disposal; introduction of utilities; and site sanitation. While these topics overlap in part with the other themes, the theme of rural health and sanitation is called out for its unique potential to provide information on the personal dimension of farm life. BRW, Inc.'s Phase II investigation of the Wuamett Farmstead illustrates how artifacts recovered at the site including medicine bottles, a hernia truss; an embalming fluid bottle; a breast pump; and baby bottle, can provide previously undocumented information on this research topic (Halverson et al. 1998:128-145).

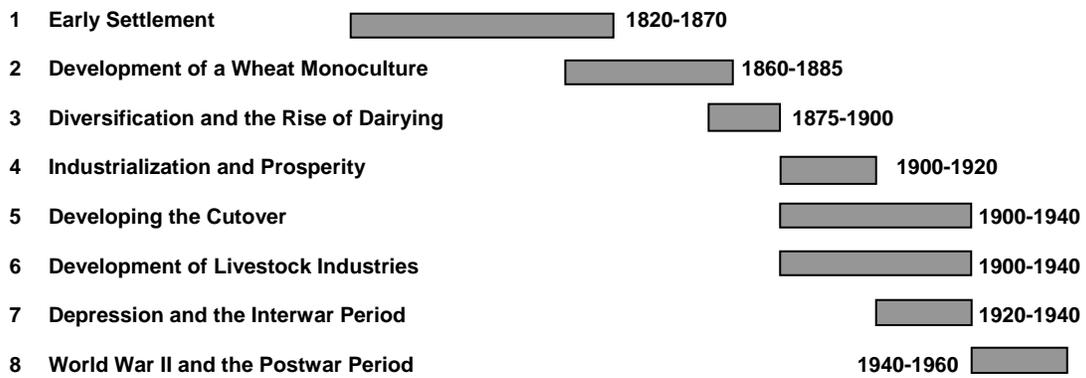
Research for this theme will require the presence of intact artifact deposits. These deposits, though, are not limited to the contents of isolated features, although they will have the greatest research potential, but also the mapping and documentation of sheet refuse will provide information on site refuse disposal patterns and their change over time in response to an increased awareness of health issues and changes in methods of refuse disposal. In addition to standard archival research, this theme benefits from extensive research into recovered artifacts associated with hygiene and health, as exemplified by the above-referenced report. Archaeobotanical and zooarchaeological analyses will also provide information on sanitation and living conditions including the presence or absence of vermin, parasites, and other environmental indicators. As comparative data are gathered on this topic, assemblage comparisons will provide opportunities to examine regional, class, ethnic, and social influences on this subject matter.



Women and Children Feeding Chickens. Location unknown, circa 1905. (MHS photo by Emil King, Neg. No. 41622)

Research Plans

Developmental Periods in Minnesota Agriculture



RESEARCH PLANS FOR MINNESOTA'S FARMSTEAD SITES BY DEVELOPMENTAL PERIODS

The *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* details historic periods associated with changes in agricultural practices in Minnesota and the major influences that helped to spur these changes. The identified periods are:

- Period 1: Early Settlement, 1820-1870
- Period 2: Development of a Wheat Monoculture, 1860-1885
- Period 3: Diversification and the Rise of Dairying, 1875-1900
- Period 4: Industrialization and Prosperity, 1900-1920
- Period 5: Developing the Cutover, 1900-1940
- Period 6: Development of Livestock Industries, 1900-1940
- Period 7: Depression and the Interwar Period, 1920-1940
- Period 8: World War II and the Postwar Period, 1940-1960

While many developments in agriculture occurred statewide and, therefore, may be reflected in farmstead sites across Minnesota, others are more regionally specific. For example, the context "Developing the Cutover, 1900-1940" is limited to the northeastern portion of the state.

In evaluating farmstead sites, it is important to consider that a farm that was occupied for several generations may span more than one period of agricultural development. Over the years, an individual farm may adapt to changes in agricultural practices or continue to holdover earlier practices. Both scenarios have the potential to address research questions about the influence, or lack, of technological change, community growth, and economic development on individual farms and their occupants. Consideration should be given to all of a farmstead's historical period(s) of significance and evaluated within the appropriate context(s).

Note that a farm that is associated with more than one developmental period will likely contain archaeological features that reflect more than one period. For example, the contents of trash pits, privies, and builder's trenches, among other features, can be dated to specific periods or events within a farmstead's development. Individual features should, therefore, be assigned a period of association. The consideration of how each feature relates to overarching agricultural developmental periods will allow not only for the examination of changes within a single farmstead over time, but the comparison of features from one farm with contemporary features from another farm.

Evaluation of farmsteads within periods of development will allow for comparison of contemporary farms as well as for examination of changes in Minnesota agriculture over time. Within this chapter research plans are provided for each of the developmental periods. These research plans identify each period's major themes and trends; chronology; geographic distribution; associated property types; typical elements; National Register-listed sites; and research needs.

While archaeological sites from the earliest periods are often readily regarded as historically significant for their age, it should be noted that despite the wealth of documentary data available for later periods, the ability to construct household-level "farm biographies" is limited and, therefore, archaeology can greatly contribute to our understanding of Minnesota farms at the household scale during the first half of the 20th century.

Research Plans



Sod house at Minnehaha. Circa 1890. (MHS, Neg. No. 6449-B)

PERIOD 1: EARLY SETTLEMENT, 1820-1870**MAJOR THEMES AND TRENDS**

The earliest farms in the Minnesota Territory were established around trading posts, missions, and military posts. As the government established treaties with the Dakota and Ojibwe that opened up lands for settlement, pioneers spread outward along navigable rivers into new regions. Many traveled up the Minnesota River into the open plains in search of good farm land. Reports of the fertile Red River Valley also generated much interest. The Preemption Act of 1841 and the later Homestead Act of 1862 further encouraged settlers to venture into the territory. The financial panic of 1857, the Civil War, and the U.S.-Dakota Conflict slowed the flow of settlers temporarily; however, the number of settlers soon rebounded and the population of the state continued to grow. Farms from this period were typically subsistence-level, diversified farms. Market participation, if any, consisted of farmers selling their excess at local markets (see Granger and Kelly 2005a:4.3-4.9).

CHRONOLOGY

1820-1870

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Initial settlement during this period was concentrated in southeastern Minnesota and near early overland trails and roads or navigable waterways (Granger and Kelly 2005a:4.7-4.8). During this period families tended to construct homesteads of small temporary structures (dugouts, shanties, or log houses) near natural sources of freshwater (river, creeks, springs, and lakes). Dugouts were often constructed in the banks along these water sources. The common settlement pattern consisted of initial homestead sites being occupied during the five-year period that the family fulfilled their homestead patent through the improvement and cultivation of their land. The sites of early homesteads were often abandoned once the farm had become established and a wood-frame farmhouse and associated outbuildings were constructed. As water was provided to these later farmsteads by a well and/or cistern, proximity to a freshwater source was no longer required. Therefore, many farms have "old homestead" sites that are located beyond the area occupied by the later principal farmstead buildings.

FARM ELEMENTS

The farmstead landscape of this period consisted of a few small, simple structures. Although construction methods varied greatly during this period, initial farmhouses were generally dugouts, log cabins or small shanties, usually with earthen floors, and occasionally a small window. These homes were heated by a wood fireplace lined with clay or stone, or by an iron stove and were insulated with chinking that was usually composed of split wood and a mixture of clay and marsh hay. Interior walls were sometimes plastered with mud (Linebaugh 2005:72). Wood-frame homes and brick homes may also date to the later portion of this period. Because farmers usually only kept a few animals for domestic use, barns were infrequent. Livestock were sheltered in small sheds or straw stables. The primary sources of power for farming activities were horse, oxen, and human. Springhouses, root cellars, and icehouses were also common structures on early farmsteads as they were important for food storage and preservation. Wells were infrequent until the end of the period as water was drawn from springs and streams during the warm months and ice and snow were melted in the winter. Wooden fencing appeared in this

Research Plans

period, but was limited because of the large effort needed for fence construction and maintenance (Granger and Kelly 2004:3.9-3.10; Granger and Kelly 2005a:4.7-4.8).

TYPICAL EARLY SETTLEMENT PERIOD FARMSTEAD ELEMENTS

Common features of farmsteads during the Early Settlement (1820-1870) period are:

- ✓ Situated near natural water sources
- ✓ Small farms with subsistence-level, diversified farming methods
- ✓ Dugouts, log structures, and sod houses;
- ✓ Small, simple outbuildings built with native materials; and/or
- ✓ Springhouses, root cellars, and icehouses.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

According to the SHPO database, three National Register-listed farmsteads from this period have undergone archaeological investigations. None of these sites, though, are listed on the National Register under Criterion D.

Gideon Pond House, Hennepin County (21HE0244)
Gibbs Farm Dugout, Ramsey County (21RA0026)
Laura Ingalls Wilder Dugout, Redwood County (21RW0048)

There are no farmstead archaeology sites from this period that are known to be considered eligible for the National Register but not yet listed.

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED SITES

In addition to the National Register-listed sites mentioned above, sites that have been previously identified that are clearly associated with the period of Early Settlement (1820-1870) include:

Dingler Homestead, Nicollet County (21NL0134)
Goulson Dugout, Swift County (21SW0017)

RESEARCH THEMES AND QUESTIONS

Farmsteads from the Early Settlement Period are not well documented in the written record. Extant, well-preserved examples of resources from this period are also rare due to the temporary nature of the initial farm homestead (Granger and Kelly 2005a:4.8). Therefore, farmstead layout and the size, distribution, and nature of farm components during this period are little understood. Furthermore, because these sites predate the state's population boom, they are a smaller body of potential archaeological sites. Sites from this period also often exhibit "traditional" or ethnically-based building design and construction (Granger and Kelly 2005a:4.8). Therefore, archaeological resources associated with the Early Settlement Period can make a major contribution to our understanding of this period of farming in Minnesota.

As basic data are still needed for sites from this period, research themes and sample research questions are only broadly defined. As additional data becomes available, research questions can be refined. Sample questions that archaeological sites from this period can address include:

Period 1: Early Settlement, 1820-1870

- If there was an initial homestead site replaced by later structures, when did this transition take place? How long was the initial homestead site occupied? Combining documentary evidence with archaeological evidence, is there an explanation for what events triggered or facilitated this move? Does the later farmstead location reflect an orientation to the evolving transportation network?
- As farms during this period were primarily subsistence-level, diversified farms situated on the frontier is there evidence for what degree farm families relied on natural food resources (wild game and fish) to augment their domesticated food sources? What evidence is there for food types, meat cuts, and access to imported food items?
- When did the farm begin to participate in a market economy? What archaeological evidence is there for this transition? Is there evidence for locally-made items and during which periods were they used?

SOURCES FOR SITE IDENTIFICATION

Because initial homesteads from this period were frequently abandoned and often pre-date plat maps for a given project area, they are often overlooked during Phase I surveys. Dugouts are frequently located in embankments that are considered too steeply sloped for the presence of archaeological sites. Therefore, bluff edges along rivers and creeks should be visually inspected for potential dugout locations. Sources for site identification include:

- GLO homestead records
- Oral history from landowners and descendants of initial family homestead sites
- Staff of county historical society

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Due to the lack of information on farmsteads from this period, archaeological sites from this period that are identified during Phase I surveys as having intact archaeological resources should be considered potentially eligible for listing on the National Register. It should be noted that artifacts are likely to be less abundant on sites from this period due to the short periods of occupation associated with homestead sites; the salvaging of materials for the new farmstead site; and limited access to mass-produced wares. Therefore, artifact quantities and varieties should not be considered as a primary tool for evaluating the significance of archaeological sites from this period.

PRINCIPAL REFERENCES

Caspers, Jean

1980 Compendium History of the Dugout and Sod House in Minnesota. MULT-80-12. Manuscript on file at the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, St. Paul.

This text describes the history of dugouts and sod houses in Minnesota including construction techniques. A limited listing of known dugout and sod house locations is provided by county.

Linebaugh, D. W.

2005 Excavating the Dugout House of Norwegian Immigrant Anna Byberg Chistopherson Goulson, Swift County, Minnesota. *Historical Archaeology* 39 (2):63-88.

This article presents the results of the excavation of the Goulson dugout in Swift County as well as a summary of four other dugout excavations in Minnesota including sites in Jackson, Ramsey, Washington, and Watonwan counties.

Research Plans



Wheat farm. Aitkin County, circa 1910. (MHS photo by Harry Darius Ayer, Neg. No. 65783)

PERIOD 2: DEVELOPMENT OF A WHEAT MONOCULTURE, 1860-1885**MAJOR THEMES AND TRENDS**

The large-scale production of wheat in Minnesota began during this period. Advances in farming technology such as the introduction of mechanical reapers, threshers, and self-binders among other inventions, facilitated Minnesota's success in wheat growing during this period. Flour mills were constructed at the Falls of St. Anthony, and Minneapolis soon became a leader in flour production. Minnesota wheat farms, particularly those of the Red River Valley, introduced the idea of single-cash crop focused agriculture and became the first examples of large-scale, commercial farming in Minnesota (see Granger and Kelly 2005a:4.13-4.21).

CHRONOLOGY

1860-1885

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Wheat monoculture started in the southeastern part of Minnesota during the late 1850s. This phase of wheat cultivation was characterized by hand threshing and the use of waterways or overland wagon routes to transport the wheat to points where it could be transferred to railways for shipment on to markets in Chicago or Milwaukee. In 1870 the principal wheat-growing counties were Olmstead, Goodhue, Fillmore, Wabasha, Dakota, and Winona (Granger and Kelly 2005a:4.13, 4.15).

Around 1875 a new phase in wheat production began. Once rail lines were established to the Red River Valley and from the valley to the shipping ports at Duluth, the northwestern portion of Minnesota became a huge producer of wheat. Farming in Minnesota moved from the hardwood forests of the southeast to the prairies of the western part of the state. By 1900, the counties with the largest wheat production were Polk, Clay, Marshall, and Otter Tail (Granger and Kelly 2005a:4.15, 4.16).

FARM ELEMENTS

As farmers began settling the treeless prairies of the Red River Valley, sod houses began dotting the landscape. Homes often consisted entirely of sod bricks, or of sod laid outside of a wooden frame. The dugout structure was still common during this period. Towards the end of the wheat monoculture period, the increased availability of wood products enabled farmers to construct wood-frame homes with timber siding and shingles. These homes were often heated by wood stoves or base-burning coal stoves. Livestock barns remained infrequent on wheat farms, but new structures, such as sackhouses, granaries, and threshing barns, began to appear. Construction of these types of buildings varied, but typically consisted of a stone foundation and timber framing (Granger and Kelly 2004:3.23-3.25; Granger and Kelly 2005:4.20).

Research Plans

TYPICAL WHEAT MONOCULTURE PERIOD FARMSTEAD ELEMENTS

Common features of farmsteads during the Development of a Wheat Monoculture (1860-1885) period are:

- ✓ During the first phase in the southeast, buildings were timber-framed or constructed of log or stone;
- ✓ During the early part of the second phase of wheat, dugouts, and sod houses were present, but frame houses became increasingly common in the later part of the period;
- ✓ Outbuildings with stone foundations and timber framing;
- ✓ Few buildings for animal housing;
- ✓ Sackhouses, granaries, and threshing barns, and/or
- ✓ Windbreaks, woodlots, and shelterbelts in the prairie areas.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

According to the SHPO database, one National Register-listed farmstead property from this period has undergone an archaeological investigation. The warehouse at the Lower Sioux Agency Historic Site (21RW0011) was converted to a farmhouse in 1869. The site, though, is not listed on the National Register under Criterion D.

There are no farmstead archaeology sites from this period that are known to be considered eligible for the National Register but not yet listed.

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED SITES

While several farmstead archaeological sites have been excavated that date to the period of wheat monoculture, archaeological studies have largely failed to note what types of crops were being produced at the farm sites investigated. An exception is the report on the above-mentioned archaeological excavations of the stone warehouse (21RW0011) at the Lower Sioux Agency Historic Site in Redwood County. In 1869, the warehouse was converted to a farmhouse by German immigrants who are described as operating a diversified farm on which they grew wheat and raised livestock (Arnott 1998).

RESEARCH THEMES AND QUESTIONS

Farmsteads from the Wheat Monoculture period are among the earliest farm types in the hardwood forested portions of southeast Minnesota as well as within the Red River Valley. Furthermore, this period is associated with the initial cultivation of the state's prairie region. Wheat farms and their associated technologies will vary between the early farms of the southeast and the later phase farms of the northwest.

While occasional extant examples of structures from this period do survive, farms that continued in operation beyond this period have been adapted to other forms of agriculture. Therefore, the archaeological examination of farms from this period will increase our understanding of how wheat farms were initially constructed, and the size, distribution, and nature of farm components during this period.

As basic data are still needed for sites from this period, research themes and associated questions are only broadly defined. As additional data becomes available, research questions can be refined. Research topics that archaeological sites from this period can address include:

Period 2: Wheat Monoculture, 1860-1885

- Is there evidence for farmstead layouts and building designs influenced by farm publications?
- How does the layout of wheat farms from the first phase compare to wheat farms from the second phase?
- As wheat farms were adapted to diversified farms in the southeastern portion of the state what modifications were made to the buildings and the farm layout?
- As during the Early Settlement period, farms during the Wheat Monoculture period were often situated on the frontier. The exclusive production of a market cash crop, though, required participation in a market economy. To what degree did wheat farmers, particularly in the Red River valley, rely on goods brought into the area by rail?
- What types of goods were present on sites during this period? Is there evidence for locally-made items?
- How does the domestic assemblage from the first phase of the Wheat Monoculture period compare with sites from the second phase?

SOURCES FOR SITE IDENTIFICATION

Sites from the wheat monoculture period, being more substantial than those from the early settlement period, are more readily identified during archaeological surveys. Resources of particular importance for sites from this period, though, include the following:

- GLO homestead records
- A. T. Andreas 1874 Atlas – in particular illustrations of farms
- Early county atlases
- Agricultural census records

Research Plans



Pure bred herd of Holstein cows owned by J. M. Edler. Brainerd, Crow Wing County, circa 1910. (MHS photo by Harry Darius Ayer Neg. No. 62909)

PERIOD 3: DIVERSIFICATION AND THE RISE OF DAIRYING, 1875-1900**MAJOR THEMES AND TRENDS**

Diversification of agriculture during the late nineteenth century in Minnesota resulted in the introduction of livestock operations to already established crop and/or subsistence farming. In 1867, the Minnesota State Agricultural Society issued a statement that encouraged farmers to diversify their agricultural practices, and discouraged the growing of a single crop in the same field year after year (Jarchow 1949:253). Many farmers soon complied with this idea by investing in livestock and rotating crops and pasture. Diversification protected farmers from financial ruin brought about by the failure of a single crop as well as introduced other sources of cash such as “egg money” or the “milk check.” The transition to diversified farming, though, required a substantial amount of capital, not only for the purchase of the livestock, but also for the construction of barns and silos. Because of this expense, the raising of livestock was outside the reach of many farmers. Those who did undertake livestock husbandry, particularly dairying, were aided by a variety of newly developed techniques and technologies ranging from winter-hardy alfalfa to the silo (see Granger and Kelly 2005:4.25-4.34).

CHRONOLOGY

1875-1900

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Diversification began in the southeastern part of the state during the 1870s, because the soils of that region had already been exhausted by 20 years of raising only wheat. During the period from 1870 to 1910, dairying was especially prominent in Houston, Fillmore, Winona, Faribault, Freeborn, Mower, Carver, Otter Tail, Douglas, and Stearns counties (Granger and Kelly 2005:4.28).

FARM ELEMENTS

During this period, the increase in livestock farming and associated technologies led to the expansion of the built farmstead landscape. Large, well-constructed barns became common features on the farm. These barns were generally timber-framed structures with clear spans for hay carriers and hay mows. Barn interiors included stanchions. Silos, often square and constructed of wood, were located near or adjacent to barns for feed storage. Silos first appeared in Minnesota around 1890, and were in common use by circa 1910. Dairy farms included milk houses and springhouses especially for the processing and storage of dairy products. Fencing also came into larger use to contain livestock in grazing areas (Granger and Kelly 2004:3.34-3.36; Granger and Kelly 2005:4.29).

Research Plans

TYPICAL DIVERSIFICATION PERIOD FARMSTEAD ELEMENTS

Common features of farmsteads during the Diversification and the Rise of Dairying (1875-1900) period are:

- ✓ Larger and more substantial farmhouses;
- ✓ Large, two-story, timber-framed, general-purpose barns with windows;
- ✓ Hay carriers, hay mows, and stanchions;
- ✓ Silos, granaries, and corncribs;
- ✓ Springhouses, icehouses, and milk houses;
- ✓ Poultry houses and hog barns;
- ✓ Increased use of dimensional lumber; and/or
- ✓ Increased fencing and introduction of barbed wire.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

No Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites associated with this period have been listed on the National Register. The Wuamett Farmstead in Stearns County, though, did undergo diversification during this period and the associated archaeological site (21ST0013) is considered by the SHPO to be eligible for listing on the National Register although the site is not yet listed.

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED SITES

While several farmstead archaeological sites have been excavated that date to the period of diversification and dairying, in the absence of the present context they have not been identified as such in archaeological reports. The Phase II investigation of site 21ST0013 (Wuamett Farmstead) in Stearns County, though, is of a farm that diversified during this period (Halverson et al. 1998).

RESEARCH THEMES AND QUESTIONS

This period is one of transition between the wheat monoculture era that preceded it and the period of mechanization and specialization that would follow the turn of the century. As this period is only recognized through the development of the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960*, basic data are still needed for sites from this period. Archaeological studies of farms from this era, though, should focus on how the transition manifested itself in the archaeological record, including:

- How did the size, distribution, and nature of farm components change during this period?
- What evidence is there for designs influenced by local carpenters versus designs influenced by technical bulletins?
- What forms of technologies were introduced during this period?
- Were farms abandoned during this period rather than modified?
- How is this transition reflected in the material culture of individual farm families?

SOURCES FOR SITE IDENTIFICATION

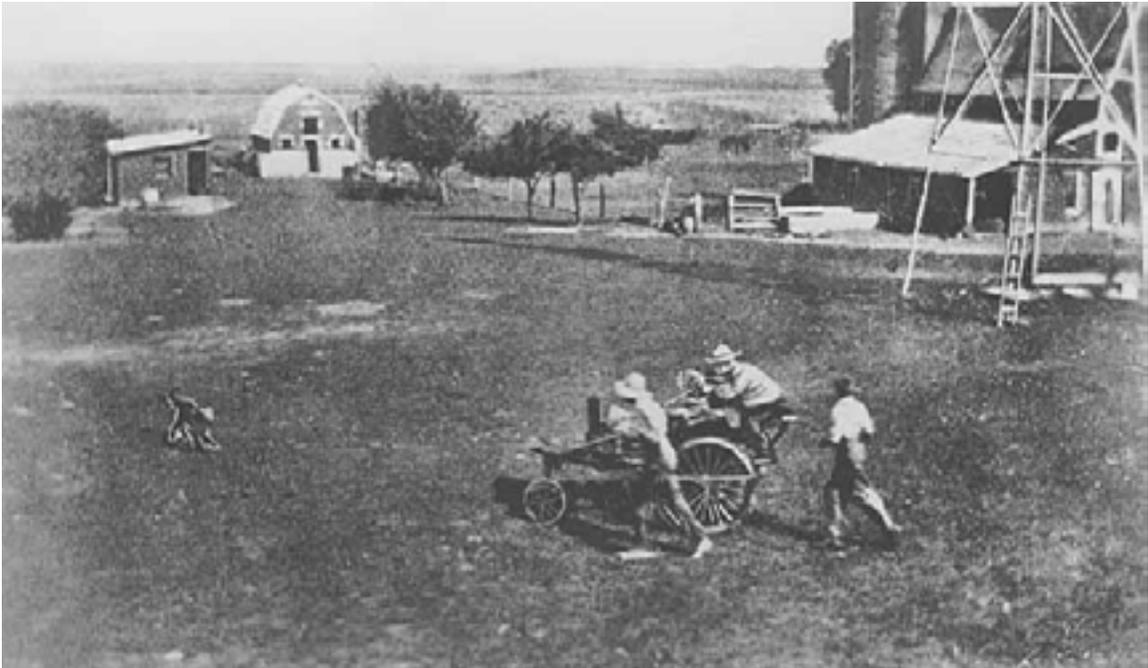
All standard resources should be consulted for site identification.

Period 3: Diversification and the Rise of Dairying, 1875-1900



Cattle in farmyard. Near Albany, Stearns County, circa 1900. (MHS photo by Briol Studio, Neg. No. 9434-B)

Research Plans



First trip of the Ronning tractor prototype in farmyard. Location unknown, 1911. (MHS Neg. No. 21723)

PERIOD 4: INDUSTRIALIZATION AND PROSPERITY, 1900-1920**MAJOR THEMES AND TRENDS**

At the turn of the twentieth century, farming in Minnesota was an isolated and independent way of life. Farming was labor intensive and farming methods were traditional. As the decade progressed, efforts were made to increase the distribution of information concerning new technologies and farming methods. This was largely due to the fact that all available land was being used for agriculture, but production was no longer keeping up with the nation's expanding population and the demands of World War I. To encourage the use of more efficient and productive farming practices, rural electrification programs, drainage programs, and agricultural education programs in rural schools were introduced throughout the state. Furthermore, during this period mass-produced mechanized farm equipment and tractors aided in farm efficiency, while cars, trucks, and rural mail delivery eased the isolation of the farm. The result of this "industrialization" of farming was that the years between 1897 and 1919 were "the Golden Age of Agriculture" and were marked by overall farm prosperity (see Granger and Kelly 2005:4.41-4.51).

CHRONOLOGY

1900-1920

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The impacts of the Industrialization and Prosperity period in Minnesota were widespread and not identified within any particular region. Better farming methods, though, did lead to the development of regional agricultural trends during this period. Grain, and, in particular wheat, continued to be the mainstay of northwestern Minnesota and the Red River Valley during this period. Meanwhile, wheat decreased in the southwest portion of the state where the cultivation of oats was on the rise and equaled wheat production by 1910. Corn, grown in a three-year rotation, became the specialty crop of southern Minnesota. Dairy farming was concentrated in southeastern Minnesota and the counties west of the Twin Cities. Southeastern Minnesota began to see specialty crops in the forms of orchard products and berries on the rise, while potatoes were a major cash crop of northern Minnesota and the sand plains north of the Twin Cities. Vegetables and sugar beets were alternative crops grown in southwest and south central Minnesota, while numerous small truck farms of 20 acres or less supplied fruits and vegetables to the city markets (see Granger and Kelly 2005:4.44-4.45).

PROPERTY TYPES

This period is marked by not only an increase in specialized structures, but also by a dramatic change in building materials. The use of silos for feed storage became more common, and corn cribs also came into common use. Silos, which were located near or adjacent to barns for feed storage, first appeared in Minnesota around 1890, and were in common use by circa 1910. Likewise, milk houses began appearing on farms in the late 1890s, and by 1914 the Minnesota extension service encouraged farmers with ten or more cows to construct a milk house. Also, structures for housing hogs were added to the farmstead landscape. Newly constructed buildings of this period were built with concrete foundations and floors, and used manufactured materials such as concrete blocks and staves, tile, and steel sheeting. Factory-made stanchions and mangers, King ventilation systems, and manure gutters typified of the new scientific agriculture. Mechanized farm machinery including gas-engine tractors, mechanical manure spreaders, corn

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Plans

binders, hay loaders, and steam-powered threshers were adopted during this period. Sanitation in farms was improved with the addition of septic systems and pressurized water systems, often powered by windmills (Granger and Kelly 2004:3.41-3.42; Granger and Kelly 2005:4.47, 4.48).

TYPICAL INDUSTRIALIZATION AND PROSPERITY PERIOD FARMSTEAD ELEMENTS

Common features of farmsteads during the Industrialization and Prosperity (1900-1920) period are:

- ✓ Larger and more substantial farmhouses;
- ✓ Silos and corn cribs;
- ✓ Milk houses;
- ✓ Hog housing;
- ✓ Concrete foundations and manufactured building materials;
- ✓ Field drainage systems;
- ✓ Septic and pressurized water systems; and/or
- ✓ Windmills.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

No Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites associated with this period have been listed on the National Register. There are also no farmstead archaeology sites from this period that are known to be considered eligible for the National Register but not yet listed.

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED SITES

While several farmstead archaeological sites have been excavated that date to the period of prosperity and industrialization they have not been identified as such in archaeological reports.

RESEARCH THEMES AND QUESTIONS

During this period, the transition to diversification that was begun in the previous period had culminated in farms that were true industrial sites geared towards the efficient production of agricultural products for sale at market. Regional specialization furthered the productivity of farms during this era. Basic archaeological data are still needed for sites from this period, but among the research topics that farms from this period could address are:

- How is the introduction of scientific agriculture and mechanization reflected in modifications to farm layout, locations of buildings, roads, fields, and pastures?
- Is there evidence for adherence to the teachings of the Country Life movement which encouraged farmers to fix up their homes, install modern appliances, electrification, and engage in farmstead beautification including ornamental plantings (Granger and Kelly 2005:4.50)?
- This period has been described as a “new dawn in rural family living” (Granger and Kelly 2005:4.43). How is the prosperity – and presumed increased buying power – of the farm reflected in the material goods of the household and farm implements? In what types of material culture did farm families invest their capital?

SOURCES FOR SITE IDENTIFICATION

All standard resources should be consulted for site identification.

Period 4: Industrialization and Prosperity, 1900-1920



Silo under construction next to barn. Location unknown, circa 1920. (MHS Neg. No. 11077-A)

Research Plans



Stump-pulling in land clearing operations in northern Minnesota. Location unknown, 1924. (MHS Neg. No. 10968)

PERIOD 5: DEVELOPING THE CUTOVER, 1900-1940**MAJOR THEMES AND TRENDS**

This developmental period is focused on the pine stands of northern Minnesota. As the lumber companies moved through the region clear-cutting pine and various hardwoods, thousands of acres of land were left uninhabited. After the timber was cut, logging and railroad companies began to encourage farmers to settle the area and begin cultivating the cutover. These efforts were met with some success before and during World War I as settlers, enticed by cheap land, traveled northward and employees of lumber companies supplemented their income during the off season by operating subsistence farms. The number of farms in the cutover reached its peak in 1925. As the years passed, it became evident that farming in northern Minnesota was not a profitable venture. By the 1930s many farms were abandoned, and the government relocated families to counties with better agricultural land (see Granger and Kelly 2005:4.59-4.68).

CHRONOLOGY

1900-1940

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The cutover region encompasses approximately 16 counties in northeastern Minnesota. The southernmost counties of the cutover like Aitkin, Carlton, Crow Wing, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine were developed first, followed by the counties proximate to Lake Superior such as Cook, Lake, and St. Louis (Granger and Kelly 2005:4.61).

FARM ELEMENTS

Because most of the farms established in the cutover were subsistence farms of small acreage, structures tended to be small and simple. Farmhouses were generally log cabins with root cellars, but a few were of frame construction. Small numbers of livestock were either kept in small, cheaply constructed barns or in sheds that were open to the south. Cutover farmsteads frequently had numerous sheds and outbuildings that were widely spaced over the landscape (Granger and Kelly 2004:3.54-3.55).

TYPICAL DEVELOPING THE CUTOVER FARMSTEAD ELEMENTS

Common features of farmsteads during the Developing the Cutover (1900-1940) period are:

- ✓ Log Cabins with root cellars;
- ✓ Small, cheaply constructed barns, or sheds - also often of log or sided with tarpaper;
- ✓ Saunas and sugarhouses;
- ✓ Numerous sheds and outbuildings widely spaced to keep fires from spreading readily;
- ✓ Irregularly shaped fields, and/or
- ✓ Drainage systems.

Research Plans

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

No Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites associated with this period have been listed on the National Register. There are also no farmstead archaeology sites from this period that are known to be considered eligible for the National Register but not yet listed.

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED SITES

For a discussion of previous archaeological fieldwork on sites within the cutover see the discussion of Region 8: Northern Cutover, Potatoes, and Clover Seed in the following chapter.

RESEARCH THEMES AND QUESTIONS

The unique history of the cutover region provides the opportunity to address research questions that are particular to this geographical and temporal period including:

- How were cutover farms organized? What structures were present? What types of crops and livestock were associated with them?
- The relative poverty, subsistence nature, and small size of the cutover farm is documented. How do artifact assemblages from these farms compare with contemporary farms from other regions?
- How were regional settlement patterns and farm success influenced by roadways and rail corridors?
- This cutover region has strong ethnic associations. What evidence is there for ethnic influences on farm buildings and layout?
- Farmers in the cutover often pursued other non-agricultural sources of income. Is there archaeological evidence for on-farm sawmills, rental cabins and resorts, sugarhouses, or other non-agricultural pursuits? Were farms with these other income sources occupied longer?

SOURCES FOR SITE IDENTIFICATION

All standard resources should be consulted for site identification.



Anton Antilla and family on farm. Near Palo, St. Louis County, 1914. (MHS Neg. No. 10910).

Research Plans



Hogs and hog houses (cots) arranged for winter. Location unknown, circa 1910. (MHS photo by Harry Darius Ayer, Neg. No. 24581).

PERIOD 6: DEVELOPMENT OF LIVESTOCK INDUSTRIES, 1900-1940**MAJOR THEMES AND TRENDS**

The raising of livestock, introduced in Minnesota in the late nineteenth century, was an industry well suited to the plains areas of western and southwestern portions of the state. Herds of animals, particularly cattle, were set out to graze on the open and largely uninhabited grasslands. As the number of livestock farmers increased, the availability of open grassland decreased, which led to an increase in the production of feed crops, especially corn and Grimm alfalfa. Between 1900 and 1940, beef and hog-farming increased markedly in Minnesota. Besides mechanization, disease control, and new feed crops, the rising Minnesota meatpacking industry, food requirements of an increasing urban population, and the needs of World War I placed demands on American farmers to increase livestock production. In 1910, the state's eight principle livestock items were hogs, butterfat, beef-cattle, eggs, milk, lambs-sheep, calves and chicken. Patterns of livestock production established during this period provided a basis for the increased livestock production of the post-World War II period (Granger and Kelly 2005:4.75-4.80).

CHRONOLOGY

1900-1940

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

While livestock production generally increased during this period, certain regions in the state were associated with particular forms of livestock. By 1940 beef cattle were being raised in nearly every county in the state, but southwestern Minnesota, with its high yields of corn and soybeans, was a leading producer of cattle and hogs. Southeast Minnesota also raised beef cattle and hogs, but had dairy, egg, and poultry operations as well. Central Minnesota north of the Minnesota River was a region of turkey production. The prairie region of central and west central Minnesota, though, was an area of diverse livestock enterprises including dairy, poultry, eggs, and hogs. Within the Red River Valley, livestock diversification in the form of feeder lamb, sheep, and cattle was encouraged by the Great Northern Railroad. Egg production was concentrated in part around the Twin Cities metro area (Granger and Kelly 2005:4.76-4.77).

FARM ELEMENTS

As livestock farming became a more common practice, farmers improved upon livestock related structures. Dairy barns became large, substantial, well-built structures, and the use of tile and concrete as building materials increased. Barns included tie stalls with stanchions, box stall space for calves, and large lofts for hay storage. Fewer structures were associated with beef cattle, but pole-framed buildings were coming into use for cattle. Corn became the most popular feed crop, and corn cribs replaced granaries. Round silos also became ubiquitous during this period. Early garages for cars and trucks also appeared on farms during this period (Granger and Kelly 2004:3.60-3.61; Kelly and Granger 2005:4.80).

Research Plans

TYPICAL DEVELOPMENT OF LIVESTOCK INDUSTRIES PERIOD FARMSTEAD ELEMENTS

Common features of farmsteads during the Development of Livestock Industries (1900-1940) period are:

- ✓ Large, well-build dairy barns with tie stalls with stanchions, box stall space for calves, and large hay lofts;
- ✓ Pole buildings for beef cattle;
- ✓ On-farm stockyards, stock chutes, and stock tanks;
- ✓ Hog barns with concrete floors and yards or colonies of hog cots;
- ✓ Sheep barns and poultry housing;
- ✓ The use of concrete and tile in construction;
- ✓ Corn cribs, grain bins, and round silos; and/or
- ✓ Early garages.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

No Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites associated with this period have been listed on the National Register. There are also no farmstead archaeology sites from this period that are known to be considered eligible for the National Register but not yet listed.

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED SITES

While several farmstead archaeological sites have been excavated that date to this period they have not been identified as such in archaeological reports.

RESEARCH THEMES AND QUESTIONS

The time period of this era overlaps with the Periods 4 (Industrialization and Prosperity, 1900-1920) and Period 7 (Depression and Interwar Period, 1920-1940), and, therefore, suggested research topics for those periods should be consulted as well. Archaeological research questions specific to the rise of the livestock industry include:

- How were farms modified for livestock production?
- How were the unique farm elements required for livestock raising constructed and arranged within the farmstead? Is there evidence for re-organization of the farmstead towards the facilitation of livestock transportation?
- How does the regional distribution of livestock farms relate to topographic, transportation, and environmental variables?

SOURCES FOR SITE IDENTIFICATION

All standard resources should be consulted for site identification.



Cattle and pigs in barnyard. Location unknown, circa 1910. (MHS photo by Walter T. Oxley, Neg. No. 93416)

Research Plans



Farm abandoned after successive years of drought. Possibly near Breckenridge, Wilkin County, 1936. (MHS Neg. No. 46661)

PERIOD 7: DEPRESSION AND INTERWAR PERIOD, 1920-1940**MAJOR THEMES AND TRENDS**

The 1920 collapse in agricultural prices after World War I led to an agricultural depression that was compounded by the Great Depression of the 1930s. In the period of nationalistic self-sufficiency that followed World War I, foreign export of American agricultural products rapidly declined. Two decades of increased farm efficiency and productivity also resulted in crop and livestock surpluses that led to low market prices on the domestic front. The “Golden Age of Agriculture” came rapidly to an end as farm incomes plunged. The federal government attempted to control farm prices by controlling out-put, but agricultural productivity continued to increase in the 1930s. Agricultural innovation continued during this period and milk production increased, diversification continued, and the gas-powered tractor was introduced. Despite the government’s efforts to equalize price levels and encourage soil conservation tactics, Minnesota farmers continued to suffer through the 1930s. As a result, the number of farmers in the state declined, which drastically affected the state’s economy (see Granger and Kelly 2005:4.87-4.95).

CHRONOLOGY

1920-1940

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Although economic depression was statewide during this period, some regions fared better than others. Southern Minnesota including the counties of Faribault, Houston, Mower, Nicollet, Jackson, Scott, Wabasha, and Goodhue received enough moisture in the 1930s to grow crops and produce hay. The Red River Valley north of Wilkin County, while more distressed than southern Minnesota, also received enough rain to salvage adequate crops. South of Wilkin County, though, west central Minnesota was ravaged by drought and grasshoppers. Many farms in Big Stone, Stevens, Pope, and Swift counties were wiped out with Big Stone County being the hardest hit. Due to increased diversification farmers in the central Minnesota counties of Stearns, Kandiyohi, and Meeker fared slightly better than their west central counterparts (Granger and Kelly 2005:4.91).

FARM ELEMENTS

The impacts of public programs concerning rural electrification and conservation initiated during the first decades of the twentieth century were clearly seen during this period. An increasing number of farms were electrified and structures were erected to control soil erosion. The increase in productivity provided by tractors and other machinery, including tractor-drawn combines, resulted in the farming of larger acreages. Also, grain bins replaced corn cribs once the combine came into use. Dairy barns constructed during this period tended to be one-story structures with a separate milking parlor; however, there was minimal new construction during the depression era. Existing buildings were remodeled and reused for the sake of economy (Granger and Kelly 2004:3.68).

Research Plans

TYPICAL DEPRESSION AND INTERWAR PERIOD FARMSTEAD ELEMENTS

Common features of farmsteads during the Depression and Interwar Period (1920-1940) period are:

- ✓ Rural electrification;
- ✓ Tractors and other mechanized farm machinery;
- ✓ Implement sheds for machinery;
- ✓ Larger fields to accommodate new machinery;
- ✓ Grain bins;
- ✓ Shelterbelts and soil conservation methods such as contour plowing and terracing;
- ✓ Single-story dairy barns with separate milking parlors; and/or
- ✓ Remodeled and reused farm buildings as opposed to new construction.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

No Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites associated with this period have been listed on the National Register. There are also no farmstead archaeology sites from this period that are known to be considered eligible for the National Register but not yet listed.

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED SITES

While several farmstead archaeological sites have been excavated that date to this period, they have not been identified as such in archaeological reports.

RESEARCH THEMES AND QUESTIONS

The history of farmstead archaeology in Minnesota to date has largely ignored twentieth century farmsteads. The Depression and Interwar period, though, is an era that exhibits high archaeological research potential. Certainly it created archaeological sites as farms failed and were abandoned. While this era and its general effect on farming is well documented, the influence of the Depression on individual farm families and the operation of their farms. Research topics for farmstead sites from this era include:

- How did the transition from the “Golden Age of Agriculture” to the Depression manifest itself on individual farms and in farming communities? Is there evidence for diet changes; decreased buying power; and/or curation of household goods, farm implements, etc.?
- What kinds of farms survived the Depression? In what regions? What type of farming did they practice?
- Is there an “archaeological signature” for the Depression? For the effects of droughts and grasshopper infestations?
- What influence did increased farm tenancy in the 1930s have on farmsteads and their built environment?
- During the Depression unemployed urban residents moved to the country and pursued subsistence-level farming. How do we identify farms associated with the “back to the land movement”? What do they look like archaeologically?

SOURCES FOR SITE IDENTIFICATION

All standard resources should be consulted for site identification.

Period 7: Depression and Interwar Period, 1920-1940



Drought farmers working on farm to market road. Foster Township, Big Stone County, 1936. (MHS Neg. No. 10102-A)

Research Plans



Paul Konopatski farm. Near Farmington, Dakota County, circa 1954. (MHS Neg. No. 38269)

PERIOD 8: WORLD WAR II AND THE POSTWAR PERIOD, 1940-1960**MAJOR THEMES AND TRENDS**

World War II ushered in a new era of farm prosperity that lasted until 1959. While the number of farms in Minnesota continued to decrease during this period; however, farm size increased. Between 1950 and 1970, the number of farms decreased from 179,000 to 99,000 while average farm size increased from 184 to 280 acres (Nass 1989:147). The people who had moved from the city to rural areas during the Depression to work as farm laborers or to operate small subsistence farms began to return to the city as job opportunities grew. These trends resulted in many abandoned farmsteads. At the same time, new technologies were being introduced that increased mechanization of farms. The electrification of farms also increased during this period and electricity and the use of tractors became firmly established. After decades of diversification, farmers began to return to specialization in the 1950s, focusing on either crops or livestock, but rarely both. In response to fears of another agricultural depression, an interest in grain storage after World War II led to the development of several new silo designs. This coincided with an increase in the growth of hybrid corn in the upper midwest (see Granger and Kelly 2004:4.101-4.112).

CHRONOLOGY

1940-1960

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The return to farm specialization during this period resulted in farmers in southeastern and southwestern Minnesota concentrating on cattle, hogs, corn, and soybeans. Southeastern Minnesota, which was responsible for about a quarter of the state's farm products, also produced poultry, dairy products, eggs, cheese, vegetables, and apples. The Red River Valley continued to produce spring wheat, sugar beets, and about two thirds of the state's potato corn. Turkey farms were concentrated in the central portion of the state north of the Minnesota River as far as Otter Tail, Wadena, Cass, and Crow Wing counties. Central Minnesota farmers also raised crop, oats, soybeans, and vegetables. East central Minnesota counties specialized in truck farming and produced canning vegetables and potatoes. Pine County was a leading producer of rutabagas, while apples were a prominent crop in Washington County. By this period farming of the northeastern cutover had largely ceased (Granger and Kelly 2004:4.107).

FARM ELEMENTS

As the economy recovered, farmers began replacing the structures that had become run-down during the depression years. The once ubiquitous, large, general purpose barn was replaced by a number of structures, often prefabricated buildings with multipurpose and flexible building designs, such as pole barns and Quonset buildings. As the combine harvester made corncribs obsolete, cylindrical, corrugated metal bins, often with a drying system, came into use. New technologies altered silo construction, resulting in the Harvester Silo - a tall, metal, glass-lined structures that is gas-tight (Granger and Kelly 2004:3.76-3.77).

Research Plans

TYPICAL WORLD WAR II AND POSTWAR PERIOD FARMSTEAD ELEMENTS

Common features of farmsteads during the World War II and the Postwar Period (1940-1960) are:

- ✓ Era of new building construction;
- ✓ Less diverse collection of structures per farm;
- ✓ Feedlots and climate-controlled buildings for hogs and poultry;
- ✓ Grain self-feeders, hay feeding racks, and other labor saving devices;
- ✓ Prefabricated buildings, such as pole-framed and Quonset-type buildings;
- ✓ Use of alternative materials like hollow tile brick and concrete during war;
- ✓ Post-war use of steel, aluminum, and fiberglass sheeting and aluminum tubing;
- ✓ Cylindrical, corrugated metal grain bins and Harvester Silos;
- ✓ Grain dryers; and/or
- ✓ Large fields without fences.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

No Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites associated with this period have been listed on the National Register. There are also no farmstead archaeology sites from this period that are known to be considered eligible for the National Register but not yet listed.

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED SITES

While farmstead sites from this period have been documented during archaeological studies, these excavations have typically focused on earlier periods of the site's occupation with sites from this era having been considered too recent to have archaeological value.

RESEARCH THEMES AND QUESTIONS

The history of farmstead archaeology in Minnesota to date has largely ignored twentieth-century farmsteads. Research topics that farmstead sites from this era can address include:

- An increase in living standards occurred during this era. How is this reflected in the built environment and the archaeological record of the farm?
- It has been said that during this period the disparity between rural and urban life decreased. Does this hold true for all regions?
- New machinery and new farming methods (baled hay) require new buildings, while other production methods (feed lots) required modification of how farmers used space. How did farms adapt to these changes?
- Farmers were encouraged to think about efficiency of production during this period, which was coupled with a decrease in farm labor requirements. How were farmsteads altered to make work more efficient?
- Farms were abandoned during this period and subsumed into other farms. What types of farms were abandoned? Under what circumstances were they abandoned?

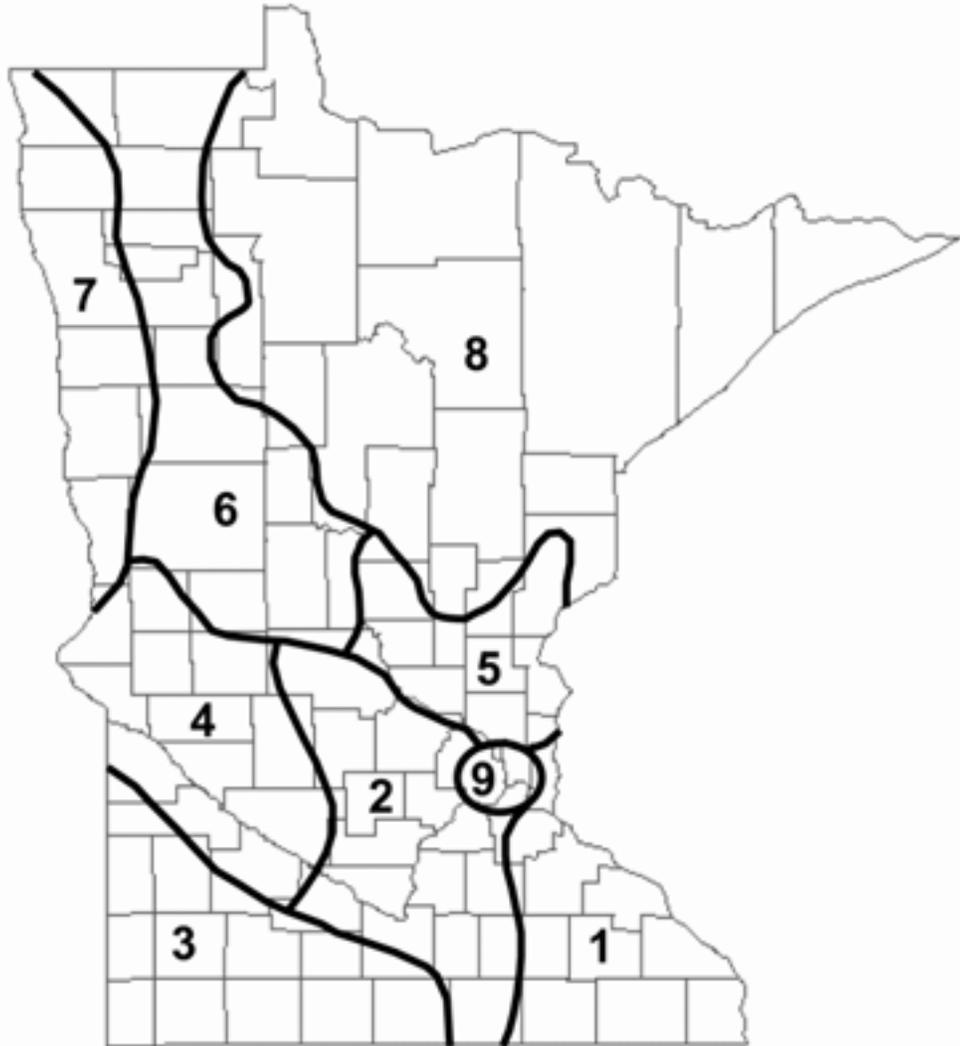
SOURCES FOR SITE IDENTIFICATION

All standard resources should be consulted for site identification.



Modern farm. Location unknown, circa 1950. (MHS Neg. No. 4592)

Farming Regions in Minnesota in 1940



- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Southeast Dairy and Livestock | 6 | Northwestern Dairy and Livestock |
| 2 | South Central Dairy and Livestock | 7 | Red River Valley Small Grain, Potatoes, and Livestock |
| 3 | Southwest Livestock and Cash Grain | 8 | Northern Cutover, Dairy, Potatoes, and Clover Seed |
| 4 | West Central Livestock and Cash Grain | 9 | Twin City Suburban Truck, Dairy, and Fruit |
| 5 | East Central Dairy and Potatoes | | |

Source: Engene and Pond 1940

RESEARCH STATUS OF MINNESOTA'S FARMSTEAD SITES BY FARMING REGION

The *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* describes eight farming regions within the State of Minnesota that are based on production regions identified by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station in the early 20th century. The regions in the context are described as they were in 1940 and include the following areas:

1. Southeast Dairy and Livestock
2. South Central Dairy and Livestock
3. Southwest Livestock and Cash Grain
4. West Central Livestock and Cash Grain
5. East Central Dairy and Potatoes
6. Northwestern Dairy and Livestock
7. Red River Valley Small Grain, Potatoes, and Livestock
8. Northern Cutover Dairy, Potatoes, and Clover Seed
9. Twin City Suburban Truck, Dairy, and Fruit

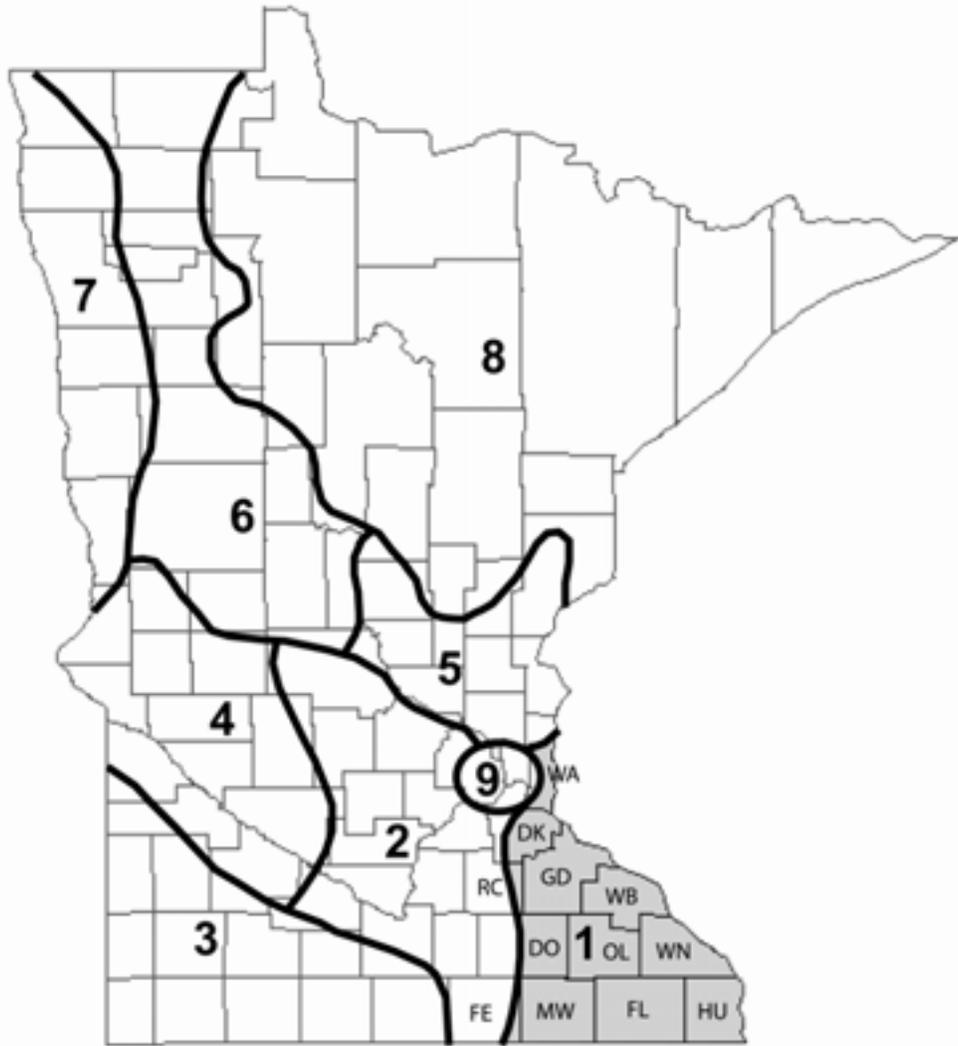
Because these geographic boundaries reflect twentieth century trends in agriculture, they are more appropriately referred to when evaluating sites that were occupied through the first half of the twentieth century. Due to this temporal constraint, in evaluating farmstead archaeological sites the context for a developmental period should take primacy over its region – particularly for sites pre-dating 1900. For example, a dugout site located in southwest Minnesota and dating to the 1850s is more appropriately evaluated within the developmental period context of “Early Settlement, 1820-1870” than the regional context of “Southwest Livestock and Cash Grain.”

Geographic factors, though, have resulted in regional variations in farm types and farm practices through time. Comparison of contemporary farmstead sites and their artifact assemblages from differing regions will serve to answer research questions about the influence of regionalism of farmstead layout, design, economy, and daily life. Consideration must be given then to whether a particular farmstead site is potentially significant for its ability to provide archaeological information on regional influences.

A brief summary of each of the following Minnesota farming regions and their archaeological research status at the time of the writing of this report are provided in this chapter. Farmstead archaeological sites in the files of the Minnesota SHPO were identified through a query of the Minnesota SHPO's archaeological database, a review of the SHPO site files, and the examination of reports of previous archaeological studies on file at the SHPO. The SHPO database query was conducted on site names containing the word “farm,” “barn,” or “dugout” and on sites identified by type as a “farm,” “home,” or “homestead.” Each site form was reviewed to confirm that each site was associated with a farm operation.

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions



REGION 1: SOUTHEAST

REGION 1: SOUTHEAST DAIRY AND LIVESTOCK

The Southeast Dairy and Livestock region encompasses the hilly river valley country of southeastern Minnesota and those portions of Dakota and Washington counties located to the east of the Twin Cities. The untillable rolling, steep, and wooded areas in this portion of the state were suited to use as permanent pasture and in 1940 dairying was the principle type of farming practiced in this region (see Granger and Kelly 2005:5.3-5.5).

Historically, this region was among the first areas of to undergo agricultural development during the period of Early Settlement (1820-1870) and it was in this part of the state that wheat monoculture started during the late 1850s. The principal wheat-growing counties were Olmstead, Goodhue, Fillmore, Wabasha, Dakota, and Winona (Granger and Kelly 2005a:4.13, 4.15).

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

According to the site forms and reports on file at the Minnesota SHPO, previously identified farmstead archaeological sites in this region are limited to six properties from four counties (Dakota, Goodhue, Mower, and Wabasha). These studies were limited to Phase I level investigations.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

No Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites associated with this region have been listed on the National Register. There are also no farmstead archaeology sites from this region that are known to be considered eligible for the National Register but not yet listed.

SAMPLE FARMSTEAD STUDIES

While no sites have been evaluated within this region, the most extensively documented farmstead site is 21GD0239 (Besril Farmstead). A synopsis of the findings from this site is provided below.

21GD0239 – Besril Farmstead

Site 21GD0239 (Besril Farmstead) is located in the Sogn Valley within Goodhue County. This site was surveyed in support of a study of Southeastern and Central Minnesota farmsteads conducted for Mn/DOT by BRW, Inc. (Peterson and Penner 2000). The Besril farmstead was first developed in 1861 and occupied by members of the Besril family through 1965. The type of farming practiced on the farm was not identified in the report, but the former presence of a hoghouse, bank barn and silo, granary, cattle pen, and milk house indicates a diversified farm. At the time of the survey the farm was still extant and occupied. Background research consisted of deed research and a brief conversation with the current owner. Fieldwork consisted of pedestrian survey, geophysical survey, and systematic shovel testing along a 10-m interval grid in that portion of the property where the original house had possibly stood. Geophysical testing was compromised by the large number of trees on the site and a general scatter of metallic debris (Peterson and Penner 2000:32). Shovel tests did not identify any subsurface features and the overall sheet midden was described as light and sparse. The area where the farm outbuildings and the historically active farmyard were located was not tested. No recommendation of National Register-eligibility was made since the entirety of the farmyard was not tested (Site 21GD0239, Minnesota Archaeological Site Form, on file at the Minnesota SHPO).

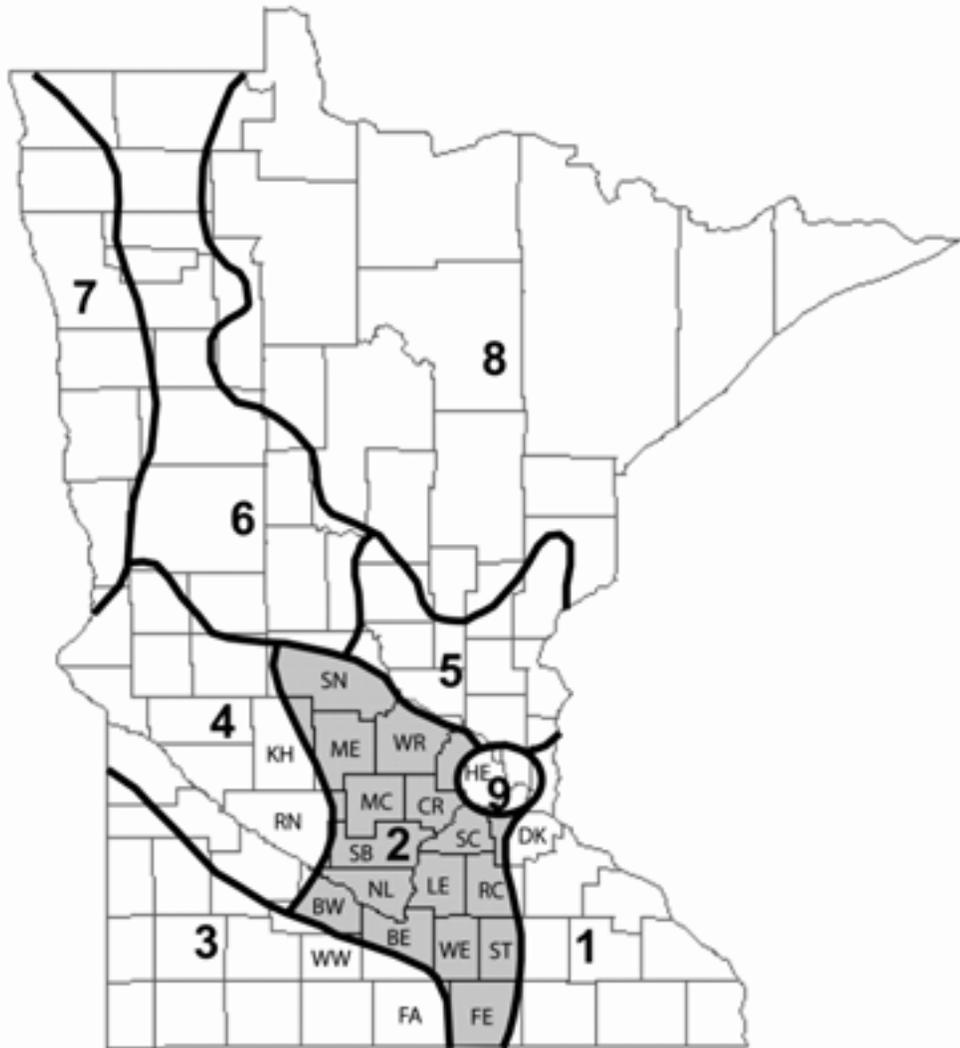
PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN REGION 1: SOUTHEAST

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Dakota	21DK0058	Samuelson Farm	114	16	4	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Goodhue	21GD0112	Fuller Flynn	114	16	26	Small Group of Elements (Two Barns, Corn Crib, and Well)	Standing Structures and Depressions	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Goodhue	21GD0239	Besril Farmstead	110	18	12	Farmstead (House, Granary and Pole Building)	Standing Structures	Phase I and Geophysical Survey	1861-present	Unknown
Goodhue	21GD0242		114	16	26	Farmstead (House and an Outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Mower	21MW0039	Shooting Star #6	101	15	13	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	pre 1880-1960	Unknown
Wabasha	21WB0054	Fuller Homestead	108	11	32	Razed/former farmstead location	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	pre 1880-1940	Unknown

RESEARCH NEEDS

Due to the limited nature of archaeological testing in the region to date, research needs for this area are numerous including the archaeological documentation of farmsteads from the period of Early Settlement (1820-1870); the archaeological examination of the development of wheat monoculture and its influence on farmsteads in this region (1850s-1870s); and archaeological evidence for the adaptation to diversified farming and dairying that took place after wheat farming was no longer viable.

Research Status of Farming Regions



REGION 2: SOUTH CENTRAL

REGION 2: SOUTH CENTRAL DAIRY AND LIVESTOCK

The South Central Dairy and Livestock region extends through the central part of the state from Stearns County on the north to the Iowa border on the south. This region is largely level to rolling and has many poorly-drained low spots that could not be cultivated and which were suited to use as permanent pasture and for the growing of hay. In 1940 dairying was the principle type of farming practiced in this region (see Granger and Kelly 2005:5.3-5.5).

Historically, parts of this region, particularly those areas within the Minnesota River valley and in the vicinity of New Ulm and St. Peter, were settled during the period of Early Settlement (1820-1860). With the rise of diversified farming, the raising of livestock and the cultivation of vegetables and sugar beets became associated with this portion of the state.

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

According to the site forms and reports on file at the Minnesota SHPO, previously identified farmstead archaeological sites in this region include 31 sites from ten counties (Blue Earth, Carver, Freeborn, Hennepin, Le Sueur, Nicollet, Scott, Stearns, Steele, and Wright). Of the farmstead archaeological sites within this region, nine have undergone Phase II archaeological evaluations and one (21SN0123- Backes/Geers Farmstead) has been the subject of a data recovery.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

No Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites associated with this region have been listed on the National Register, although four sites have been recommended by contractors as eligible for the National Register and/or are considered eligible for the National Register by the SHPO (21HE0150; 21HE0278; 21SN0123; 21ST0013), and one site has been recommended as potentially eligible (21BD0259).

SAMPLE FARMSTEAD STUDIES

The Phase II and III investigations that have taken place within Region 2 on National Register eligible sites provide not only comparative data for other sites within the region, but also for farmstead archaeological studies throughout the state. Region 2 contains not only a rare farmstead site data recovery (21SN0123 – Backes/Geers Farmstead), but also the in-depth evaluation of site 21ST0013 (John O. Wuamett Farmstead). The Wuamett study is an example of how the historical archaeological blend of documentary research and artifact interpretation can further our understanding of life on Minnesota's farms and it should be referred to as an excellent example of a farmstead site evaluation (Halverson et al. 1998). Abstracts of the findings from 21SN0123 and 21ST0013 are provided below together with other sample studies from this region.

21SN0123 – Backes/Geers Farmstead

The Backes/Geers farmstead was subjected to Phase I, II, and III investigations. The Phase I and II work was performed by BRW, Inc. for the Mn/DOT and the Federal Highway Administration in connection with work being performed on TH 23 in Stearns County (Arnott et al 1997). Standing structures including the remains of the original log house (ca 1860) on the property as well as a 1906 farm house, machine shed, and other outbuildings were present. The site is located on a historic oxcart trail, an 1887 rail line, and a modern road. The Phase I study determined intact deposits within this setting had the potential to test theories of rural commercial

Research Status of Farming Regions

development and their relationship to the family farm within a context of German ethnicity. The Phase I archaeological background research included consulting historic contexts for the region, and various historical maps, while fieldwork included surface survey and shovel testing. The Phase II work expanded on the historical background research to include tax records, newspapers, census data, and oral interviews with the current landowner who is a descendant of historic owners of the property. The research also included a discussion of rural economic theories and ideas of ethnicity, and how these ideas may be applied archaeologically to this project. Three 1-x-1-m test units were excavated during the Phase II: two near the log structure and one near the house. Artifacts, features, and soil profiles were documented which indicated intact historic deposits, including a builder's trench associated with the log house. These excavations revealed a potential buried soil horizon under the fill layer containing artifacts, which possibly dated to the earliest era of the site's occupation. Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) was also deployed but results were indeterminate.

The Phase III data recovery at this site was performed by the Louis Berger Group and focused on the occupation of the Backes family at the site (Schoen and Hirst 2003). No units were excavated at the location of the 1906 Geer's house. Further contextual documentary research was undertaken. Four 1-x-1-m units were excavated and two slot trenches were dug as part of the data recovery. A mention is made in the report that the data recovery research program was curtailed from the original plan of six units due to site conditions and an initial lack of results from the first units excavated. Berger's conclusion was that the site did not hold intact informative deposits, although it should be noted that the majority of Berger's units were placed in areas non-contiguous with the location of the positive tests excavated during the Phase II. Berger recommended that additional information regarding the occupation of this site be gathered through further documentary research and oral interviews with the descendants of the Backes family.

21ST0013 - John O. Wuamett Farmstead

Site 21ST0013 (John O. Wuamett Farmstead) is located to the west of Owatonna in north central Steele County. This site was first recorded during Phase I and II archaeological investigations of alternative corridor options for TH 14 in Steele and Waseca counties conducted by BRW, Inc. (Halverson et al. 1998) and was further evaluated in support of a study of Southeastern and Central Minnesota farmsteads conducted for Mn/DOT by BRW, Inc. (Peterson and Penner 2000). The Wuamett farmstead was homesteaded by the Wuamett family in 1859 and the property was still retained by members of the Wuamett family at the time of the study, but was no longer occupied. The property consisted of an extant house and two outbuildings (garage and corncrib). Several depressions were also visible in the farmyard area.

The Wuamett Farmstead was selected for archaeological testing during the Phase I portion of the TH 14 study because a structure was indicated at the location on historical maps. Phase I testing consisted of the excavation of 12 shovel tests with tests excavated at a 15-m interval and within depressions. One privy-like feature with a large number of domestic artifacts was documented during the shovel testing (this test was not associated with a depression) as well as a general sheet midden of historical artifacts (Halverson et al. 1998:32). Background research for the Phase II entailed the review of county histories; population and agricultural censuses; tax assessment records; death and marriage records; and naturalization papers (Halverson et al. 1998:41-42). The Phase II evaluation consisted of the excavation of six additional shovel tests as well as three 1-x-1-m units, one 1-x-2-m unit, and one 1-x-1.5-m unit, which resulted in the identification and sampling of three intact features including a privy pit and a trash deposit from circa 1900-1914, and a second privy pit dating to circa 1944-1952 (Halverson et al. 1998:79)). Over 14,000 artifacts were recovered from these features. Additional documentary research was conducted in support of artifact analysis including an examination of nineteenth- and early-twentieth century newspapers to assess the local availability of commercially-produced artifacts

REGION 2: SOUTH CENTRAL

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN REGION 2: SOUTH CENTRAL

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Blue Earth	21BE0259	Kunz	109	26	19	Razed/former farmstead location	Ruins/Foundations	Phase II	c.1876-1898	Potentially Eligible
Carver	21CR0132	Gehl Farmstead	114	23	6	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Farmhouse standing, Ruins/Foundations of outbuildings	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Carver	21CR0137	Schindler Farmstead	116	23	31	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Carver	21CR0140		116	23	27	Historic Artifact Scatter	No visible structural information	Phase I	Unknown	Not Eligible
Freeborn	21FE0029		102	21	23	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Hennepin	21HE0150	Schmid Farmstead	117	24	35	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse, standing, Ruins/Foundations	Phase II	c.1880-1960	Eligible
Hennepin	21HE0183	Brooks	118	23	26	Historic Artifact Scatter	No visible structural information	Phase II	c.1860-1900	Not Eligible
Hennepin	21HE0270	Hayden Lake/Elm Creek	120	22	24	Razed/Former farmstead	Structural Debris	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Hennepin	21HE0278		118	23	25	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase II	c.1880-1900	Eligible
Hennepin	21HE0288	C.W. Gordon Farmstead	118	23	32	Farmstead (House and Barn)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	c.1900-present	Unknown
Hennepin	21HE0307	Schmidt Farmstead	120	22	36	Farmstead (House and Barn)	Standing Barn, Ruins/Foundations	Phase II	Unknown	Unknown
Hennepin	21HE0336		120	23	17	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Unknown
Hennepin	21HE0347	Life Estate Expansion II	117	24	35	Farmstead (House, Silo, Greenhouse, Creamery)	Extant Creamery and Ruins/Foundations	Phase II	c.1880-1960	Unknown
Le Sueur	21LE0071	Menton Homestead	109	26	18	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	c.1860-1920	Unknown
Nicollet	21NL0012	Courtland Farms	109	29	9	Historic Artifact Scatter	No visible structural information	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Nicollet	21NL0134	Dingler Homestead	110	30	26	Farmstead (Dugout)	Depression/Cellar	Phase II	c.1854-1885	Not Eligible
Scott	21SC0035	Salisbury Hill Road Farmstead	113	25	30	Razed/former farmstead location	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1860-1920	Not Eligible
Scott	21SC0053		115	21	32	Razed/former farmstead location	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Stearns	21SN0123	Backes/Geers Farmstead	123	30	20	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase III	c.1860-present	Eligible
Stearns	21SN0127		123	29	17	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	pre-1880 - present	Unknown
Steele	21ST0009		107	21	1	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase II	pre-1880 - present	Not Eligible

REGION 2: SOUTH CENTRAL

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Steele	21ST0010		107	21	1	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	pre-1880 - present	Not Eligible
Steele	21ST0012		107	21	2	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	pre-1880 - present	Not Eligible
Steele	21ST0013	John O. Wuamett Farmstead	107	21	3	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase II	pre-1860-present	Eligible
Steele	21ST0014		107	21	4	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse, standing	Phase I	pre-1880-present	Not Eligible
Steele	21ST0015		107	21	4	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	pre-1880-1920	Not Eligible
Wright	21WR0114	Pearson Historic	118	27	1	Historic Artifact Scatter	No visible structural information	Surface Survey	c.1900-1920	Unknown
Wright	21WR0119		121	27	17, 20	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	c.1880-1960	Unknown
Wright	21WR0123	Ransom Farmstead	121	27	20	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	c.1880-present	Unknown
Wright	21WR0139	Kruzel	119	27	9	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	c.1880-present	Unknown
Wright	21WR0140	Putzke	119	27	10	Farmhouse only	Farmhouse, standing	Phase I	c.1880-present	Unknown

and research on the history of the Pillsbury Academy (Halverson et al. 1998:43). Local newspapers also provided additional information on the Wuamett family as did an oral interview with John Wuamett's great-granddaughter. The report that resulted from the TH 14 investigations provides a detailed historic context for the Wuamett farmstead. Tables included in this history cover the topics of acreage associated with the farm through the years; agricultural census data for the output of the farm; the value of the Wuamett's real and personal property; and the composition of the Wuamett household over time. Topics addressed through the contextual analysis of the archaeological findings included rural consumerism in the early twentieth century; the farmstead privy; medicine bottles and other medical artifacts on the farm; infant-feeding practices and rural motherhood; and Pillsbury Academy and the Wuamett family. Based on the results of the Phase II, site 21ST0013 was considered by BRW to be eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion D and avoidance or mitigation was recommended (Halverson et al. 1998:152).

During the Mn/DOT farmstead study investigations of 21ST0013, the site was mapped and underwent geophysical survey, systematic shovel testing of a 5-m interval grid across the site, and limited mechanical stripping. Background research consisted of the development of a historical context detailing the history of the Wuamett family and the economic and political activities of John O. Wuamett and his two sons (Peterson and Penner 2000:35). An oral history was also collected through a casual conversation with a Wuamett descendant. Geophysical testing identified several anomalies with two features aligned to the existing structures being identified as having a high potential for being the locations of former structures (Peterson and Penner 2000:39). Shovel testing identified a concentration of artifacts along the back of the farmyard, a scatter of architectural debris to the southwest of the house, and a thick gravel lens associated with a drive. Shovel tests near the previously identified features produced a comparatively high number of artifacts. One additional feature containing architectural debris, plow parts, and a small amount of domestic refuse was also identified. Mechanical stripping consisted of the excavation of four 5-x-5-m units at the locations of geophysical anomalies. The results of the mechanical stripping revealed various small features, but not the structural evidence anticipated, although, the oral interview confirmed that the anomaly locations were the sites of former outbuildings. As stripping was shallow and limited to only the disturbed topsoil, deeper features cut into the subsoil may not have been revealed (Peterson and Penner 2000:41-42).

21HE0278

Site 21HE0278 is an example of a farmstead site that was preserved through a catastrophic fire. A phase II survey was undertaken by Bear Creek Archaeology for Hunter-Keith Industries in conjunction with the development of a golf course in the area of an identified historic farmstead (Terrell et al. 1997). During the Phase I survey, historic material was recovered during shovel testing in a wooded area near a fieldstone house foundation surrounded by a berm. Domestic plantings including a giant spreading juniper and a very large overgrown lilac were noted in the vicinity of the foundation. The fieldstone foundations of the associated barn were located across the road from the house and outside of the project area. Background research for the Phase II included a review of plats, tax records, census data, and a various historical publications. During the Phase II, four additional shovel tests were performed to document the extent of the historical deposits surrounding the foundation and berm. Two 1-x-1-m test units were excavated, one near the cellar entrance, and one on the berm. Both units documented a burned stratum overlying a preserved intact domestic deposits dating from 1875 through the early 20th century. This period corresponds with the occupations of either the Kohler or Charles E. Ten Eyck families. The burned layer was much denser in the berm unit, which documented the burning, and subsequent collapse, of the walls of the structure. The unit near the cellar, and outside the structure, revealed a thinner layer of ash, overlying intact deposits. Among the artifacts recovered was a group of clay marbles. The amount of household artifacts preserved under the burn layer indicates the fire may have been catastrophic, and may account for why the property changed hands from the Ten Eycks to the Williams family shortly into the 20th century. The homestead appears as a ruin in the

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions

1937 aerial photo. The site was recommended as eligible to the National Register under Criterion D. The site was preserved through avoidance by its inclusion within a wooded visual screen around the golf course.

21NL0134 - Dingler Homestead

The Dingler Homestead site is an example of a dugout site located within the Minnesota River Valley portion of the region. The Dingler Homestead site was identified during a Phase I archaeological survey for the proposed expansion and realignment of Trunk Highway (TH) 14 between Nicollet and New Ulm in Nicollet County (Terrell et al. 2005). Background research for historical archaeological sites consisted of a review of the GLO township maps and all available historic plat maps. Cultural material from the Dingler Homestead was encountered while shovel testing a fallow field on a terrace above Heymans Creek. Shovel tests were spaced at a 15-m interval along transects spaced 15 m apart. While a sparse precontact lithic scatter was encountered on the terrace, shovel tests along the field edge proximate to the creek unexpectedly produced machine-cut nails, glass, and fragments of fired clay. Visible within the woods along the field edge, and at the top of the embankment descending to the creek was a depression measuring 5.9 m x 4.6 m surrounded by a berm. Two other shallow depressions were also noted to the south of the most distinct feature. Artifacts from the shovel tests indicated that the occupation post-dated 1840 due to the presence of flow-blue decorated ceramics, but likely predated the 1880s due to a lack of wire nails. A homestead was not indicated at this location on any of the available plat maps, but deed research indicated that the site was associated with Daniel and Katharina (Koch) Dingler's 1856 homestead. The Dinglers were German-born immigrants, who settled in the New Ulm area. As the site demonstrated a good density and variety of artifacts from potentially intact soil horizons, and an association with German-immigrants (a locally significant population in the New Ulm area), additional fieldwork and documentary research was recommended. Additional documentary research was conducted using tax assessment records, GLO tract books, census data, newspapers, and genealogical archives. This research provided biographical details about the Dinglers and confirmed that the site above Heymans Creek was the location of the Dingler's initial dugout before they moved to a wood-frame structure along the road to New Ulm. The report does not describe the type of farming practiced by the Dinglers. Phase II fieldwork consisted of the excavation of one 1-x-2-m unit across the berm surrounding the depression, and four 1-x-1-m units distributed throughout the artifact scatter. During the Phase I and II excavations 1,197 artifacts were recovered. Among the artifacts were 778 pieces of fired coarse mud/clay with casts of grass or straw. The nature of this material, its frequency at the site, and the presence of whitewashed pieces indicated that they were pieces of the daub that once covered the walls of the dugout. The Phase II evaluation concluded that the majority of the artifacts associated with the site were within the plowzone. While the limited period of occupation and single-family association meant that stratigraphic information is not critical to artifact interpretation, repeated plowing of the sheet refuse had resulted in exfoliation and fragmentation of artifacts to the point that many could not be cataloged beyond their most basic classes. Based on a lack of overall site integrity, and the quality and quantity of artifacts that could address research questions, the site was recommended as not eligible for listing on the National Register.

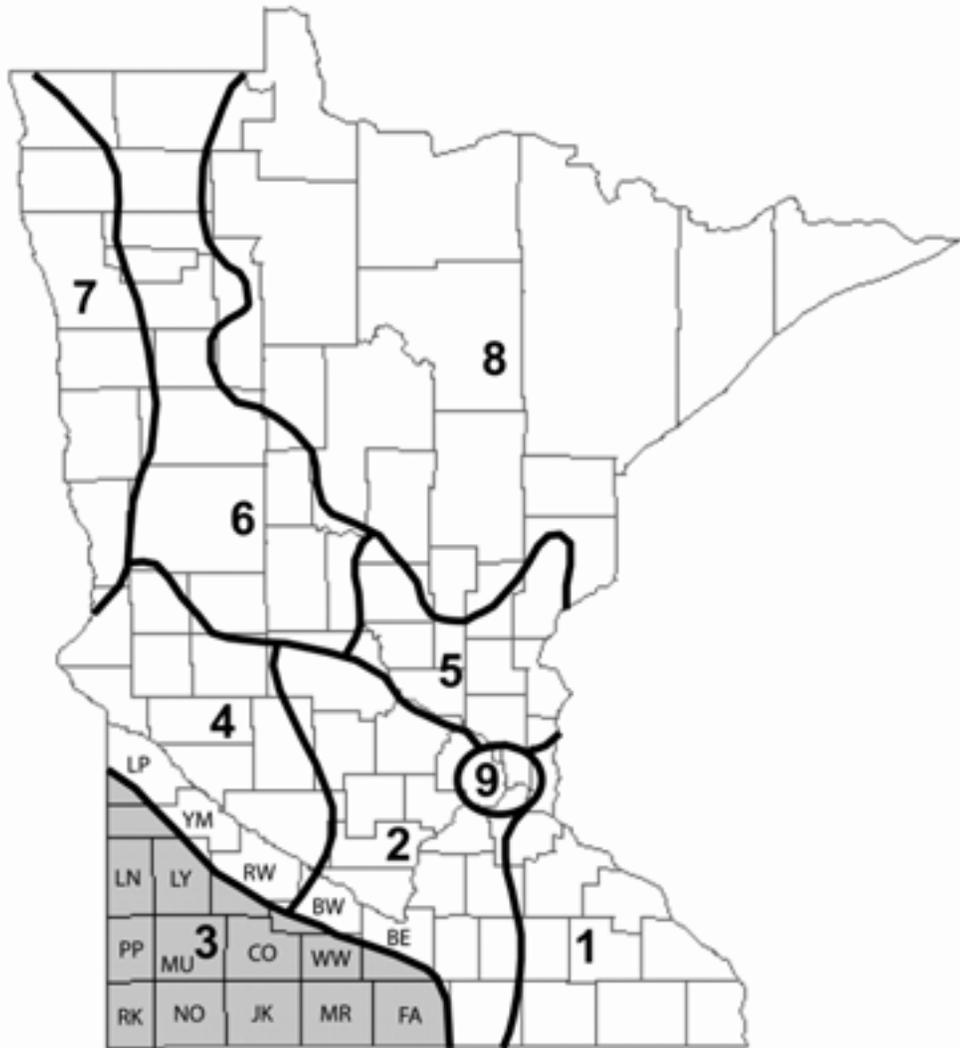
RESEARCH NEEDS

While more sites have been identified and evaluated in this region than several others, the nine sites that have been evaluated do not begin to adequately assess the diversity of farm types associated with this region. The sample sites from this region, though, do provide comparative data, not only for this region, but for cross-region comparisons as well. This region, like Region 1 needs additional documentation of farmsteads with intact archaeological resources from the period of Early Settlement (1820-1870); the archaeological examination of the development of

REGION 2: SOUTH CENTRAL

wheat monoculture and its influence on farmsteads in this region (1850s-1870s); and archaeological evidence for the adaptation to livestock raising and vegetable production that took place in this region of the state.

Research Status of Farming Regions



REGION 3: SOUTHWEST LIVESTOCK AND CASH GRAIN

The Southwest Livestock and Cash Grain region encompasses the southwest corner of the state that is removed from the Minnesota River valley. This area is level to rolling and had many poorly drained areas that were drained artificially. In 1940 farms within this region were a mixture of livestock and cash grain farms (see Granger and Kelly 2005:5.7-5.10).

Historically, this region was settled approximately 20 years later than the southeast portion of the state. As wheat monoculture decreased this region turned to the cultivation of oats, vegetables, and sugar beets during the period of industrialization. By 1940, southwestern Minnesota, with its high yields of corn and soybeans, was a leading producer of cattle and hogs. This focus on cattle, hogs, corn, and soybeans continued into the years after World War II.

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

According to the site forms and reports on file at the Minnesota SHPO, previously identified farmstead archaeological sites in this region are limited to nine sites from five counties (Cottonwood, Jackson, Murray, Pipestone, and Redwood). These studies were all Phase I surveys with the exception of 21JK022 (Hoxie Rathbun Dugout) and 21CO0041 (Pat's Grove).

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

One site within this region, site 21RW0048 (Laura Ingalls Wilder Dugout) is listed on the National Register and has undergone archaeological investigations. Site 21RW0048, though, is not listed on the National Register under Criterion D. Two sites with the region have been recommended by contractors as potentially eligible for the National Register (21JK0022 and 12MU0067).

SAMPLE FARMSTEAD STUDIES

The two archaeological sites that were previously evaluated within this region were both limited in their scope, but they are included here as sample studies. Both sites have components that date to the period of Early Settlement Period (1820-1870). The evaluation of site 21CO0041, in particular, illustrates the previously accepted tenet that settlement era sites are of greater historical significance than later farmsteads.

21JK0022 -Hoxie Rathbun Dugout

The Hoxie Rathbun dugout site, owned by the Jackson County Historical Society (JCHS), is located in Belmont Township, Jackson County, Minnesota. The JCHS, prior to possible reconstruction of the mid-nineteenth century dugout as an interpretive site, contracted Todd Kapler to test for archaeological features (Kapler 1990). An approximately 2-x-2 m depression and surrounding berm (7-x-8 m) marked the location of the dugout. Fieldwork included pedestrian survey and the excavation of one 1-x-1-m test unit and four 0.5-m wide trenches. Artifacts found included two fragments of window glass, two small ironstone sherds and a single cut nail (Site 21JK0022, Minnesota Archaeological Site Form, on file at the Minnesota SHPO). Possible cultural debris consisted of animal bone, and a small concentration of charcoal. The report concluded that the site is potentially eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion D based on the integrity of the dugout despite the lack of artifactual evidence recovered.

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN REGION 3: SOUTHWEST

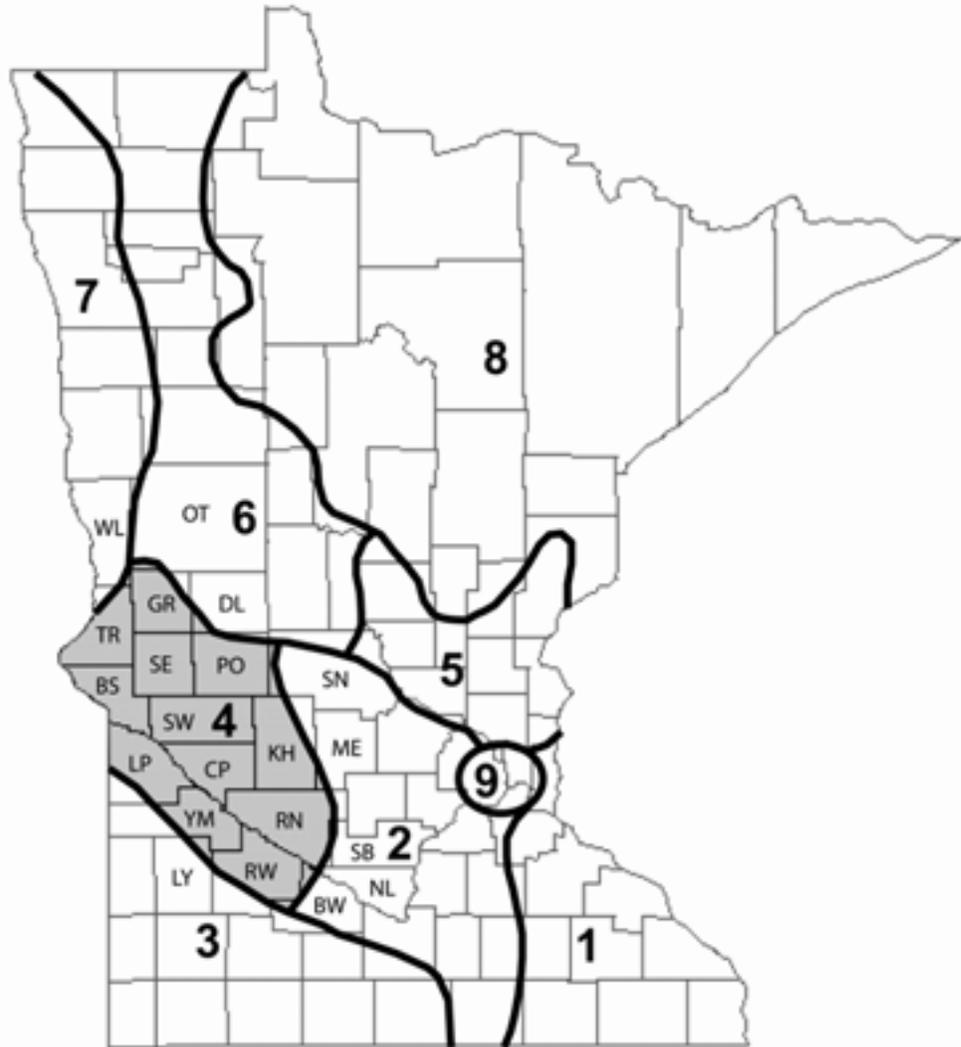
COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Cottonwood	21CO0040	Anderson Farmstead	105	35	31	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations and Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Cottonwood	21CO0041	Pat's Grove	105	37	28	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing, Ruins/Foundations	Phase II	c.1866-1945	Not Eligible
Jackson	21JK0018	M.W. Brunsen	101	36	31	Historic Artifact Scatter	No visible structural information	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Jackson	21JK0022	Hoxie Rathbun Dugout	103	35	17	Dugout	Depression/Cellar	Phase II	mid 19 th c.	Potentially Eligible
Murray	21MU0067		107	43	19	Razed/former farmstead location	No visible structural information	Phase I	pre-1880-1960	Potentially Eligible
Murray	21MU0066		107	43	19	Historic Artifact Scatter	No visible structural information	Phase I	1940-1960	Unknown
Pipestone	21PP0032	Klaus Site	108	45	12	Razed/former farmstead location	No visible structural information	Surface Survey	1898 (plat)	Unknown
Pipestone	21PP0034	Bouman Site	108	44	20	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	1898 (plat)	Unknown
Redwood	21RW0048	Laura Ingalls Wilder	109	38	18	Dugout	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	c.1860-1880	NRHP Listed

21CO0041 (Pat's Grove)

Site 21CO0041 (Pat's Grove) is located on a spur on the north bank of Heron Lake Outlet in Cottonwood County. The site is located in the Pat's Grove County Park, which contains the historic site of Pat Conlan's home. This site was documented during a study of farmsteads located in the southwest plains, upper Minnesota River Valley, and Red River Valley that was conducted by the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center (MVAC) for Mn/DOT (MVAC 2000). A literature search consisted of the examination of plat maps, deed records, and local newspaper accounts. Pat Conlan homesteaded the site in 1866 and his son continued to own the property until his death in 1937. At the time of the study, a log cabin and stone house associated with Conlan, a poured concrete foundation, a concrete pad for a machine shed, and a barn foundation were present in the project area. Several of these foundations were associated with a 1930s to 1970s farmstead that post-dated the Conlan family's occupation. Phase I testing consisted of shovel testing at a 5-m interval around the log cabin and stone house and shovel testing of a feature potentially associated with Pat Conlan's dugout. Phase II work consisted of the excavation of four test units. These units were placed within a small foundation to the west of the stone house, near the log cabin, adjacent to the stone house, and within a depression potentially associated with Conlan's dugout. No undisturbed nineteenth-century deposits were encountered during the testing and the site was recommended as not eligible for the National Register due to its poor integrity.

RESEARCH NEEDS

Due to the limited nature of archaeological testing in this region to date, research needs for this area are numerous including the archaeological documentation of farmsteads including not only dugouts and early homesteads from the period of Early Settlement (1820-1870), but also sites that document the transformation of the prairie to a leading livestock production area.



REGION 4: WEST CENTRAL LIVESTOCK AND CASH GRAIN

The West Central Livestock and Cash Grain region encompasses much of the upper Minnesota River Valley. Grant County is located on the north edge of the region while the southeast point is marked by the northwest corner of Nicollet County. This area is quite similar in topography and soils to Region 3 with the exception of the river valley. In 1940, dairying and small grain farming were the predominant forms of agriculture in this region (see Granger and Kelly 2005:5.7-5.10).

Historically parts of this region, particularly those areas within the Minnesota River valley, were settled during the period of Early Settlement (1820-1870). During the depression this region was ravaged by drought and grasshoppers. Many farms in Big Stone, Stevens, Pope, and Swift counties were wiped out with Big Stone County being the hardest hit. Upon recovering from the depression era, the region developed diverse livestock enterprises including dairy, poultry, eggs, and hogs.

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

According to the site forms and reports on file at the Minnesota SHPO, previously identified farmstead archaeological sites in this region are limited to eight sites from five counties (Big Stone, Grant, Lac qui Parle, Redwood and Swift). Three sites have been previously evaluated (21PL0017, 21RW0011, and 21SW0017).

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

One site within this region, site 21RW0011 (Lower Sioux Agency) is listed on the National Register and has undergone archaeological investigations. Site 21RW0011, though, is not listed on the National Register under Criterion D. Archaeological investigations of the farmstead component of 21RW0011, though, resulted in the contractor's recommendation that the resources from that era are eligible for the National Register under Criterion D (Arnott 1998:74).

SAMPLE FARMSTEAD STUDIES

The following two report abstracts are provided as a sample of the archaeological examination of farmsteads in this region.

21RW0011 – Lower Sioux Agency Stone Warehouse

The stone warehouse dating to 1861 is located on the Lower Sioux Agency Historic Site (21RW0011), Redwood County, Minnesota. One goal of archaeological investigations in 1994 and 1997 was to evaluate the significance of the farmstead resources relating to the 1869 conversion of the warehouse to a farmhouse and subsequent occupation by German immigrants. The evaluation of the 1869 to 1945 farmstead-era resources involved examination of previous excavations, a document search, and an analysis of farmstead-era resources in the 1994 and 1997 excavations (Arnott 1998). Fieldwork for the 1994 and 1997 investigations consisted of units placed within a 15-foot area around the exterior of the building in preparation for foundation restoration. This farmstead is an example of rural southwestern Minnesota German immigrant settlement, early agricultural diversification, and economic success. Farming consisted of wheat and diversified livestock. Although archaeological materials related to the farmstead are sparse in the 1994 and 1997 project area, archaeological excavations in 1974 and 1976 showed that undisturbed, stratified household deposits exist throughout the site in privy vaults and in other

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN REGION 4: WEST CENTRAL

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Big Stone	21BS0039	Lindholm-Gustafson Farms	122	47	10, 11	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Grant	21GR0042	C. M. Matress	129	44	20	Historic Artifact Scatter	No visible structural information	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Grant	21GR0045	Merle E. Winslow Farm	130	42	36	Razed/Former farmstead	No visible structural information	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Grant	21GR0046	Norman A. Fluegge Farm #1	129	42	1	Razed/Former farmstead	No visible structural information	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Grant	21GR0047	Norman A. Fluegge Farm #2	129	41	6	Razed/Former farmstead	Extant outbuilding	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Lac qui Parle	21PL0017	Highway 75 Dam Area	120	45	4	Razed/Former farmstead	Ruins/Foundations	Phase II	Pre-1888-1970s	Not Eligible
Redwood	21RW0011	Lower Sioux Agency Stone Warehouse	112	34	8	Farm house only	Standing structure	Phase II	1869-1945	Eligible
Swift	21SW0017	Chistopherson/Goulson Dugout	120	40	32	Dugout	Depression and Berm	Phase II	c.1870-1880	Unknown

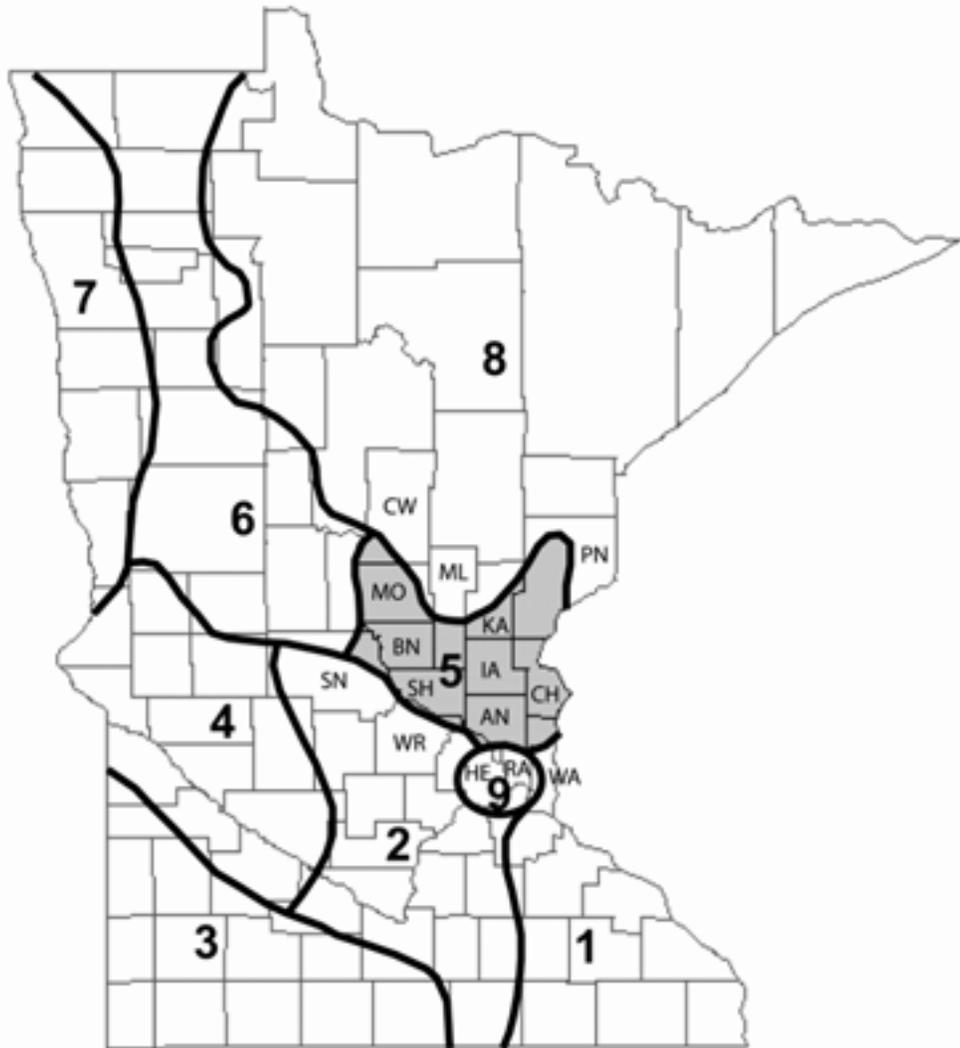
deposits accumulated in the immediate area around the structure. The report concluded that farmstead era archaeological resources of 21RW0011 are eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.

21SW0017 - Chistopherson/Goulson Dugout

The Chistopherson/Goulson Dugout is located in central Swift County along the Chippewa River (Linebaugh 2005). This site was investigated by archaeologist Donald Linebaugh at the request of descendants of the site's occupants. The site was homesteaded in late 1869 or 1870 by Norwegian immigrants Anna and Lars Chistopherson. From this location they began improving their 160-acre claim. After Lars died of scarlet fever in 1878, Anna married Hans Goulson. They continued to occupy the dugout until circa 1880 when they moved into a new wood-frame dwelling (Linebaugh 2005:68-69, 83). According to the 1880 agricultural census, the Goulson's had livestock in the form of four milk cows, five "other" cattle, and 55 poultry from which they produced butter, cheese, and eggs. The Goulson's crops included barley, corn, oats, potatoes, and wheat with oats and wheat having the largest yields (Linebaugh 2005:69-70). The visible remnant of the dugout's location was a depression and earthen berm. Archaeological testing consisted of shovel testing at a 10-m interval and the excavation of four test units and three trenches. The documented dugout measured approximately 18-20 ft. from north to south, and 13-15 ft. from east to west. The artifact assemblage consisted of 216 artifacts associated with architectural, food preparation/consumption, activities-agricultural, clothing, faunal, floral, and unassigned artifact classes (Linebaugh 2005:80-81).

RESEARCH NEEDS

Due to the limited nature of archaeological testing in this region to date, research needs for this area are numerous including the archaeological documentation of farmsteads from the period of Early Settlement (1820-1870); and in particular archaeological evidence for the effects of the drought and the grasshopper swarm on farming within this region during the first half of the twentieth century.



REGION 5: EAST CENTRAL DAIRY AND POTATOES

The East Central Dairy and Potatoes region encompasses an area to the north and northwest of the Twin Cities. The region extends from Morrison county and northeastern Stearns counties on the west to the Wisconsin border on the east. This area is level to rolling and known for its sandy soils and poorly-drained bogs. In 1940 dairying was the principle type of farming practiced in this region (see Granger and Kelly 2005:5.12-5.14).

Historically, this region was once covered with hardwood forests that were among some of the first to be logged during the late nineteenth century. During the twentieth century, this region specialized in dairying, truck farming, canning vegetables, and potatoes, which grew well in the sand plains.

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

According to the site forms and reports on file at the Minnesota SHPO, previously identified farmstead archaeological sites in this region include 19 sites from seven counties (Anoka, Chisago, Crow Wing, Isanti, Morrison, Pine, and Sherburne). Of these sites, three (21CW0141, 21CW0215, and 21MO0055) have undergone a Phase II investigation.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

No Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites associated with this region have been listed on the National Register, although two sites in the region (21IA0099 and 21PN0079) have been evaluated as potentially eligible for the National Register.

SAMPLE FARMSTEAD STUDIES

The following report abstracts are provided as a sample of the archaeological examination of farmsteads in this region.

21IA0099 – Peter and Annie Channell Farmstead

This farmstead site in Isanti County was documented by Two Pines Resource Group during a Phase I cultural resource investigation for a proposed housing development (Terrell 2006). The site exhibited intact foundations associated with all of the major buildings of a farmstead complex including the house, barn, silo, granary, windmill, and assorted smaller outbuildings including a probable privy location. Primary structure foundations were of stone with additions and modifications having concrete foundations. The house and outbuildings were wood-frame. A subterranean root cellar of stone and concrete was identified halfway between the house and barn. Within the foundations of the barn was the ruin of a log structure constructed from hewn, square-cut, Swedish coped timbers exhibiting saddle notching. Historical research indicated that this location was homesteaded by Swedish immigrant Peter Channell (Pehr Tjennell) in approximately 1869. His land patent for the property (the maximum 160 acres) was issued in 1874 upon fulfillment of his five years of residence and cultivation. Peter resided on the property until his death in 1918. In approximately 1895, Peter married Annie Channell, who was his brother's widow, and who had resided with him since at least 1880 according to census records. Annie Channell died in 1917. According to aerial photographs the farmstead ceased to be owner-occupied between 1953 and 1965. Field techniques consisted of the creation of a detailed site map and the photographic documentation of the farm's elements. As the farmstead exhibited intact foundations dating to the initial homesteading period, as well as evidence for the adaptation of that original farmstead into a 20th-century farming operation, the Channell farmstead and its

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN REGION 5: EAST CENTRAL

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Anoka	21AN0141	Albert Buckholz Farmstead	33	24	19	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Unknown
Anoka	21AN0148	Pratt	32	25	13	Single Non-Domestic Element (Barn/Shed)	Ruins/Foundations, Depression/Cellar	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Anoka	21AN0151	Lovell Farmstead	31	23	27	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Unknown
Anoka	21AN0152	Lyons Farmstead	31	23	29	Small Group of Elements (Barn, Silo, and outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Unknown
Chisago	21CH0100	Nashua 2	36	20	33	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Depression/Cellar	Surface Survey	pre-1860-1900	Unknown
Chisago	21CH0048		37	20	19	Farmstead (House, Silo and outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Not Excavated	Unknown	Eligible
Chisago	21CH0050	Ola Nelson House	36	20	35	Farmstead (House, Barn, and Silo)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Not Excavated	c.1880-1960	Eligible
Chisago	21CH0097	Magnusson	34	20	29	Historic Artifact Scatter	No visible structural information	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Crow Wing	21CW0141 21CW0215	North Bank Site South Bank Site	133 44	29 31	24 9	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Phase II	pre-1916- c.1960	Not Eligible
Isanti	21IA0062	Historic Site #2	36	24	30	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Isanti	21IA0099	Peter and Annie Channell Farmstead	35	23	28	Farmstead (House, Barn, and outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1869-1950s	Potentially Eligible
Morrison	21MO0055	Old Barn	127	29	5	Single Non-Domestic Element (Barn)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase II	Unknown	Unknown
Morrison	21MO0164	Henry H. Timms Farmstead	41	32	13	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	1892 (plat), 1916 (plat)	Unknown
Morrison	21MO0165	Forcier-Rasinski Farmstead	42	32	36	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	c.1880- present	Unknown
Morrison	21MO0168	Coe-Meyer Farmstead	41	32	12	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse, standing	Phase I	1892 (plat)	Unknown
Pine	21PN0022	Indian Mounds Park (contains 21PNn)	38	20	13	Historic Artifact Scatter	Depression/Cellar	Surface Survey	Unknown	Not Eligible
Pine	21PN0079	Northern States Power Company I	38	20	26	Historic Artifact Scatter	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	c.1850-1950	Potentially Eligible
Sherburne	21SH0042		34	29	7	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	1903 (plat)	Unknown

associated archaeological deposits were recommended as potentially eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion D for their potential to answer important research questions regarding early Swedish settlement and farming activities in the Isanti area.

21CW0141 - TH 371 North Bank Site and 21CW0215 – TH 371 South Bank Site

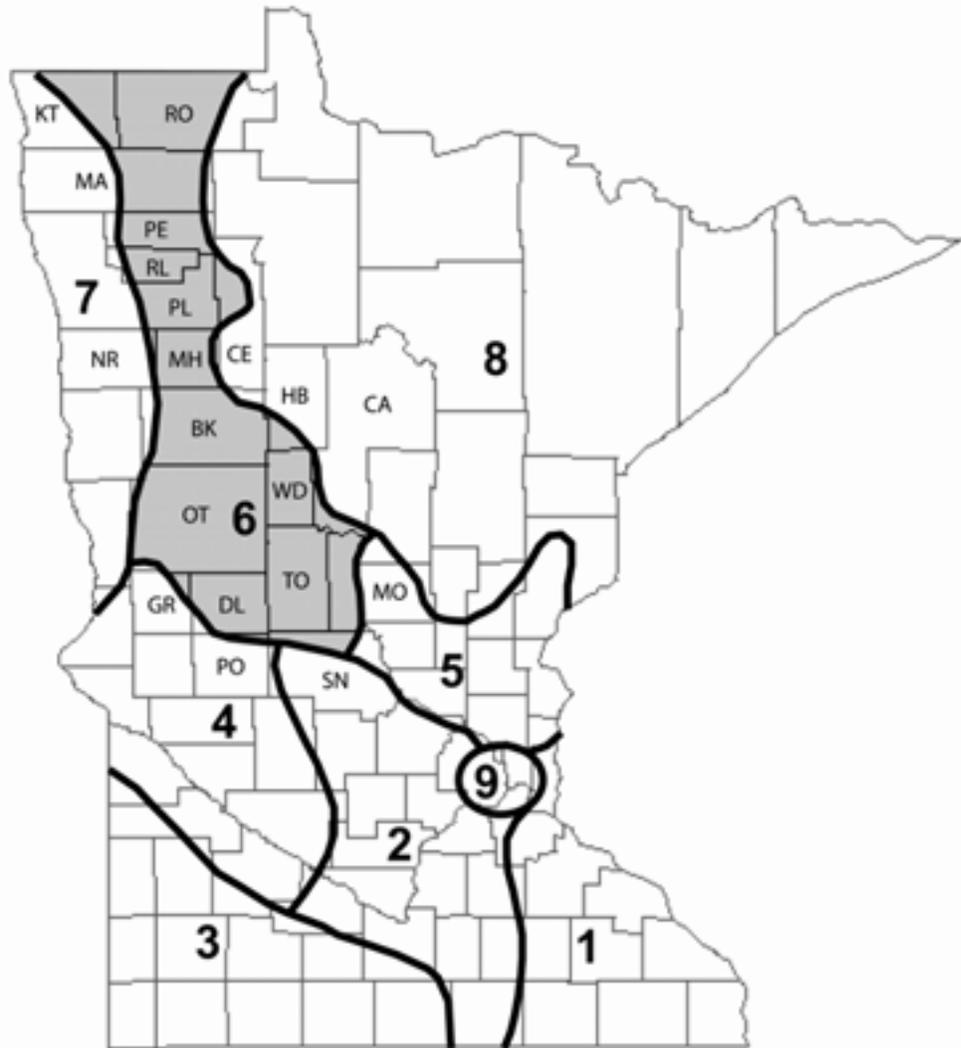
The Phase II archaeological evaluation of these sites was performed by Woodward-Clyde for Mn/DOT in preparation for the proposed construction of a new segment of TH 371 in Crow Wing County (Beck and Keaveny 1996). Sites 21CW0141 and site 21CW0215 contained both precontact and post-contact components. The post-contact material culture is associated with a single farmstead that had elements on both banks of the Mississippi River. Background investigations consisted of a literature search and an oral interview with a long time resident of the area. The fieldwork at 21CW0141 consisted of 98 shovel tests and three 1-x-1 meter units. The property consisted of six foundations and one depression. The fieldwork at 21CW0215 consisted of 19 shovel tests and a 45-cm wide trench through a raised berm around a depression. No historic period artifacts were recorded in the report. Both sites were recommended as not eligible for listing on the National Register.

RESEARCH NEEDS

Due to the limited nature of archaeological testing in the region to date, research needs for this area are numerous. Research topics include early immigrant farming that followed on the heels of the logging industry; adaptation of farming to the unique environmental setting of portions of this region (sand plains and marshland); and the development of farms focused on dairying, truck farming, canning vegetables, and raising potatoes for the metropolitan area. Farmstead sites identified within Camp Ripley (see Region 6), which is located along the western border of Region 5, may provide comparative data for portions of the region.

Researchers working within Morrison County should also consult the *Historic Context for Farming in the Camp Ripley Area* prepared by Two Pines Resource Group, which includes an overview of agricultural development in the county (Kloss 2006).

Research Status of Farming Regions



REGION 6: NORTHWESTERN

REGION 6: NORTHWESTERN DAIRY AND LIVESTOCK

The Northwestern Dairy and Livestock region is situated to the east of the Red River Valley and the west of the state's north-south central axis. The region encompasses a large area from the northern border of the state south to Stearns County. This region is level to rolling and is marked by the presence of lakes in the southern portion and poorly drained land in the north. In 1940 dairying was the principle type of farming practiced in this region (see Granger and Kelly 2005:5.14-5.17).

Historically, this region was at the intersection of the deciduous, coniferous, and grassland biomes. While located to the east of the Red River Valley, portions of this region were within the wheat producing region of northwest Minnesota. In addition to dairying, after World War II this area was also known for its concentrations of turkey farms.

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

According to the site forms and reports on file at the Minnesota SHPO, previously identified farmstead archaeological sites in this region number 128 from seven counties (Cass, Clearwater, Kittson, Marshall, Morrison, Otter Tail, and Polk). The majority of these sites (106) have been recorded within Morrison County in the southeast corner of this region. These sites, which represent nearly half of the farmstead sites recorded in Minnesota, were largely identified during surveys within the Camp Ripley Military Reservation. Six of the sites in this region have undergone Phase II evaluations.

Six additional sites are located in western Becker County on the border of the Region 6 with Region 7 (Red River Valley). A table of these sites is included with both regions.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

One farmstead site within this region, site 21MO0120 (Lindbergh Farm) is listed on the National Register and has undergone archaeological investigations. Site 21MO0120, though, is not listed on the National Register under Criterion D. Thirteen sites within this region have been recommended as potentially eligible for listing.

SAMPLE FARMSTEAD STUDIES

The following report abstracts are provided as samples of farmstead studies in this region.

21MO120 – Lindbergh Farm

The National Register-listed Lindbergh Farm is a Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) historic site. The farm was the property of Charles Lindbergh, Sr., although it was operated primarily by tenant farmers during the period from 1901 through the 1920s. After graduating from high school and before heading off to college, Charles Lindbergh, Jr. (the famous aviator) managed the farm from 1918 to 1920. In 1931, the Lindbergh family donated the site to the State of Minnesota. The extant structures on the property consist of the Lindbergh home built in 1906 to replace an earlier home destroyed by fire, the tenant farmer's house, and an ice house. In 1971, staff from the MHS Archaeology Department conducted archaeological investigations at the site in order to identify the location of former features of the farm for the purpose of site restoration and interpretation. Features that were investigated include fence lines and their post intervals; the main gate; the location of the footpath, ice house, and river flat gates; the chicken coop; sewage lines; and the site of a cabin used by the Lindbergh's during the construction of their home (Birk

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions

1972). In 1995, the MHS Archaeology Department excavated two 50-x-50-cm shovel test units; one 1-x-2-m test unit; and four 1-x-1-m test units along the west (front) side of the Lindbergh House in preparation for the proposed construction of handicap accessible facilities (Steiner 1997). These excavations documented a stone pillar that may have been associated with the first Lindbergh home. In the vicinity of the house, though, deposits from the era of the Lindberghs' occupation of the site had been heavily disturbed by more recent site activities (Steiner 1997:32).

21PL0046 - Rosebud Site

Site 21PL0046 (Rosebud Site) is situated about 20 miles east of the Red River Valley in Polk County. This site was documented during a study of farmsteads located in the southwest plains, upper Minnesota River Valley, and Red River Valley that was conducted by the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center (MVAC) for Mn/DOT (MVAC 2000). Background research consisted of an oral interview with a descendant of the site's occupants, a deed record search, and the examination of death records. This property began as a 160-acre homestead claim filed by Mary Portz in the 1870s. Mary married Fred Peterson and they resided on the property until their deaths in 1936. The property was occupied by descendants of the Petersons through 1977 and the homestead is still in family ownership. The farm was never updated with electricity or indoor plumbing and the Petersons' sons continued to farm with draft horses and horse drawn equipment. At the time of the survey, a log cabin, chicken coop, an outhouse, a pump and well, an unmarked family cemetery, a depression, and a razed barn were noted on the property. Phase I testing consisted of surface survey, metal detecting, and shovel testing. A metal detector was used to identify potential artifact concentrations. Five shovel tests were excavated within the largest concentration of "hits." The area of the former barn was shovel tested using a 5-m testing interval along two transects spaced 5 m apart. Shovel tests in the vicinity of the cabin were excavated at a 10-m testing interval. Phase II work consisted of the excavation of three 1-x-2-m test units. One unit was placed near the existing outhouse and a shovel test that had yielded abundant artifacts. This unit revealed a former privy pit that had been partially disturbed. Another excavation unit was placed in the area of the former barn. This unit revealed that the area had been disturbed when the barn was removed and graded. The third unit was placed in the "backyard" portion of the site and revealed a general site midden. Intact archaeological deposits were encountered in two of the three test units. The overall integrity of the site was assessed as good, but no assessment of National Register eligibility was made in the report.

RESEARCH NEEDS

While a significant amount of archaeological research has been conducted on farmstead sites within Camp Ripley (which is located along the southeastern border of Region 6), archaeological testing of farmsteads in the remainder of the Northwestern Dairy and Livestock region has been limited. The sites from Camp Ripley, though, will provide comparative data, particularly for the southern portion of Region 6. Research topics include the influence of multiple biomes within this region on farming types; defining the easternmost extent of the wheat farms of the Red River Valley; and the impact of the transition to dairying on the farmsteads of this region.

Researchers working within Camp Ripley should consult the *Historic Context for Farming in the Camp Ripley Area* (Kloss 2006). This camp-specific context provides an agricultural history of the area encompassed by the camp and potential farmstead related resources. Due to the unique history of the military reservation, Camp Ripley provides a rare opportunity to examine farmsteads that existed within a limited time period during which pioneer subsistence agriculture, the increase of mechanization and the industrialization of agricultural practices, and the growth and development of dairy farming took place. Research questions for sites within the camp are provided as well as guidelines for future research on specific sites that have been previously identified within the camp.

REGION 6: NORTHWESTERN

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN REGION 6: NORTHWESTERN

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Cass	21CA0191	Hanson Homestead/Hime	133	30	15	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Not Excavated	Unknown	Potentially Eligible
Clearwater	21CE0030		149	38	11	Farmstead (House and Outbuilding)	Depression/Cellar	Phase II	c.1900-1920	Potentially Eligible
Kittson	21KT0017	Hazelton I	161	46	34	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	c.1900-1940	Unknown
Kittson	21KT0018	Hazelton II	161	46	34	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Surface Survey	c.1900-1940	Unknown
Marshall	21MA0056		155	43	18	Farmstead (House and Barn)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Morrison	21MO0027		131	30	22	Razed/former farmstead location	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Morrison	21MO0049	Sandin Homestead	132	30	4	Razed/former farmstead location	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0050	Johnson Farmstead	132	30	32	Small Group of Elements	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	pre-1880-c.1960	Unknown
Morrison	21MO0053	Domschot Farmstead	132	29	18	Razed/former farmstead location	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0068	Roff Farmstead	131	30	16	Single Non-Domestic Element (Barn)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0069	Husmann-Gregerson Farmstead	131	30	17	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0070	Hall-Thompson Farmstead/District No. 69	131	30	22	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0071	La Fond-Regnell Farmstead	131	30	22	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0074	Bell-Hatch-Solorz Farmstead	131	29	6	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Phase I	c.1894-1962	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0077	Fosdick-Anderson Farmstead	132	30	24	Small Group of Elements	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Surface Survey	Unknown	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0078	Webster Farmstead	132	30	34	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Morrison	21MO0080	Hagberg Farmstead	133	30	23	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0095	Franzen Farmstead	133	30	22	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible

REGION 6: NORTHWESTERN

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Morrison	21MO0072	Wellcome Farmstead	131	30	14	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	pre-1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0073	Peterson Farmstead	131	30	4	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0074	Bell-Hatch-Solorz Farmstead	131	29	6	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0076	Jones-Ausland Farmstead	132	30	12	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0079	Austin Farmstead	132	29	8	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0088	William Fosdick Farmstead	132	30	22	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase II	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0097	C. Howard Lightner Farmstead	132	30	36	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1920-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0117	Swedberg Homestead	133	30	15	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Potentially Eligible
Morrison	21MO0120	Lindbergh Farm	129	29, 30	18, 25, 36	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase II	c.1880-1940	NRHP Listed
Morrison	21MO0157	Towle-Hilmer Farmstead	131	29	30	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0158	Rappuhn Farmstead	133	30	26	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0200		132	30	12	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	pre-1950	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0201		132	30	13	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	pre-1950	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0202		132	30	13	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	pre-1948	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0204		133	30	28	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	pre-1950	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0206		131	30	36	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1920	Unknown
Morrison	21MO0207		131	29	31	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	Pre-1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0208		132	30	16	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0209		132	30	16	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0210	Chester Sandin Farmstead	132	30	3	Small Group of Elements (Barn and Silo)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0213	Peter Nyman Pine Grove Farm	132	30	4	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1920	Not Eligible

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Morrison	21MO0214		131	30	36	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1920	Unknown
Morrison	21MO0220		133	30	28	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0220		133	30	28	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0221	Ernest Meyer	131	30	11	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1920	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0222	Winnie White	131	30	1	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	pre-1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0223	Laura A. Randall	131	29	6	Razed/former farmstead location	No visible structural information	Phase I	pre-1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0224	C. A. Lindbergh	131	29	6	Farmhouse only	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0225	John J. Solarz	131	29	6	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0226	Barney Kimball	131	29	5	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	pre-1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0227	Martha Moers	131	29	7	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0228	Arnold Roff	132	29	31	Small Group of Elements (Barn and Silo)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1900-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0229	C. F. Lamb	131	30	16	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0230	Anthony P. and Betty Bermel	131	30	16	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0231	Oscar W. Taylor	131	30	9	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	pre-1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0232	Bertrum Quine	131	30	16	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1900-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0233	Amasa Nichols	131	30	10	Farmhouse only	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0234	Orlando Allison	131	30	12	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0235	Thomas Kinney Oak Ridge	131	30	14	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0236	J. W. Pierce	131	30	15	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	pre-1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0237	Frank A. Carlton	131	30	22	Single Non-Domestic Element (Silo)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0238	Tom and Marie Kachevas	131	30	22	Razed/Former farmstead	No visible structural information	Phase I	c.1900-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0239	Allen Hardy	131	30	14	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Potentially Eligible

REGION 6: NORTHWESTERN

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Morrison	21MO0240	T. J. Rouse Fernwood Farm	131	30	26	Razed/Former farmstead	No visible structural information	Phase I	c.1880-1920	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0242	Peter Weutenbach Goose Lake Farm	131	30	26	Farmhouse only	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0243	Andreas Drelock Jack Pine Stock Farm	130	30	2	Farmhouse only	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0244	Earl Hassett Farm	130	30	2	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0246	J. Chadwick & Brothers Englewood Farm	130	29	6	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Potentially Eligible
Morrison	21MO0247	P. D. Hall	131	29	32	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0248	Rail Prairie	132	29	31	Farmhouse only	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Unknown
Morrison	21MO0249	Emery White	131	29	6	Razed/Former farmstead	No visible structural information	Surface Survey	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0250	C. Deaver Spring Valley Farm	133	30	14	Farmhouse only	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0251	Charles Swaim	133	30	15	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0252	Ray Swaim	133	30	22	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Potentially Eligible
Morrison	21MO0253	Gust Nelson	133	30	22	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0254	Victor Swedburg	133	30	29	Small Group of Elements (Barn and Silo)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0255	George and Florence Snow	133	30	29	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0256	J. H. Hendrickson	133	30	28	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0257		133	30	26	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0258	J. M. Green	133	30	24	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Potentially Eligible
Morrison	21MO0259	Lewis Larson	133	30	24	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Potentially Eligible
Morrison	21MO0260		133	29	30	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Potentially Eligible
Morrison	21MO0261	W. H. Baird	133	29	30	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0262		133	29	31	Farmhouse only	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0263	Albert Root - north	133	29	32	Razed/Former farmstead	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0264	August Swanson	133	29	33	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0265	Albert Root - south	133	29	32	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible

REGION 6: NORTHWESTERN

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Morrison	21MO0266		133	29	32	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0267	Reynold Blomstrom	132	29	5	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Potentially Eligible
Morrison	21MO0268	Nester Otto	132	29	8	Razed/Former farmstead	No visible structural information	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0268	Nester Otto	132	29	8	Razed/Former farmstead	No visible structural information	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0269	Erwin and Stella Wetherbee	132	29	18	Razed/Former farmstead	Structural Debris	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0270	Francis Tuholsky	132	30	24	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0271		133	30	14	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Potentially Eligible
Morrison	21MO0272	James Raimy Forest Home	132	30	4	Small Group of Elements (Barn and Silo)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0273	Leslie and Ethel Swanson Farmstead	132	30	9	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0274	Nelson-Gebert Farmstead	132	30	9	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Potentially Eligible
Morrison	21MO0275	Sigfred and Ruth Nelson Farmstead	132	30	17	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Potentially Eligible
Morrison	21MO0276		132	30	10	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0277		131	30	10	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0278	Ross and Ivan Kunkel	132	30	13	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0279	H. C. Crocker Farmstead	132	30	17	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0280	Leonard Nygren Farmstead	132	30	16	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding))	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0281	Cecil Sherin, et al, Farmstead	132	30	21	Razed/Former farmstead	Structural Debris	Surface Survey	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0282	Adolph and Ella Cyriacks Farmstead	132	30	29	Small Group of Elements (Barn and Silo)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0283	Layfayette Tindell	132	30	29	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase II	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0284		132	30	27	Farmhouse only	Depression/Cellar	Phase II	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0285	William Daws Farmstead	132	30	26	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0286	William Daws, Jr. Farmstead	132	30	26	Farmhouse only	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0287	Alex Cockburn Farmstead/District No. 94	132	30	26	Razed/Former farmstead	Structural Debris	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Not Eligible

REGION 6: NORTHWESTERN

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions

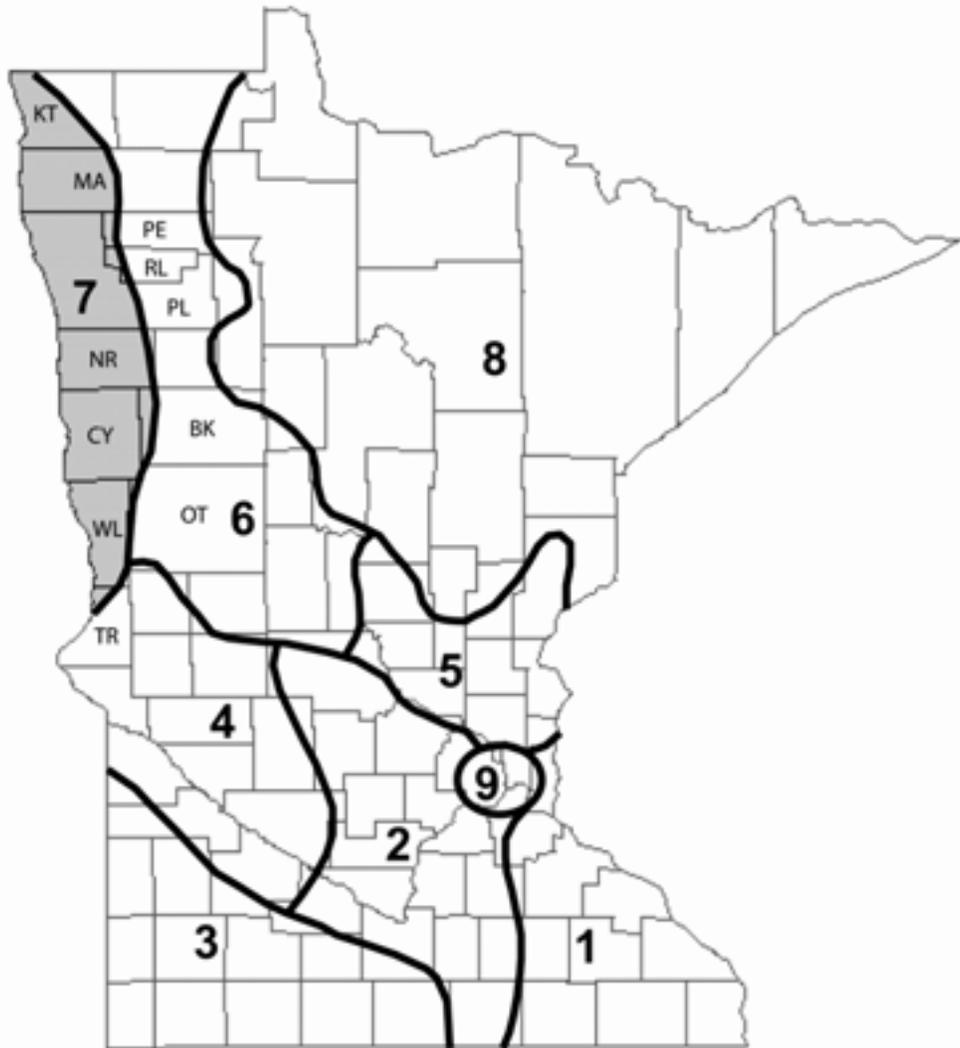
COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Morrison	21MO0288	A. K. Miller Farmstead	132	30	32	Razed/Former farmstead	No visible structural information	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0289	Joseph Roth Farmstead	132	30	36	Single Non-Domestic Element (Silo)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0290	Walter and Evelyn Schultz Farmstead	132	30	36	Razed/Former farmstead	Structural Debris	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0291	Charles Lightner Farmstead	132	30	36	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1920-1960	Not Eligible
Morrison	21MO0292	Frances and Pansy Fletcher Farmstead	132	30	22	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Not Eligible
Otter Tail	21OT0133		134	41	24	Razed/former farmstead location	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Unknown
Otter Tail	21OT0159	Amor WMA Access Road	134	40	6	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Otter Tail	21OT0166	Carpenter Farmstead	125	40	20	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1940	Not Eligible
Otter Tail	21OT0167	Oak Knoll Dairy Farm	135	40	20	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Outbuildings standing	Not Excavated	c.1900-1940	Not Eligible
Polk	21PL0032	The Peterson Farmstead	148	43	2	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	c.1900-present	Unknown
Polk	21PL0033	The Christianson Farmstead	148	43	2	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Outbuildings standing	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Unknown
Polk	21PL0034	The Bjelland-Parnell Farmstead	148	43	3	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Outbuildings standing	Surface Survey	c.1900-1960	Unknown
Polk	21PL0035	The Mitchell Farmstead	148	43	11	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Outbuildings standing	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Unknown
Polk	21PL0036	The Skiple Farmstead	148	43	10	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	c.1920-present	Unknown
Polk	21PL0037	The Hagen-Ramberg Farmstead	148	43	11	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Outbuildings standing	Phase I	c.1940-1960	Unknown
Polk	21PL0038	The Aasnes-Carlson Farmstead	148	43	11	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Outbuildings standing	Phase I	c.1940-1960	Unknown
Polk	21PL0039	The Anderson-Ramberg Farmstead	148	43	2	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Outbuildings standing	Phase I	c.1920-1960	Unknown
Polk	21PL0040	The Ness-Bratvold Farmstead	148	43	10	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Outbuildings standing	Phase I	c.1920-1960	Unknown
Polk	21PL0042	Historic Site #1	147	42	16	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	c.1920-1940	Unknown
Polk	21PL0046	Rosebud Site	147	40	30	Farmstead (House, Barn, and Outbuildings)	Farmhouse and outbuildings standing	Phase II	c.1870-1977	Unknown

Research Status of Farming Regions

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES ON THE BORDER OF REGIONS 6 AND 7

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Becker	21BK0042	Hall Farmstead	139	42	2	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Potentially Eligible
Becker	21BK0075	Rice	141	42	27	Razed/Former farmstead	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Becker	21BK0077	Kohler	140	42	35	Small Group of Elements (Barn, pump house, shed)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Becker	21BK0078	West	139	42	2	Farmstead (House and Barn)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Becker	21BK0079	Marvel	139	42	2	Farmstead (House, Garage, and Quonset)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	c.1880-present	Unknown
Becker	21BK0080	Homstad	139	42	11	Razed/Former farmstead	No visible structural information	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Unknown

Research Status of Farming Regions



REGION 7: RED RIVER VALLEY

REGION 7: RED RIVER VALLEY SMALL GRAIN, POTATOES, AND LIVESTOCK

The Red River Valley Small Grain, Potatoes, and Livestock region is located along the northwestern edge of the state of Minnesota. This area is noted for its level topography, poor natural drainage, and clay, silt, and sandy loams. In 1940, milking cows and small grain production were the predominant forms of agriculture in this region (see Granger and Kelly 2005:5.17-5.20).

While early settlement did occur in this region, it was the introduction of railroads into the area after 1875 that resulted in the region leading the state in wheat production. During the early twentieth century, the Great Northern Railroad encouraged diversification in the Red River Valley in the form of feeder lamb, sheep, and cattle. After World War II, though, the area continued to produce spring wheat, as well as sugar beets, and about two thirds of the state's potato crop.

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

According to the site forms and reports on file at the Minnesota SHPO, previously identified farmstead archaeological sites in this region are limited to four sites from three counties (Clay, Polk, and Wilkin). Excavations at these sites have been primarily limited to Phase I surveys with the exception of a field school conducted at the site 21CY0067 (Probstfield Farm).

Six additional sites are located in western Becker County on the border of the Region 6 with Region 7 (Red River Valley). A table of these sites is included with both regions.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

No Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites associated with this region have been listed on the National Register and none of the previously recorded sites have been evaluated for listing.

SAMPLE FARMSTEAD STUDIES

While no sites have been evaluated within this region, the most extensively documented farmstead site is 21CY0067 (Probstfield Farm). A synopsis of the findings from this site is provided below.

21CY0067 – Probstfield Farm

Testing of the historic Probstfield Farm was sponsored by Moorhead State University to assist the Probstfield Foundation in determining the archaeological potential of the farm, and to compare evidence of domestic life on the farm with the historic residential area of Moorhead excavated in 1996 (Michlovic and Kitch 1999). The Foundation was involved in planning to convert the farm to a living history museum. The Farm was occupied from circa 1868 through 1960. Ten standing structures were noted on the site including the main house, barn, garage, guesthouse, and various outbuildings. Limited background research was conducted on the history of the farm, but the focus of the work was the archaeological potential of the site. Twelve 1-x-1-m units were excavated during the field school. Generally undisturbed deposits, and the presence of strata associated with a pre-1930s occupation of the site confirmed there was interpretive potential for this site. In addition, the history of various construction events on the site can be traced through features identified in the course of the excavations. Of note is the location of an abandoned privy, which had, according to an informant knowledgeable about the site, an asparagus patch planted over it in the 1940s. Testing of the top 5 cm of the privy indicated the presence of domestic habitation material within the sealed feature. Comparison of the data from this limited

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN REGION 7: RED RIVER VALLEY

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Clay	21CY0067	Probstfield Farm	140	48	21	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Farm house and outbuilding standing	Field School	c.1868-1990	Unknown
Polk	21PL0081		152	49	32	Historic Artifact Scatter	No visible structural information	Phase I	c.1900-1940	Unknown
Wilkin	21WL0033		132	47	5	Single Non-Domestic Element (Barn)	Outbuilding standing	Phase I	c.1900-1920	Unknown
Wilkin	21WL0036		133	47	33	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	1903 (plat), 1913 (plat)	Unknown

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES ON THE BORDER OF REGIONS 6 AND 7

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Becker	21BK0042	Hall Farmstead	139	42	2	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Potentially Eligible
Becker	21BK0075	Rice	141	42	27	Razed/Former farmstead	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Becker	21BK0077	Kohler	140	42	35	Small Group of Elements (Barn, pump house, shed)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Becker	21BK0078	West	139	42	2	Farmstead (House and Barn)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Becker	21BK0079	Marvel	139	42	2	Farmstead (House, Garage, and Quonset)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Phase I	c.1880-present	Unknown
Becker	21BK0080	Homstad	139	42	11	Razed/Former farmstead	No visible structural information	Phase I	c.1900-1960	Unknown

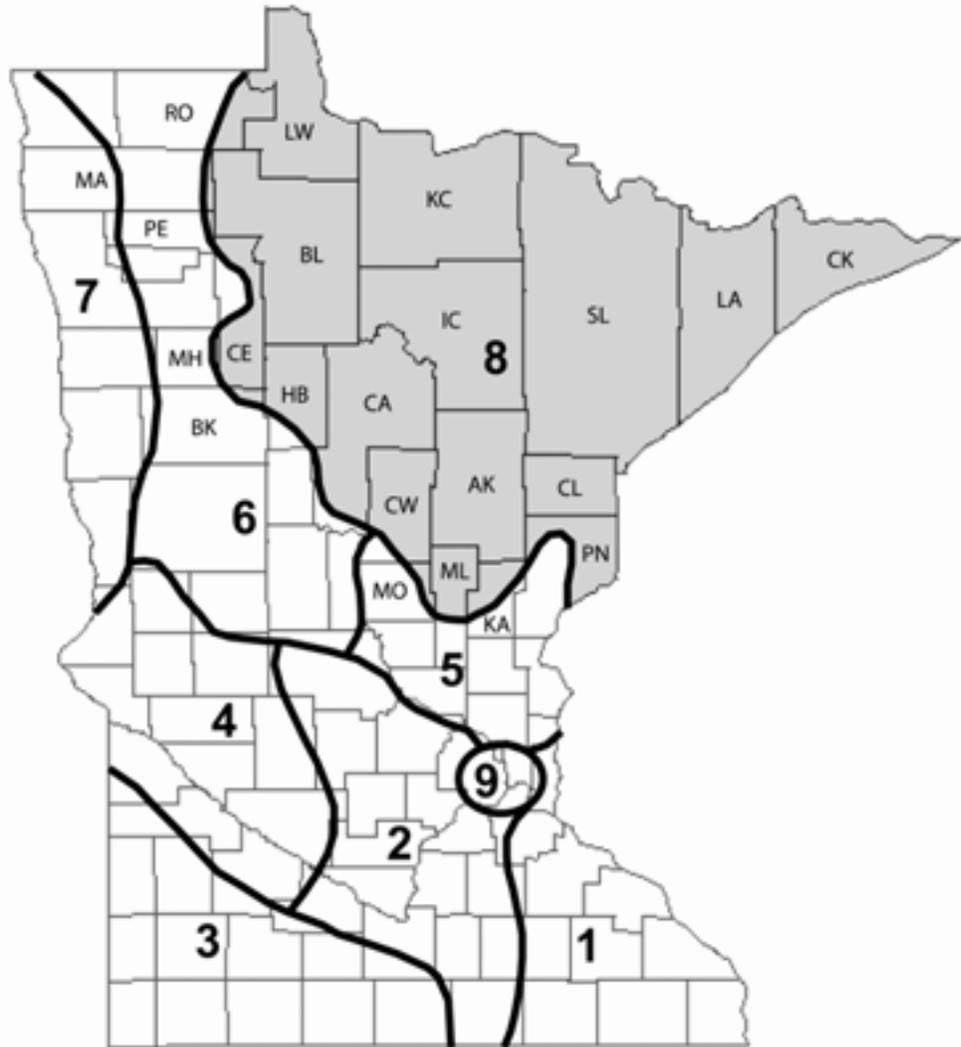
testing of the privy with data from a similarly partially excavated privy in the city of Moorhead allowed for comparative analysis of rural and urban household materials.

RESEARCH NEEDS

The general lack of data on farmstead archaeology sites from this region indicates that the primary research need is site documentation. Beyond this basic need, the settlement of this region, in part at the impetus of the railroads, and the focus on wheat production in this unique environmental setting are topics that can be explored through site evaluation.

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions



REGION 8: NORTHERN CUTOVER

REGION 8: NORTHERN CUTOVER DAIRY, POTATOTES, AND CLOVER SEED

The Northern Cutover, Potatoes, and Clover Seed region encompasses the “arrowhead” region of the state from west of Red Lake on the west, extending south to Mille Lacs Lake, and to the state border on the north and east. This area was once covered in hardwood forests that had been largely logged by 1940. In general, the area was poorly suited to agriculture, having many areas of poor and wet soils. The small farms that were located within the cutover region in 1940 principally engaged in dairying (see Granger and Kelly 2005:5.20-5.23).

The agricultural history of the cutover region is unique and is described in its own developmental period (see Period 5: Developing the Cutover, 1900-1940).

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Numerous “homestead” sites have been recorded in the cutover region, particularly in Cook, Lake, and St. Louis counties, through the examination of aerial photographs. These sites have only been assigned alphabetic (site lead) numbers in the Minnesota SHPO database, because they have not been field-checked. As the nature of these sites is not known, they are not included in this synopsis of the status of archaeological research within the cutover region.

Richard Rothaus of St. Cloud State University has directed surface surveys and landscape studies within the Kathio National Historic Landmark District in Mille Lacs County (Rothaus 2001). Among the site types documented during these investigations were Depression-era farmsteads of the cutover region.

According to the site forms and reports on file at the Minnesota SHPO, 28 sites within the cutover region have been assigned site numbers. These sites are located in eight counties (Beltrami, Cass, Hubbard, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Pine, and St. Louis). None of these sites have undergone a Phase II evaluation.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

No Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites associated with this region have been listed on the National Register none of the previously recorded sites have been evaluated for listing.

SAMPLE FARMSTEAD STUDIES

Previous archaeological studies within this region have primarily consisted of reconnaissance surveys with little to no subsurface testing. Due to the shortage of intensive farmsteads studies performed within this region, no sample studies were located that provide comparative information for future work.

RESEARCH NEEDS

While 28 farmstead archaeological sites have been identified in this region, of these sites few have undergone systematic archaeological survey. Therefore, the primary research need is site documentation. Beyond this basic need, the unique history (and struggle) of farming the cutover provides a plethora of research topics. See the research plan for Period 5: Developing the Cutover, 1900-1940 in the previous chapter for sample research themes and questions.

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN REGION 8: NORTHERN CUTOVER

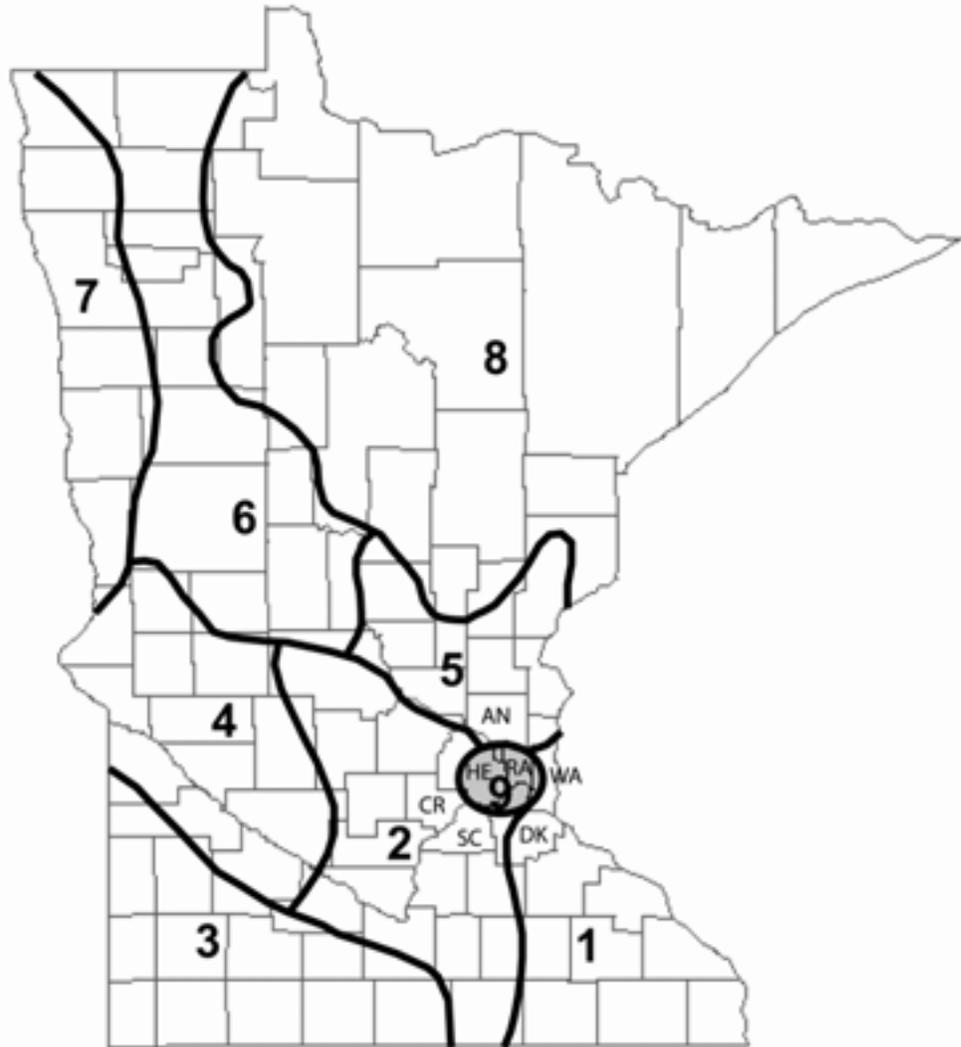
COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Beltrami	21BL0168	Stough	147	32	26	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1920-1940	Unknown
Cass	21CA0530	Plum Trees Homesite	142	27	8	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Cass	21CA0531	Plum Patch Homesite	142	27	8	Farmstead (House, Barn and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Cass	21CA0534	Erickson Homesite	141	30	30	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Cass	21CA0545	The Ole Haugen Farmstead Site	141	29	16	Farmhouse only	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Cass	21CA0550	Born Homestead	141	29	21	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Cass	21CA0574	George Tressler Homesite	141	30	14	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Phase I	c.1915-1928	Not Eligible
Hubbard	21HB0029	Bowman Lake Farmstead	145	32	13	Farmstead (House and Barn)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Itasca	21IC0287	Deer Lake Subsistence Farm	62	24	3	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	c.1920-1940	Unknown
Itasca	21IC0211	Emmery Hurt Farm	144	26	12	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	c.1900-1940	Unknown
Koochiching	21KC0079		155	27	25	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Koochiching	21KC0081		155	26	28	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Koochiching	21KC0095	Ole Lunstrom Homestead	152	25	11	Farmstead (House and Outbuilding)	Depression/Cellar	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Koochiching	21KC0098	Alvina Nelson Homestead	152	25	11	Farmstead (House and Outbuilding)	Depression/Cellar	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Koochiching	21KC0099	Peter Lundstrom Homestead	152	25	3	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Lake	21LA0265	West 1 Homestead	59	9	1	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Helicopter Flyover	Unknown	Unknown
Lake	21LA0046	Wolfinger	58	11	29	Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations, Depressions/Cellar	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Pine	21PN0083	McCormick Lake	44	19	6	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1880-1960	Unknown
St. Louis	21SL0453		51	15	11	Razed/former farmstead location	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	c.1880-1920	Not Eligible

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Research Status of Farming Regions

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
St. Louis	21SL0524	Cloquet River Farm	58	14	9	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	?-c.1960	Unknown
St. Louis	21SL0572	Little Rice Farmstead II	61	17	12	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Helicopter overflight	?-c.1960	Unknown
St. Louis	21SL0577	Big Rice Farmstead	61	17	1	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Helicopter overflight	?-c.1960	Unknown
St. Louis	21SL0586		59	19	5	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse, standing	Surface Survey	c.1940-1960	Unknown
St. Louis	21SL0627	Alto Home (John Duff Farmstead)	59	19	2	Farmstead (House and Barn)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	c.1912-1935	Not Eligible
St. Louis	21SL0761		60	19	4	Razed/former farmstead location	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
St. Louis	21SL0764		61	20	36	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse and outbuilding standing	Surface Survey	c.1880-1940	Unknown
St. Louis	21SL0812		62	17	19	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Not Eligible
St. Louis	21SL0836		59	16	12, 13	Razed/former farmstead location	Depression/Cellar	Phase I	pre-1860-c.1920	Unknown

REGION 8: NORTHERN CUTOVER



REGION 9: TWIN CITY SUBURBAN TRUCK, DAIRY, AND FRUIT

The Twin City Suburban Truck, Dairy, and Fruit region is an area of agricultural production immediately surrounding the Twin Cities area. Located within this region in 1940 were small-scale truck farms that produced vegetables, berries, fruits, cream, milk, and eggs for the metropolitan area (see Granger and Kelly 2005:5.23-5.25). Prior to the urbanization of the Twin Cities, though, this region historically encompassed early subsistence-level diversified farms.

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

According to the site forms and reports on file at the Minnesota SHPO, 11 farmstead archaeological sites have been recorded in this region. These sites are located in Hennepin and Ramsey counties. One site has undergone a Phase II (21HE0244) and one has been the subject of a data recovery (21RA0026). Features associated with the historic occupation of the Lincoln Farm were also documented at site 21HE0007 (Lincoln Farm) during a human burial recovery.

NATIONAL REGISTER-LISTED ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

Two National Register-listed farmstead sites within this region have undergone archaeological testing: the Heman and Jane DeBow Gibbs Farm in Ramsey County (21RA0026) and the Gideon H. Pond and Agnes Hopkins Pond House and Farm Site in Hennepin County (21HE0244). Neither of these sites, though, are listed on the register under Criterion D.

SAMPLE FARMSTEAD STUDIES

The following report abstracts are provided as a sample of the archaeological examination of farmsteads in this region.

21RA0026 (Gibbs Farm Dugout)

The Gibbs family farm dugout in Ramsey County was excavated for the Gibbs Farm Museum by the Program for Interdisciplinary Archaeological Studies and the Wilford Archaeology Laboratory of the University of Minnesota in 1995 (Blair and Forsberg 1996). The Gibbs family was among the earliest EuroAmerican settlers in the territory and their dugout home dates from 1849 to 1854. A grid of test units was laid out within a 4-x-5-m excavation area. Nineteen of these units were excavated. Although several thousand artifacts were recovered, only a very small percentage of artifacts were directly associated with the occupation period. The cellar depression was used by the Gibbs family for refuse disposal after they moved into their frame house in 1854. However, the material that was recovered varied in nature from domestic items to architectural components. Some information was recovered regarding the construction of the dugout, including evidence of a raised wood plank floor and window glass. No information regarding additional structural supports, such as postholes or bracing elements, were located. A daughter of the Gibbs reported that the dwelling included log sidewalls and a roof of wooden elements. Drainage for the dugout was provided by a loose sand and gravel base.

21HE0244 (Pond House and Farm)

The Gideon H. Pond and Agnes Hopkins Pond house and farm site was the subject of limited archaeological excavations carried out by the University of Minnesota in 1981, and a Phase I archaeological survey conducted by the Institute for Minnesota Archaeology (IMA) in August of 1993 (Birk 1993:19, 26). Gideon Pond and his brother Samuel Pond were early missionaries to the Dakota who came to Minnesota in 1834. In 1843, Gideon Pond and his family settled at a

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN REGION 9: TWIN CITY SUBURBAN

COUNTY	SITE NO.	SITE NAME	T	R	S	SITE TYPE	STRUCTURAL EVIDENCE	TESTING LEVEL	PERIOD	ELIGIBILITY
Hennepin	21HE0007	Lincoln Farm	27	23	6	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase III	c.1880-1920	Unknown
Hennepin	21HE0244	Gideon Pond House	27	24	22	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Farmhouse, standing	Phase II	c.1840-1860	Eligible for Listing
Hennepin	21HE0305	Frederick Farmstead Remnants	116	22	29	Farmstead (House and outbuildings)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Hennepin	21HE0308	Henry W. Raguet Farmstead	116	22	21	Razed/Former farmstead	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Ramsey	21RA0011		30	23	4	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Ramsey	21RA0012		30	23	3	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Surface Survey	Unknown	Unknown
Ramsey	21RA0023	S. Indykiewicz/Edwards Farm	30	23	10	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Ramsey	21RA0024	Jarozewski Farm	30	23	10	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Ramsey	21RA0025	N. Indykiewicz Farm	30	23	10	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	Unknown	Unknown
Ramsey	21RA0026	Gibbs Farm Dugout	29	23	17	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase III	c.1840-1860	Unknown
Ramsey	21RA0043		30	23	4	Farmstead (House and an outbuilding)	Ruins/Foundations	Phase I	1898 (plat), 1916 (plat)	Not Eligible

new mission at “Oak Grove” in present day Bloomington. In 1856, Gideon and his second wife Agnes constructed a two-story brick house and, later, a framed barn at Oak Grove (Birk 1993:4). The 1981 excavations performed by the University of Minnesota team consisted of the excavation of three 1-x-3-m trenches adjacent to the 1856 house in preparation for foundation repairs. A limited number of historic period artifacts associated with the occupation of the house were recovered during the excavations and a builder’s trench containing dried mortar and broken bricks was documented. The investigations adjacent to the house foundation also provided insights into how the house was constructed (Birk 1993:19). The goal of the IMA investigations was to determine if there was evidence for a precontact Native American occupation within the Oak Gove area, and to produce a basic inventory of the post-contact cultural resources present on the grounds of the Pond farm site - including the site of the 1843 mission. Through historical research, oral interviews, surface collecting, and the excavation of 192 shovel tests, the IMA study produced evidence for a Native American presence within the project area including a discontinuous lithic scatter on the upper terrace; identified over three dozen historic sites or features within the project area; but could not identify with certainty the location of the 1843 mission (Birk 1993:19-24). While the site history that was created by the IMA includes the role of the site as a farm, the archaeological research did not focus on the agricultural aspects of the property.

RESEARCH NEEDS

Farmstead sites within Region 9 have been largely lost to urbanization. Farms within this region include some of the earliest within the state through twentieth century truck, dairy, and fruit farms. These sites can address a wide variety of research questions should intact archaeological deposits associated with them survive. Before any such analysis can begin, though, the primary research need within this region is the basic identification and evaluation of farmstead sites.



Old farmstead with new apartment complex in background. Burnsville, Hennepin County, 1976. (MHS Neg. No. 32655)

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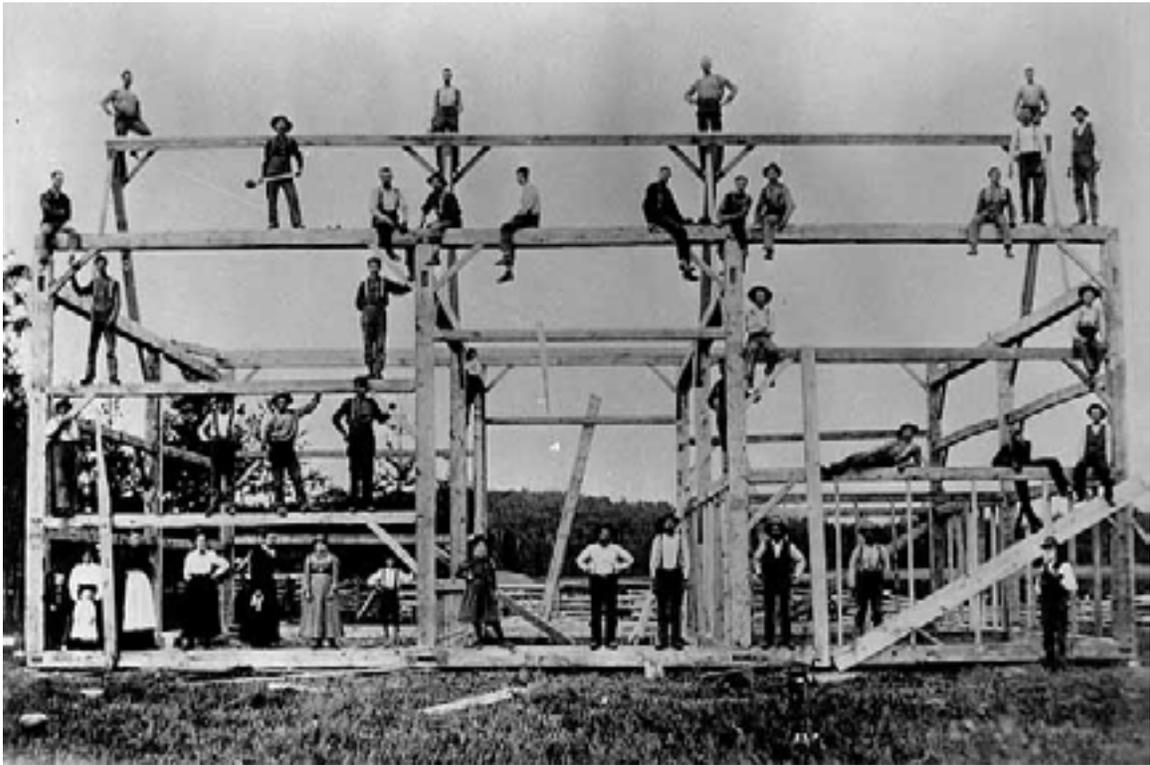
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Joe Corrigan standing by a farm outhouse. Apple Valley, Dakota County, 1951. (MHS Neg. No. 37767)



Barn raising. Rainy River district, circa 1900. (MHS Neg. No. 3043)

**MINNESOTA FARMSTEAD
TEMPORALLY DIAGNOSTIC ELEMENTS**

Aluminum – Developed in the 19th century but not broadly used until after World War II (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.29).

Aluminum House Siding – Developed in the late 1930s (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.29).

Asbestos-Cement Boards – Early 20th century through 1970s (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.30).

Asphalt Composition Siding – Rolled asphalt composition roofing and siding available in the 1880s and used throughout the 20th century (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.30).

Brick – Used on farms during the 19th century and less popular by the 1940s (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.31). For brick manufacturing techniques and dating of bricks see Karl Gurcke, 1987, *Bricks and Brickmaking: a handbook for historical archaeology*, University of Idaho Press, Moscow, Idaho.

Cement Staves – Invented in 1905 and popular by 1920 (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.31, 6.32).

Concrete Blocks – Widely used after 1900 and particularly in the period from 1900 to 1920. Blocks with special designs (cobblestone, brick, ashlar, and ornamental patterns) sold from 1900 through 1930s. Block size was standardized in 1924 (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.31, 6.32).

Concrete – Developed in the 1860s and 1870s, but not widely adopted until after 1900. By 1925 farmers were extensively using concrete (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.31, 6.32).

Fiberboard – Available after the 1910s, first used on farms around 1920, widely used after World War II, and superseded by plywood and particleboard in the 1960s (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.32).

Fiberglass Roofing Sheets – Fiberglass reinforced plastic was invented in the 1940s and the corrugated translucent sheets for roofs and windows were first made in the late 1940s (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.33).

Grain Bins (metal) – Pre-fabricated metal grain bins began to be used around 1910 (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.37).

Iron Sheets – Galvanized iron sheets were available by the mid-1950s, while sheet iron shingles were common in the 1880s and 1890s. After World War II sheet steel replaced sheet iron (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.34).

Logs – Among the earliest building materials in forested portions of the state, but continued to be used in the northeastern cutover region through the 1930s (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.35).

Milk house - Began appearing on farms in the late 1890s (Granger and Kelly 2005:4.47).

Plastic Films - Began appearing on farms in the 1950s (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.35).

Plywood – Developed in the 19th century, but not in common use on farms until after World War II (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.36).

Appendix A

Pole Framing – Developed in the 1930s and widely adapted after World War II (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.36-6.37).

Pre-Fabricated Buildings – Began around 1910 and widespread use adapted after World War II (Granger and Kelly 2005: 6.37).

Quonset-Type Buildings – Introduced in the 1940s and popular in the 1950s (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.38).

Silo - First appeared in Minnesota around 1890, and were in common use by circa 1910 (Granger and Kelly 2005:4.48). The first curved tile silo was built in Iowa in 1908 (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.42).

Steel Sheets – Galvanized steel sheets were available in the late 1860s, but became more popular in the late 1880s with corrugated steel sheets still in common use. Sheets stamped with brick and stone patterns sold through World War II (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.40).

Stone – Among the earliest building materials used on farms for building foundations, especially during the 1850s to 1870s. The Craftsman Style re-awakened an interest in using fieldstone during the 1910s and 1920s (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.41).

Structural Clay Tile – Began use in the first decade of the 20th century and continued in popularity through the 1940s (Granger and Kelly 2005:6.42).

Tractor (gas-powered) – Began replacing horses about 1910 and by the late 1920s most Minnesota farms had one (Granger and Kelly 2005:4.47-4.48).

**IDENTIFYING AND EVALUATING
MINNESOTA FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY SITES**

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE CONTEXT

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Prepared for the
Minnesota Department of Transportation

June 2006

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Authorized and funded by the Minnesota Department of Transportation
and the Federal Highway Administration

Appendix B



Farmstead. Location unknown, circa 1910. (MHS Neg. No. 55113)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION B.5
 ASSOCIATED PROPERTIES B.5

METHODS FOR FARMSTEAD SITE IDENTIFICATION..... B.9
 TASK 1: PRE-FIELDWORK LITERATURE SEARCH..... B.9
 PHASE I LITERATURE SEARCH CHECKLIST B.9
 TASK 2: PHASE I FIELD SURVEY METHODS..... B.12
 TASK 3: POST-FIELDWORK LITERATURE SEARCH..... B.14
 TASK 4: ASSESSMENT OF RESEARCH POTENTIAL..... B.14
 PHASE I FARMSTEAD SITE RESEARCH POTENTIAL CHECKLIST..... B.15
 TASK 5: SITE FORM B.22

**EVALUATING THE NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY OF FARMSTEAD
ARCHAEOLOGY SITES B.25**
 EVALUATION OF ELIGIBILITY UNDER CRITERION D..... B.26
 PHASE II HISTORICAL RESEARCH..... B.27
 PHASE II FIELD METHODS..... B.27
 PHASE II LABORATORY METHODS..... B.28

REFERENCES CITED..... B.29

CHECKLIST A: PHASE I PRE-FIELDWORK LITERATURE SEARCH
CHECKLIST B: PHASE I FARMSTEAD SITE RESEARCH POTENTIAL

Appendix B



Volmer Farm near Lakeland. Washington County, circa 1915. (MHS Neg. No. 20450)

INTRODUCTION

This supplement to the context *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads* contains guidelines for the identification and National Register evaluation of the state's farmstead archaeological sites. These methods do not supersede or take the place of the *SHPO Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota*; *Mn/DOT's Cultural Resources Unit Project Requirements*; the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* (National Park Service 1983); the *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Archeological Properties* (Little et al. 2000), or any other agency, state, or federal guidelines for performing archaeological fieldwork. Rather, the methods presented herein are meant to augment those guidelines by providing a consistent approach to the identification and National Register evaluation of Minnesota's farmstead sites.

As archaeological sites are primarily eligible to the National Register under Criterion D (have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history), this document is focused on identifying farmstead sites with research potential and evaluating their integrity and significance within the context *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads*. Farmstead archaeological sites may also be eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and B, and occasionally C, and examples of eligibility under these criteria are provided in the evaluation section of this document.

These guidelines are contained within an appendix to the context in order facilitate any future updates. For, as data is gathered on farmstead sites, methodological approaches and evaluation criteria may require adjustment.

▪ ASSOCIATED PROPERTIES

Property Types. Property types associated with the historic context include:

- a farm
- a farmstead
- an individual farm element such as a barn
- a small group of farm elements
- a group or district comprised of several farms

Definition of Property Types. The following definitions of the property types are adapted from the *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* (Granger and Kelly 2005b:1) and De Cunzo and Garcia (1992:234-235):

Farm. A parcel of land historically used for farming and having a headquarters complex. Generally comprised of a farmstead and adjacent land, but can also include non-contiguous parcels of land.

Farmstead. The headquarters complex of a farm. A farmstead is comprised of at least one dwelling as well as associated farm elements including domestic (privies, smokehouses, spring houses, wood sheds, etc.) and agricultural outbuildings (barns, granaries, livestock housing, etc.), and the surrounding work yard, gardens, and directly associated activity areas.

Farmland. In general terms, the land historically associated with a farm. Farmland may exclude land in long-term use for another activity such as gravel mining or quarrying. Farmland can include tilled fields, pasture or grassland, untillable land, woodlots, orchards, etc. The land associated with a particular farm does not need to be contiguous.

Appendix B

Property Boundaries. For information on defining the boundaries of farmstead archaeological sites see “Determining Site Boundaries” within the Phase I Survey Methods subsection in the following chapter.



Jacob Barron family on farm near Herman. Grant County, 1896. (MHS Neg. No. 29827)

Appendix B

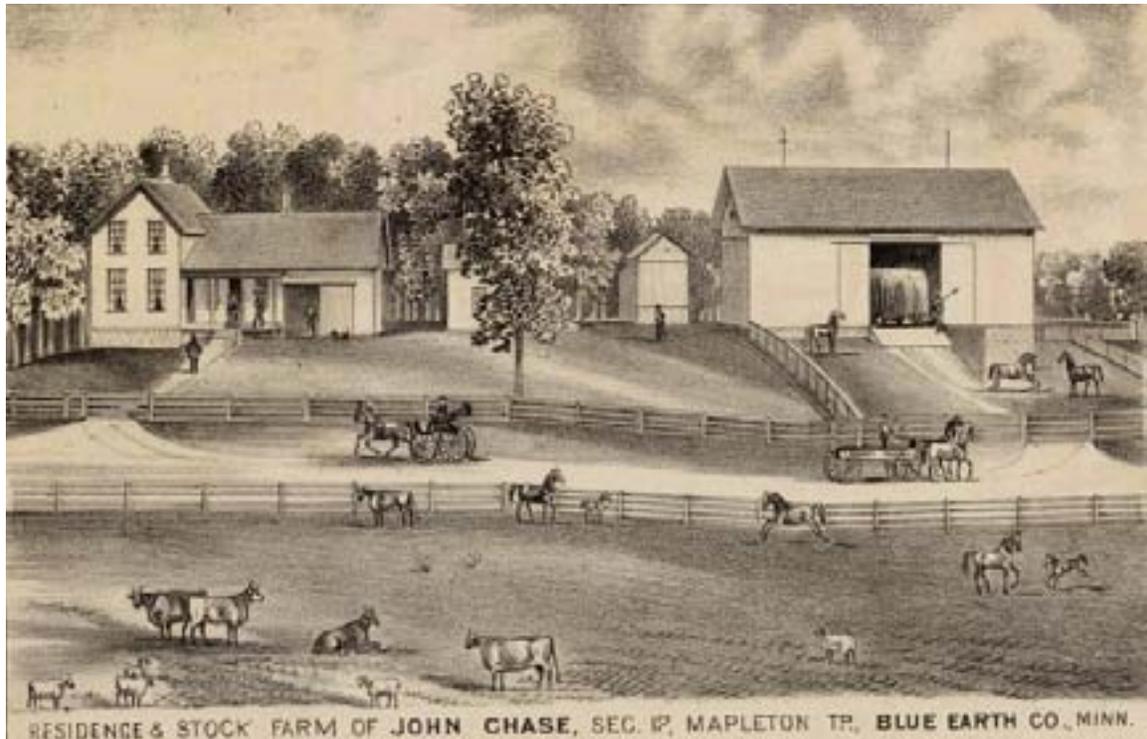


Illustration of the farmstead of John Chase in Blue Earth County from *An Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Minnesota* (Andreas 1874).

Illustrated (from left to right) are a vernacular T-shaped farmhouse with an attached shed/work room; an outbuilding of unknown function; a granary; and a three-bay threshing barn with fodder storage on the upper level and livestock housing on the lower level. With the house and barn situated parallel to the public road, this farmstead adheres to the linear farm layout. Located in Region 3 (Southwest Livestock and Cash Grain), this Period 2 (Wheat Monoculture) farm demonstrates the adaptation of a wheat farm to livestock production.

METHODS FOR FARMSTEAD SITE IDENTIFICATION

This chapter describes the methods to be employed by contract archaeologists during Phase I archaeological surveys in order to ensure the uniform treatment of cultural resources associated with Minnesota's farmsteads. Because this document is concentrated on farmstead archaeological sites, the tasks described are focused on identifying the presence or absence of farmstead archaeological sites. These tasks are to be integrated with standard Phase I archaeological procedures employed in the identification of other historical archaeological site types and precontact sites. The outlined Phase I methodology consists of five tasks:

- Task 1: Pre-Fieldwork Literature Search
- Task 2: Phase I Field Survey Methods
- Task 3: Post-Fieldwork Literature Search
- Task 4: Assessment of Research Potential Based on Phase I Results
- Task 5: Site Form

▪ TASK 1: PRE-FIELDWORK LITERATURE SEARCH

The process for the identification of potential farmstead archaeological sites begins with a pre-fieldwork literature search. The purpose of the literature search is to identify areas of archaeological potential within the project area as well as to gather data that will assist in assessing the research potential of identified farmsteads within their appropriate temporal and regional contexts.

While the pre-fieldwork literature search is a standard CRM practice in Minnesota (Mn/DOT 2004:3; Anfinson 2005:25-27, 29), consistency in the resources consulted by each firm is required.

PHASE I LITERATURE SEARCH CHECKLIST

A checklist for a Phase I pre-fieldwork literature search is appended to this document. This form should be completed for each township section within the project area. The completion of this form will result in a general understanding of the project area's history and its potential to contain post-contact archaeological resources associated with farmsteads.

At a **minimum** the following sources are to be consulted prior to fieldwork:

- Previously Recorded Farmstead Sites
- Aerial Photographs
- Topographic Maps (current and historic)
- General Land Office Survey Maps
- General Land Office Tract Books
- *An Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Minnesota* (Andreas 1874)
- Historic Plat Maps
- County Histories
- Century Farm Database

Previously Recorded Farmsteads. A review of previously recorded archaeological sites and cultural resource surveys within a one mile radius of the project's area of potential effect (APE) is standard procedure for Minnesota CRM projects. This task is accomplished by checking the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological databases and files for sites and

Appendix B

reports. The SHPO's Architecture-History Database should also be consulted as extant farmstead structures within the project area may have been previously recorded during an architectural-history survey. Furthermore, a review of architectural-history properties within a mile radius may provide insights into the type of farms present in the vicinity of the project.

In addition to this data search, the list of previously recorded farmstead sites within the region that is included in the context *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads* should be consulted for comparable data. Reports for surveys completed since the finalization of this document should also be consulted for more recent data on farmstead sites within the region.

Aerial Photographs. Aerial coverage in Minnesota begins in the 1930s with the exception of a series of 1927 photographs of the Mississippi River from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and occasional low elevation oblique photographs. Historic and current aerials for the state are on file at the University of Minnesota's John R. Borchert Map Library. Current aerial photographs are also available online through a variety of sources. Some Minnesota counties also have interactive GIS maps with high-resolution aerial photographs available online through their planning departments. These recent aerials provide important information on current land use and potential feature locations. Information on aerial photographs that should be noted for farms within the project area include changes in structures, areas of disturbance; arrangement of buildings, and associated cultivated areas, pastures, tree lines, windbreaks, access roads, etc.

Topographic Maps. Current topographic maps are available electronically in a variety of scales (e. g., www.topozone.com; <http://terraserver-usa.com/>). Earlier versions of the United States Geological Survey (U.S.G.S.) 7.5 minute (1:24,000) series are available at the Borchert Map Library. Of particular note are the earlier 15 minute (1:62,500) quadrangle series some quadrangles of which date to the late 19th century. Current U.S.G.S. topographic map sets are also available at the SHPO and the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA).

The Original General Land Office Survey Maps, 1848 to 1907. These maps are the product of the first government land survey of the state and are organized by township. The date of the township's survey is recorded in a table at the bottom of each map. These maps are available on microfiche at the MHS (the originals are at the Office of the Secretary of State). The General Land Office (GLO) maps can also be viewed online at the URLs listed below. (Note: These maps are the original documents that were summarized in the map series created by J. William Trygg. Due to their scale, the original maps are more detailed than Trygg's version.)

<http://www.gis.state.mn.us/GLO/Index.htm>

<http://www.mnhs.org/collections/digitalmaps/index.htm>

The GLO field notes that were kept by the land surveyors and which include information on vegetation and cultural features are currently not available online but are on file in the MHS library. The research guide to handwritten copies of the original notebooks can be found in the State Archives notebooks under "U. S. Surveyor General." In order to access the original set of field notes, the researcher needs to submit an application and use agreement for access to restricted records in the State Archives. The guide to the original notes is on file in the State Archives notebooks under "Secretary of State."

General Land Office Tract Books. Much of the land in Minnesota was settled under the Preemption Act of 1841 or the later Homestead Act of 1862. The homesteading process consisted of registering an initial claim of 160 acres or less and then fulfilling the homestead patent within a five-year period through the improvement and cultivation of the land. Tract books were kept by the local offices of the GLO to provide a consolidated record of land claims and title transfers upon fulfillment of the patents. These volumes are organized by legal description and

Methods for Farmstead Site Identification

B.10

for each parcel of land they give its acreage, price, name of purchaser or transferee, sale date and certificate number or other disposition data, name of final patentee, date of final patent, and citation to the patent record in the GLO records. These records can be readily searched by a project's legal description in order to identify the first homesteaders within the project area. The tract books are available on microfilm at the MHS (SAM 46).

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) maintains an online database of land title records issued between 1820 and 1908 (<http://www.glorecords.blm.gov/PatentSearch/Default.asp>). This resource though **does not** contain every Federal title record. It is also limited to title transfers (patent fulfillments) and not initial claims, which would have occurred within the five year period preceding the transfer of the title. Therefore, while the BLM database may be consulted in addition to the Minnesota GLO tract books, it should not be used as an alternative to the tract books.

An Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Minnesota, 1874. This atlas by A.T. Andreas is one of the earliest available for much of the state. As the frontispiece of this chapter demonstrates, the atlas is also a source of illustrations of prominent farms within a county. Due to the small scale of the atlas' maps, though, not all farmsteads that were in existence are recorded and those residences that are indicated tend to be limited to those of prominent citizens and/or subscribers to the atlas. Therefore, an absence of structures within a given project area in the Andreas atlas should not be construed as an indication of no pre-1874 development within the area. The Andreas atlas is available at the MHS and online at:

<http://www.davidrumsey.com/>

<http://www.mnhs.org/collections/digitalmaps/index.htm>

Historic Plat Maps. All available historic plat maps should be examined not only for indications of farmstead structures, but also for change in associated acreage and land ownership over time. For a guide to available plat maps for your survey area and their repositories see *Minnesota Land Owner Maps and Directories* (Bakeman 1994). Many plat maps are available on microfilm at the MHS. The MHS has also begun to put some county plat maps online at:

<http://www.mnhs.org/collections/digitalmaps/index.htm>

County Histories. Most counties in Minnesota have general county histories which are available at the MHS or in local libraries. These histories often contain a general overview of the county's past as well as histories of individual townships and communities. Therefore, the relevant sections that encompass a project area can be readily consulted and any landowner names identified during the plat map search can be researched. Furthermore, these histories often provide information on early settlers and their homestead locations, as well as the family histories of prominent community members.

Century Farm Database. The Minnesota Farm Bureau and the Minnesota State Fair work in conjunction to recognize Minnesota farm families that have owned their farms for more than 100 years through the Century Farms program. A database of all of the recognized century farms within the state of Minnesota is available online. The Century Farms database can be searched by county or surname. The database should be examined for surnames of current property owners, or surnames identified during plat map research. Electronic versions of the applications for Century Farm status are available online. These forms may include information on land ownership, the construction dates of structures, and the type of farming practiced. The link to the directory can be found at the Minnesota Farm Bureau website (<http://www.fbmn.org/>).

THE MISSING YEARS: IDENTIFYING EARLY SETTLEMENT FARMSTEADS

Because the task of consulting historic maps for a given project area does not require substantial time or effort, it has become the primary, and often sole, means of identifying potential post-contact archaeological resources. For the vast majority of Minnesota's counties, though, historic map coverage is lacking for the years between the earliest General Land Office Surveys and the first available detailed plat maps (1880s to 1910s depending on the region of the state). These missing years encompass the Minnesota farm developmental period of *Early Settlement, 1820-1870* as well as most of the period associated with the *Development of a Wheat Monoculture, 1860-1885*. Even farmsteads associated with some of the later developmental periods may not have initial map coverage, but because farm structures were more substantial in later periods, farmsteads from those eras will likely have a visible archaeological signature that is readily recognizable during a walkover survey.

The *Early Settlement, 1820-1870* period in Minnesota is typified by dugouts, log buildings, small shanties and simple outbuildings. Because the remains of these structures may not be easily detected during initial survey, the identification of farmsteads from this period is more problematic in the absence of an historic map record. As examples of intact farmsteads from this period are rare, archaeological evidence is the primary means for documenting farmsteads from this era. Therefore, it is imperative that CRM archaeologists consult additional resources including county histories, the General Land Office tract books, Jean Casper's *Compendium History of the Dugout and Sod House in Minnesota*, and ask landowners and local historians about the locations of early homesteads in their project areas.

▪ **TASK 2: PHASE I FIELD SURVEY METHODS**

Having completed the literature search, the goal of the Phase I field survey, with regard to farmstead sites, is to field check the areas identified during the literature search as having the potential to contain archaeological resources associated with farms and to document those resources sufficiently to assess their research potential. To this end the completed Phase I literature search checklist, project maps, and photocopies of historical plat maps, topographic maps, and aerial photographs should accompany the archaeologist into the field so that they can be readily consulted during fieldwork. These materials will aid in identifying locations of potential farmstead sites as well as in the field assessment of unanticipated finds.

Fieldwork Preparation. Standard fieldwork preparation includes contacting Gopher State One Call to locate underground utilities. Archaeologists working on active farms should be aware that farmsteads often contain private underground utility lines that service individual outbuildings. These utilities, which are installed behind or after the meters, are private and will not be marked by Gopher State One Call. Utility locations should be discussed with the current landowner, but be aware that lines may have been installed by a previous property owner. When active utility lines are located within a farmstead, a private locator should be hired to identify and mark the location of private facilities prior to excavation. The Gopher State One Call website provides a list of private locators (<http://www.gopherstateonecall.org/privatelocators.asp>).

Active farmsteads may also contain occupied animal pens and pastures. If these areas need to be subjected to archaeological testing contact the landowner to see if they are willing to move the livestock or if there is a period of the year when the pen or pasture is not in use.

Visual Inspection. The Phase I survey should commence with a visual inspection of the project's APE. The visual survey for farmstead sites should not be limited to those locations where farmsteads are anticipated based on the background research, but it should encompass

Methods for Farmstead Site Identification

the entirety of the APE, because, as noted in the context, early farmstead sites are often not documented in a literature search. During this visual survey, the archaeologist should be alert to evidence for former farmsteads such as old road beds and windbreaks, cellar depressions, and the presence of domesticated plants including bulb flowers, fruit trees, lilacs and other ornamental shrubs and non-native trees that indicate former homestead locations.

Identifying Farmsteads as Archaeological Sites. The purpose of a Phase I survey is to determine if archaeological sites exist within a given area. Farmstead archaeological sites are those that contain structural remnants of the headquarters complex of a farm (e.g., standing structures, ruined buildings, foundations, post-holes, and/or cellar depressions) of at least 50 years of age or greater.

Detailed Site Mapping. Should farmstead structural remnants (e.g., standing structures, ruined buildings, foundations, and/or cellar depressions) of at least 50 years of age be encountered during a Phase I survey, documentation of the site will commence with the creation of a site plan. One of the research themes identified in the context *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads* is Landscape History and Farm Development. The mapping of Minnesota's farmstead sites will increase our understanding of the interrelationship of farmstead structures, and facilitate research into geographical and temporal patterns of farmstead site development as well as ethnic and regional characteristics. The site plan will note the orientation, dimensions, materials, and approximate age of all visible features of the farmstead, as well as their relationship to one another. Features to be included on the site plan are not limited to structure locations, but should also include driveways, fence lines, plantings, and other elements related to the farmstead (see Granger and Kelly 2005a). Areas of disturbance including septic tanks and drain fields and other impacts should be mapped. Standard cartographic elements including a north arrow, scale, date, and caption should be included on the map.

Defining Farmstead Site Boundaries. The boundaries of subsurface archaeological sites, particularly precontact ones, are typically delineated by a marked decrease in the number of artifacts recovered in shovel tests. Understandably the highest concentration of artifacts within a farm is typically located within the vicinity of the farmstead (although trash dumps may be located at more distant areas) (Louis Berger and Associates, Inc. 1994:2.9). For this reason, farmstead archaeological sites are often defined as the area immediately surrounding the farmhouse.

For the purposes of this context, the boundary of a farmstead archaeological site will be defined as a boundary that encompasses the domestic dwellings, outbuildings, and the surrounding work yard, gardens, orchards, woodlots, and activity areas directly associated with the farmstead complex. At the Phase I level of investigation roadways, fence lines, windbreaks/shelter belts, plantings, and topographic features that bound the farmstead may provide sufficient information for the delineation of the boundary of the farmstead archaeological site without subsurface testing. Aerial photographs should also be consulted as they will provide information on changes in the farmstead's boundaries over time.

If no visible indicators for the boundary of the farmstead site are present, an "X" of intersecting transects should be superimposed on the site commencing from a central point within the farmstead and radiating outward across the site. Shovel tests should be spaced at a 10-m interval along each transect. If a shovel testing grid is being employed by a given project as the standard Phase I method for identifying both precontact and post-contact sites, then a shovel testing grid of no greater than a 20-m interval may be used to delineate the farmstead site boundary. The results of the shovel testing and any observable farmstead features should then be used in tandem to ascertain the site's general boundaries.

Appendix B

The farmstead archaeological site thus defined does not include the agricultural fields, ditches, and other aspects of the landscape of the farm that are located beyond the farmstead. While these features are not included in the site boundary, the context *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads* is based on the recognition that the farmstead is the central complex of a larger farm. Therefore, the farm as a whole is to be the subject of historical research and the farmstead archaeological site is to be evaluated within the context of the farm of which it is a part.

Vertical Sampling. Detailed site mapping and the delineation of site boundaries provides information about the horizontal extent of an identified farmstead site. The other component of a Phase I survey is vertical sampling (Anfinson 2005:9). If shovel testing was necessary to identify the horizontal limits of the farmstead, general information about the vertical integrity of the site will have been gathered. If the horizontal boundaries of the former farmstead could be delineated without shovel testing it is possible, as suggested by the National Register bulletin *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Archeological Properties*, that “the above-ground organization of features and artifacts may be used as evidence that below-ground patterning is intact” (Little et al. 2000). As noted in the bulletin, retained spatial patterning of surface features and a lack of obvious disturbances are indicators of preserved archaeological integrity. For example, a farmstead that was abandoned during the mid-twentieth century and which has collapsed in upon itself with no subsequent structure removal or mechanical grading retains sufficient above-ground information to indicate that the sub-surface archaeological resources are also intact and no additional archaeological testing is needed at the Phase I level to identify the site. If potential features are indicated by structural ruins or surface depressions, shovel tests or soil probes should be used to sample the stratigraphic profiles and vertical integrity of these locations.

TASK 3: POST-FIELDWORK LITERATURE SEARCH

If a farmstead archaeological site is identified during a Phase I archaeological survey, additional documentary research should be conducted while preparing the report. Recognizing the constraints of Phase I budgets, this post-fieldwork literature search is not intended to be exhaustive, but should focus on the site’s occupants, their period of occupation, and the type of farming being practiced. At a minimum, population census records for the site’s occupants should be gathered as they will provide information on family composition, ethnicity, and other factors that will assist in evaluating the research potential of the site. If agricultural census records are available for the site (non-population schedules are available in Minnesota for 1860, 1870, and 1880) they should also be consulted.

TASK 4: ASSESSMENT OF RESEARCH POTENTIAL

The Phase I survey methods outlined above will result in the identification of a greater number of Minnesota farmstead sites than have previously been recorded. Through the basic documentation of these farms, archaeologists will be gathering information that will further our understanding of the landscape of farms and their historical development. While the methods for identifying farmstead sites are clear, upon completion of the Phase I fieldwork, the concern of both the consultant and the reviewing agency is determining which farmstead sites, if any, should undergo further evaluation and which criteria should be used to guide that decision. In response to this concern, Wilson (1990) and Miller and Klein (2002) and others have formulated guidelines for the preliminary assessment of the research potential of farmstead sites. The principles of these guidelines have been adapted to the current research status of Minnesota farmstead archaeology sites and assembled into a checklist (appended to this document) for the assessment of research potential. This checklist is to be completed for each farmstead site identified during a Phase I survey.

Methods for Farmstead Site Identification

PHASE I FARMSTEAD SITE RESEARCH POTENTIAL CHECKLIST

The purpose of the Phase I Farmstead Site Research Potential Checklist is to assess whether a farmstead site identified during a Phase I archaeological survey has the potential to be eligible for listing on the National Register. A checklist should be completed for each individual farmstead site. Those sites that are assessed as having moderate to high research potential upon completion of the checklist should undergo a Phase II evaluation.

The checklist facilitates the consistent, efficient, and cost-effective assessment of research potential in a manner that meets the Secretary of Interior's Standards and National Register guidelines and is based on the evaluation sequence presented in the National Register bulletin *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (National Park Service 2002):

- Categorize the property
- Determine the historic context(s) the property represents
- Determine if the site is a type usually excluded from the National Register
- Determine whether the property retains integrity

The following paragraphs provide additional explanation for the completion of the checklist.

Summary of Pre-Fieldwork Background Research. This space is provided for a summarization of the information gathered on the property during the pre-fieldwork literature search. Information on the period of occupation and ownership history is likely to be approximate and a qualifier such as "circa" should be used if appropriate.

In general, the research potential of farmstead sites that have been occupied for short periods of time (less than 20 years) by single households is regarded as being higher than multiple-household, long-term occupied sites. Within the single occupation site there is an analytical clarity provided by all of the artifacts being linked to the occupying household, and all artifacts, whether or not they are temporally diagnostic, being assigned to the period of occupation (Wilson 1990:29-30; Miller and Klein 2002:163). Sites that were occupied for only limited periods of time are also often frequently associated with the temporary homesteads of the Early Settlement (1820-1870) period that were abandoned in favor of more permanent farmsteads or sites that met a catastrophic end.

Farmsteads occupied by successive households have been identified as problematic because it is often difficult to link archaeological patterns to individual households (Wilson 1990:27; Miller and Klein 2002:163). Certainly if discrete features and artifact deposits are present within a long-term site, the potential to make those linkages is greater – and the overall integrity of the site would support the potential of the site to facilitate these linkages. Still, Cassell (1997) and Beaudry (2002) have emphasized that even when artifacts cannot be linked to individual households, if farms are thought of not as domestic sites, but in a more detached and overarching manner as industrial landscapes (as is advocated by the context *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads*) that are comprised of features (i.e., individual farm elements) and feature systems (e.g., farms, farm neighborhoods, and market networks) then long-term sites can contribute to our understanding of how farms developed and how they reflect regional histories even if each ceramic sherd cannot be linked to a particular owner. Research questions should be generated that are appropriate to the site's archaeological potential, therefore, a farmstead site that was occupied by multiple un-related households may not be the best site for investigating research questions about consumer choice and social behavior of individual households, but it could answer research questions about regional trends – particularly if frequent land transfers are an aspect of farm life in the region.

Appendix B

Multi-generation, long-term occupation farmstead sites also have significant research potential (Wilson 1990:27). A site occupied by a single family has the potential to contain archaeological indicators for the family's adaptation to changing technologies and economic cycles. Furthermore, the potential for family history about the farm's evolution, and documentary information such as family records and farmer's daybooks are increased.

Therefore, the length of the site's occupation and its ownership history should not be considered deciding factors in assessing the research potential of a site, but rather these data help to establish a context for site evaluation.

Historic Context. The appropriate farming developmental periods should be selected within this section and the level of certainty for the selection indicated. The *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* (Granger and Kelly 2005a) and the *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads* context should be referred to for additional information on the farming periods. If insufficient information is available to identify even a probable farming period then the "Indeterminate" option should be checked.

Due to the limited number of resources associated with Period 1 (Early Settlement, 1820-1870); Period 2 (Development of a Wheat Monoculture, 1860-1885); or Period 5 (Developing the Cutover, 1900-1940), sites with intact archeological deposits from these eras should undergo a Phase II evaluation as their research potential is sufficient to warrant further investigation.

Step 1: Property Type. The first step in evaluating a property within a context is the categorization of the property (Little et al. 2000). In order to be evaluated within the contexts *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* (Granger and Kelly 2005a) and the *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads* the site's function as a farm should be confirmed through structural, archaeological, documentary, and/or oral evidence upon conclusion of the Phase I fieldwork. If the site is not a farm, it should be evaluated using the standard Minnesota SHPO contexts and National Register criteria.

Step 2: Site Status. Steps 2, 3, and 4 address qualities of site integrity observed and documented during the Phase I field investigation. Step 2 is a description of the current status of the farm. This step recognizes that active farmstead sites, like other types of industrial sites, have a tendency through their very operation to destroy their own history (Council et al. 1992:2). As farming practices change and new technologies become available, old, obsolete, and unprofitable buildings and farm elements are removed or abandoned as the farmstead is modernized. Therefore, while continuously occupied farms can certainly still have archaeological potential it is moderated. Farms that have been abandoned or destroyed through catastrophic events, depending on the date of the abandonment or event, have higher research potential, because the event of abandonment or destruction provides an end date for activities on the farm. Catastrophic events have the further advantage of capturing a moment in time and the material culture associated with it as opposed to planned farmstead abandonment that involves the removal and scavenging of cultural material. Farms for which no farm remnants (e.g., standing structures, foundations, or depressions) are visible are eliminated from further consideration at this step as the lack of above-ground features indicates that the subsurface integrity is likely poor and the research potential of the farmstead complex is low (see exceptions below).

An example of a site that would be eliminated upon completion of this step is a farm that appears on a plat map, but fieldwork finds it to be located within a currently cultivated field containing no structural indicators. While a surface scatter within the field may indicate the location of the former farm, the overall archaeological integrity of the farmstead complex is poor and no further work is recommended.

Methods for Farmstead Site Identification

An exception to this rule may be made for rare farmstead site types. For example, a homestead associated with a farm from the period of Early Settlement, 1820-1870 may have been subsequently plowed, but due to its short period of occupation any artifacts recovered (if they are not highly fragmented) may provide information relevant to the farmstead research themes identified in the context *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads*. This exception is consistent with the observation within the National Register bulletin *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Archeological Properties* that “sites that have been plowed may be eligible if it is demonstrated that the disturbance caused by plowing does not destroy the important information that the site holds” (Little et al. 2000).

A further exception to elimination of a farmstead site at this step may be made for sites that are potentially eligible to the National Register under Criteria A, B, and/or C. If the farmstead site has sufficient integrity to retain archaeological evidence for the potentially eligible association then it should not be eliminated at this step.

Step 3: Structural Remains. The purpose of this step is to assess the quality of the structural remains present at the site. The context *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads* sets forth an industrial archaeological approach that calls for an awareness of the arrangement, function, and development of each element of the farmstead headquarters complex within the context of the overarching farm. Furthermore, it has been suggested that farmstead sites with structural elements have greater research potential, not only because they readily orient the archaeologist to the site, but standing structures and ruins are another data set that can supplement and compliment the site’s archaeological deposits (Miller and Klein 2002:162). Therefore, farmstead sites that retain archaeological or architectural expressions of the defining structural components of the farmstead (domestic dwelling, barn, and agricultural outbuildings) have the highest research potential, while sites that no longer retain evidence for a complex of structures are considered to have low research potential and are eliminated from further consideration at this step. Sites with unidentifiable foundations or ruins with a discernible orientation or unidentified depressions are considered to have moderate archaeological potential.

In the past, Minnesota farmstead sites with standing structures were typically treated as architectural history properties, and those without extant structures were categorized as archaeological sites. This disconnect is a false one. Certainly standing structures should be evaluated by architectural historians, but historical archaeologists recognize that structures are large, above-ground artifacts that convey information that compliments and augments the subsurface archaeological information. Standing structures on a site should be documented and studied for information on date of construction; availability of building materials; site evolution and development; building arrangement and traffic patterns; and other data that will contribute to the overall understanding of the farm’s history. In turn, archaeological data can provide architectural historians with information on the evolution of standing structures (e.g., when were additions added and removed; the locations of former entries, etc.), as well as in the documentation of the construction techniques of farmstead structures that are no longer extant. Along these lines, and in keeping with the statement in the “Vertical Sampling” subsection of Task 2 that “the above-ground organization of features and artifacts may be used as evidence that below-ground patterning is intact” (Little et al. 2000), all farmstead sites with standing structures that retain sufficient integrity to be considered potentially eligible for listing on the National Register upon conclusion of a Phase I architectural survey should be considered to retain sufficient archaeological integrity to warrant a Phase II archaeological investigation.

As with Step 2, exceptions may be made to Step 3 for rare farmstead site types and for sites that are potentially eligible to the National Register under Criteria A, B, and/or C.

Appendix B

Step 4: Condition of the Farmstead Site. Step 4 addresses the overall integrity of the farmstead site. Those sites with extant structures, entirely intact foundations, or distinct depressions have high research potential. Sites with partially intact elements have moderate research potential. Examples of partially intact elements include a farmstead where some minor outbuildings may have been removed through mechanical grading while other building remnants remain, or a situation in which portions of individual structural foundations may have been impacted, but the majority of the foundation remains intact, such as a bank barn foundation with one of four walls removed. A site in which more than 75% of the farmstead area shows evidence of disturbance (grading, septic tanks and fields, new building construction; etc.) will likely not have advanced to this step on the checklist, but if so, it should be eliminated from further consideration due to its low research potential.

Step 5: Relationship to the Project APE. The purpose of Step 5 is to consider what portion of the farm is within the project's APE. Does the area encompassed within the APE have the potential to contain intact archaeological resources that will answer important research questions? What activities would have taken place in this area? Is the farmhouse, outbuildings, or any other farm elements (see Granger and Kelly 2005a) present within the APE?

Corridor studies along existing roadways may only encompass a fraction of the front yard of a farmstead or field edges. Based on the body of data that has been gathered from previous farmstead studies, including studies performed under the auspices of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), cultural deposits within the front yards of farmsteads are limited to road side artifacts and sheet midden deposits that are frequently disturbed (McCann and Ewing 2002:16-17). When cultural resource surveys are limited to narrow corridors, the bulk of the farm site and the archaeological evidence for its past may be located beyond the archaeologist's purview. In these cases only the integrity of that portion of the site within the APE can be evaluated [see the SHPO manual for guidance on assessing the integrity of sites that extend beyond the APE (Anfinson 2005:37)]. Therefore, farmstead studies with the highest research potential are those where the entire farmstead, or the dwelling and at least one agricultural outbuilding are encompassed by the APE. A study that encompasses single farmstead elements, outbuildings only, or side or rear yard areas of a farmstead is considered to have moderate research potential. If no structures or physical farm elements are located (past or present) within the APE and/or only fields or front yard areas are encompassed by the APE then no additional work is recommended.

If the farmstead site has the potential to be eligible for the National Register under Criteria A, B, and/or C, further consideration should be given to the relationship of the farmstead elements to the APE. The boundaries of the potentially eligible site and its relationship to the APE will need to be defined and the effect of the undertaking on the resource (including elements that may be located beyond the APE) should be assessed.

Step 6: Artifact Contexts. This step considers the artifact deposits present on the site. If intact features containing archaeological deposits or an intact sheet midden were documented during the Phase I survey, the research potential of the site should be considered high (if the site has also met the criteria set forth in Steps 1 through 5). Due to the limited nature of Phase I archaeological testing, sites should not be eliminated from further consideration if archaeological features were not identified during the Phase I survey. If the farmstead site met the criteria of Steps 1 through 5, it should undergo a Phase II evaluation, unless it consists solely of an artifact scatter in a plowed field (see Step 2 for possible exceptions) or lacks structural remains in addition to a dearth of artifactual evidence.

Associations and Adjustments. Because the checklist is focused on assessing the research potential (Criteria D) of a farmstead site, this category provides an opportunity for the evaluator to

Methods for Farmstead Site Identification

note other elements that contribute to the site's potential National Register eligibility including association with significant events, patterns, or trends (Criteria A); significant individuals (Criteria B); construction (Criteria C); ethnic groups of local significance; or any other exceptional aspects of the site that would adjust the results of the checklist.

Additional Historical Research. A farmstead site without adequate documentary research is like a precontact site without diagnostic artifacts -- information can be gathered about the site but the interpretation and research potential will be limited. While the resources listed on the checklist are optional at the Phase I level, the number and variety of documentary resources available will strengthen the overall research potential of the site.

Historical Landscape Features. Landscaped areas or domesticated plantings from the farmstead site's period of significance are not mandatory for an assessment of moderate to high research potential, but their presence does indicate good site integrity and the potential for the site to address a variety of research questions.

Farm Layout. During the Fort Drum Cultural Resource Project, farmsteads were categorized using structural and/or archaeological data into five types of layouts based on work by Henry Glassie (1986) and Alice Manning (1984). The five farm layout types used are: (1) linear; (2) linear square; (3) hollow square or courtyard; (4) bisected; and (5) a residual category with no discernible pattern (Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. 1994). These plans are based primarily on the relationship of the dwelling and main barn. As data on farm layout is currently limited in Minnesota, particularly its transformation over time, gathering data on farm layout using these categories may indicate regional or temporal trends, evidence of ethnic or cultural differences, or more appropriate categories of farm layout applicable to Minnesota's farms.

Linear Plan

In the linear plan the house and barn are placed on a general line parallel to the main roadway (Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. 1994:4.52).

Linear Square Plan

In this variation on the linear plan, the rooflines of the house and barn form an L-shaped arrangement, with the barn located to the rear of the house (Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. 1994:4.53). Typically the roof-line of the house is parallel to the road with the barn roof-line being perpendicular to the road, but the opposite may be true as well (as illustrated).

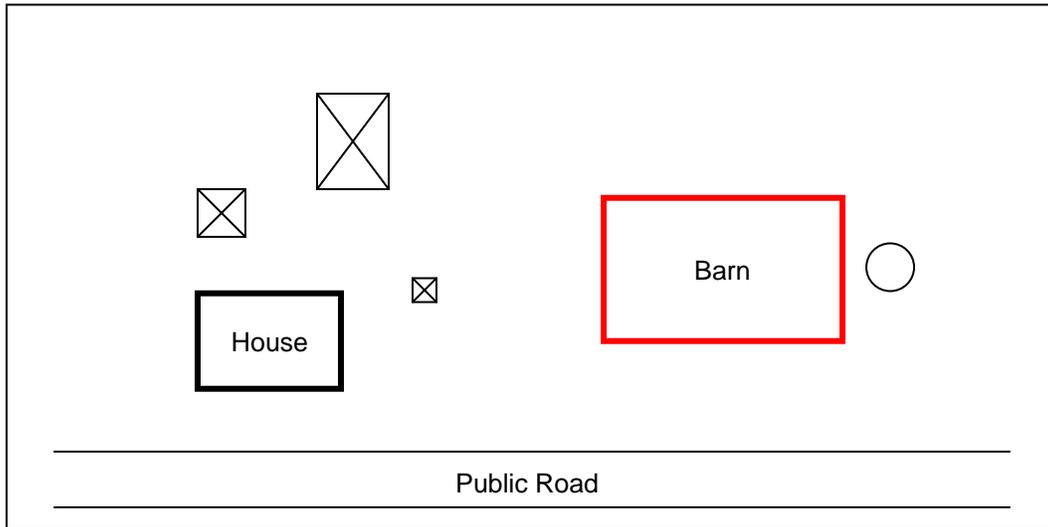
Hollow Square or Courtyard Plan

In this farm building arrangement, the house and barn form two sides of a hollow square or open courtyard with the remaining farm outbuildings completing the other two sides of the square (Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. 1994:4.53). A variation on this plan is a three sided square with buildings being arranged around three sides of an open courtyard.

Bisected Plan

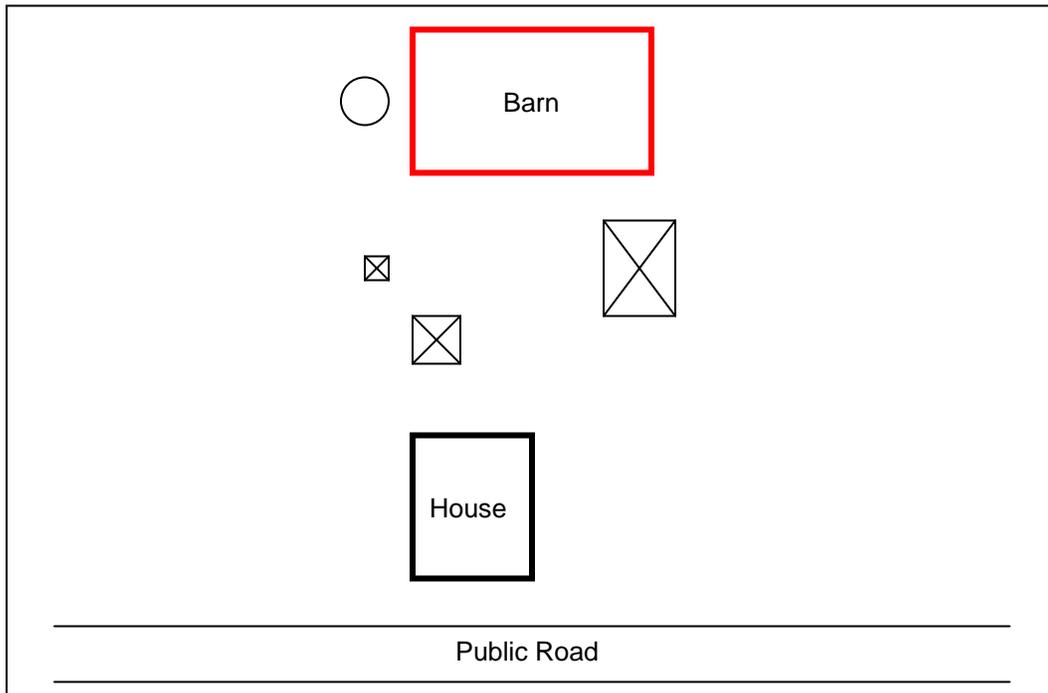
In this plan the farmstead complex is divided by a public road. Farmsteads exhibiting this plan may have a house and barn located on opposite sides of a public thoroughfare, or the house and barn may be on the same side of the road, but other farm buildings are located on the opposite side of the road.

Farm Layout Types



Linear Plan

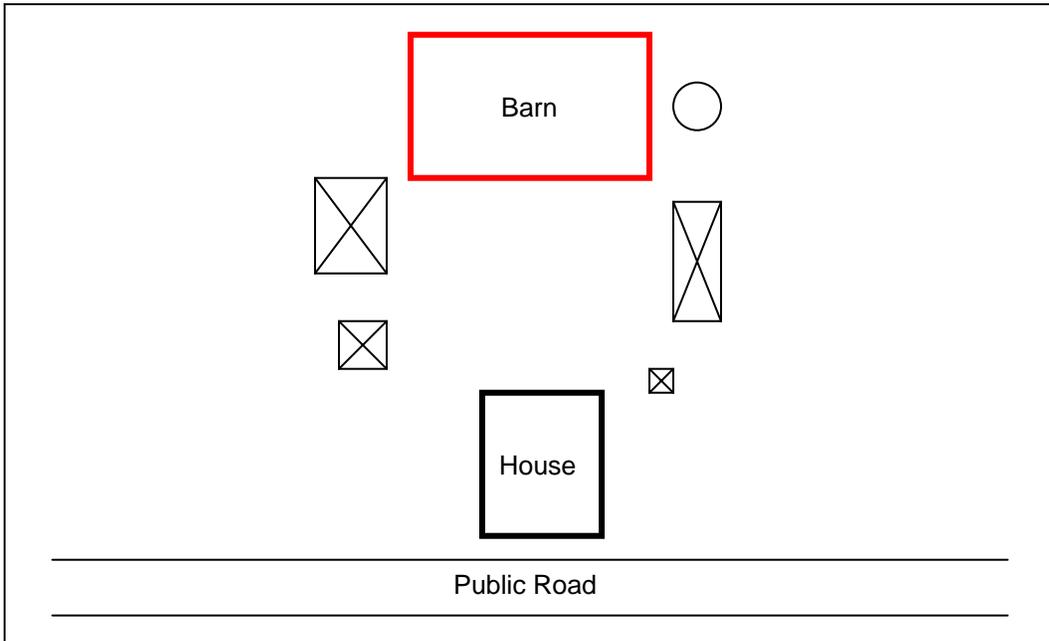
The house and barn are situated parallel to the public road.



Linear Square Plan

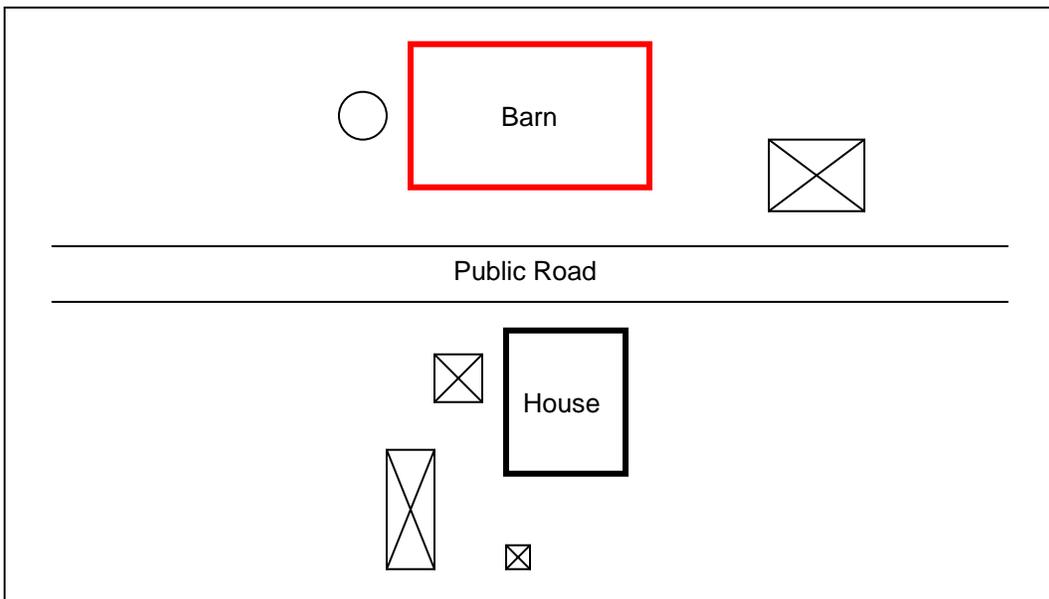
The house and barn are set at a right angle and the barn is located to the rear of the house.

Farm Layout Types



Hollow Square or Courtyard Plan

The house, barn, and outbuildings are arranged around an open courtyard.



Bisected Plan

The farmstead complex is divided by a public road.

Appendix B

No Discernible Farmstead Plan

Farmsteads in this category lack enough information to be assigned to one of the other farm layout types. In the Fort Drum Cultural Resource Project, the farms that were assigned to this category typically consisted of only a dwelling and a barn that was located to the rear or one side of the house (Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. 1994:4.55-4.56). While it was surmised that these farms may have represented hollow square or courtyard plans, they could not be assigned to that category with any assurance due to the lack of evidence for outbuildings and their former arrangement.

TASK 5: SITE FORM

An official OSA site form should be completed for each farmstead that upon completion of the Phase I Farmstead Site Research Potential Checklist (Appendix B) is regarded as having sufficient research potential to warrant a Phase II investigation. As sites that have been eliminated by the checklist are those that do not retain sufficient integrity to be considered farmstead sites, their documentation with a site form will not contribute to our understanding of Minnesota farmsteads. An exception to this rule is when subsurface archaeological testing has identified farmstead elements/deposits at an ineligible site. While the farmstead may not warrant a Phase II investigation, an OSA site form should be completed to document the results of the archaeological work that took place at this particular farmstead.

It goes without saying that non-farmstead archaeological sites that were eliminated in Step 1 should be documented appropriately. As all sites that are recommended for a Phase II evaluation do not always undergo a Phase II investigation due to avoidance, project alterations, or delays, site forms for potentially eligible sites must be completed upon completion of the Phase I survey.

The "Additional Notes" portion of a farmstead site form, at a minimum, should contain the following information, if known:

- Associated Farming Developmental Period
- Type of Farming Practiced
- Length of Site Occupation
- Names of Site Occupants
- Characteristic Features of the Farmstead (architectural and archaeological elements)
- Farm Layout



Aerial view of the Les Peterson farm. Trimont, Martin County, 1962. (MHS Neg. No. MIBC15-31)

This farm demonstrates a hollow square or courtyard farmstead plan with the house, barn, and outbuildings arranged around an open courtyard.

Appendix B

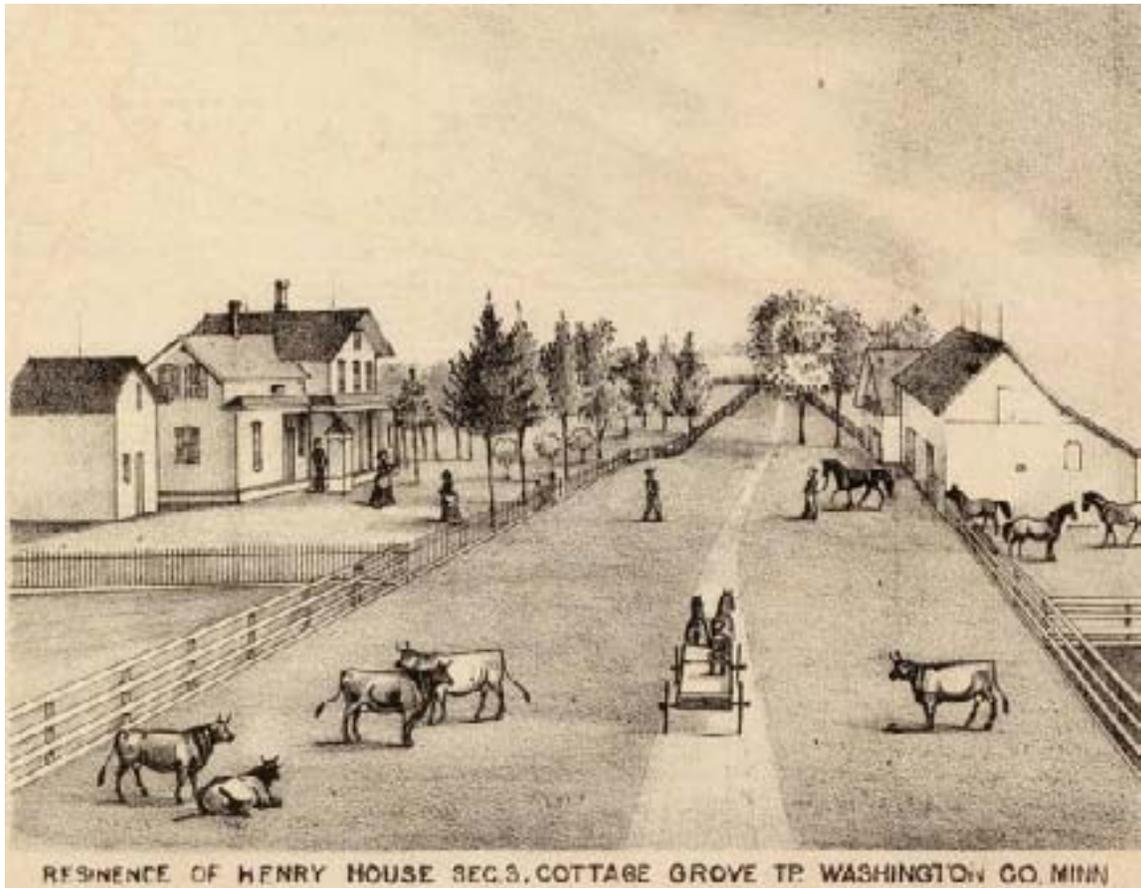


Illustration of the farm of Henry House in Washington County from *An Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Minnesota* (Andreas 1874).

With the house and barns situated on opposite sides of the public road, the farmstead in this illustration adheres to the bisected plan. Located in Region 1 (Southeast Dairy and Livestock), this farm exhibits characteristics of the era of Diversification and the Rise of Dairying (Period 3) that began in the 1870s in areas that were settled by Yankee and Scandinavian farmers (Granger and Kelly 2005:4.28).

Evaluating National Register Eligibility

EVALUATING THE NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY OF FARMSTEAD ARCHAEOLOGY SITES

Minnesota farmstead archaeological sites will be primarily eligible to the National Register under Criterion D (have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history). Occasionally, though, the archaeological records of farmsteads will warrant consideration under National Register Criterion A, B, or C as well.

Criterion A. For a farmstead archaeological site to be eligible to the National Register under Criterion A, it must have intact archaeological deposits or features that are associated with a significant event, pattern, or trend. An example of a farmstead site that may contain archaeological evidence associated with a significant event is the Wendelin Grimm farmstead in Carver County. Through careful seed selection, Grimm developed the first winter-hardy alfalfa in North America during the second half of the 19th century.

Criterion B. To be eligible to the National Register under Criterion B, a farmstead site must be associated with a significant person and must contain intact archaeological deposits that can be directly linked to the significant person's period of occupation. An example of a farmstead site that is eligible to the National Register under Criterion B for its association with a significant individual is the Charles Lindbergh farmstead in Morrison County (see pages 91-92).

Criterion C. Farmstead archaeological sites that contain elements that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; or are the work of a master; or display high artistic value may be eligible to the National Register under Criterion C. Farmstead sites that represent the work of a master or possess high artistic value will be relatively rare in Minnesota. There will be occasions, though, when a farmstead archaeological site may contain elements that are architecturally designed, or that exhibit distinctive methods of construction for which archaeological evidence is the only means of documentation. For example, housebarns are rare in Minnesota and an archaeological example could be potentially eligible to the National Register under Criterion C.

For further information on the eligibility of farmsteads under National Register Criterion A, B, or C, see *Evaluating National Register Eligibility under the Historic Context "Euro-American Farms in Minnesota, 1820-1960"* (Granger and Kelly 2005b).

Standing structures and associated archaeological resources should be evaluated separately (a site may be significant for one or the other). If archaeological resources have not been documented as being associated with a standing structure, but there is a potential for intact archaeological deposits to exist, the potential for archaeological deposits should be noted (Little et al. 2000).

Appendix B

EVALUATION OF ELIGIBILITY UNDER CRITERION D

To be eligible under National Register Criterion D a farmstead archaeological site:

- must be clearly identifiable as having historically been a farmstead (at least one dwelling and associated domestic and agricultural outbuildings and associated work spaces);
- must retain structural indicators (e.g., extant buildings, foundations, or depressions) that have not been removed by intensive grading, cultivation, or other deliberate forces, and the historic size and spatial organization of the structures is evident either on the surface or through archaeological excavation (an exception may be made for rare site types, or for sites eligible under National Register Criteria A, B, or C);
- must be able to be assigned to a farmstead developmental period or periods (see the contexts *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farmsteads, 1820-1960* and *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads*);
- must demonstrate through archaeological and/or documentary evidence that it can address research questions relevant to the specified research themes associated with any of the identified temporal and geographical contexts outlined in the statewide context *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads* and/or to at least one of the following general research themes for farmstead sites:
 - Landscape History and Farm Development
 - Farmstead Economy
 - Technological Change and Adaptation
 - Social Group Identity, Behavior, and Interaction
 - Rural Health and Sanitation
 - must have identifiable site occupants;
- must retain integrity of the archaeological expressions of the primary farmstead structures from the period of significance (e.g., a new home has not been built on the location of the original home; a pole barn has been constructed on the location of the original barn);
- and must retain integrity of material culture deposits from the period of significance demonstrated through intact and undisturbed strata, features, and/or associated artifact assemblages as well as their contextual, functional, and temporal relationships to each other.

Evaluators should make adjustments to these eligibility criteria for rare site types, particularly exceptional resources, sites that have unique data sets available (architectural, documentary, oral histories, landscape features, etc. in addition to archaeological), and overall integrity.

PHASE II HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Phase II fieldwork on Minnesota farmstead sites should be accompanied by in-depth historical research. Records to be consulted include, but are not limited to:

- Population census
- Agricultural census
- Tax assessment
- Probate
- Chain of Title/Deeds
- Personal records (diaries, farm entry books, etc.)
- Genealogical records

Oral history is another important source of background information on a site. Interviews with current site occupants and descendants of earlier site occupants can provide important information on farming practices; site development; daily life; early homestead sites; special events; and other activities on the farm. Residents and descendants may also have historical photographs and farm records, or retain family heirlooms from the site's period of significance.

Additional documentary research may also be necessary for the purpose of interpreting artifacts recovered during the fieldwork. Scott O'Mack's exploration of artifacts from the Wuamett farm in Steele County demonstrates how our understanding of rural agricultural life can be advanced through a combination of archaeological and documentary resources (Halverson et al. 1998:118-151).

PHASE II FIELD METHODS

Phase II fieldwork should commence with systematic shovel testing across the farmstead site at a 10-m interval. This testing interval has been previously assessed on Minnesota farmstead sites and has proven to be the optimal testing interval for collecting accurate artifact data and maintaining tight provenience control (Peterson and Penner 2000:59). These tests may encounter features, but will also provide an artifact sampling from the farmyard sheet midden (a continuous distribution of artifacts deposited on the former yard surface). Artifacts recovered from the sheet midden can be stratified and the artifacts present testify to site activities, spatial patterning, refuse disposal patterns, possible feature locations, traffic areas, etc. Shovel tests or soil probes should also be used to sample likely feature locations indicated by structural ruins or surface depressions.

Upon completion of the shovel testing phase, standard Phase II fieldwork practices in Minnesota would dictate the excavation of formal 1-x-1-m test units. These units are typically placed at the discretion of the Principal Investigator in areas that are anticipated to yield the most archeological information based on the results of the shovel testing. When shovel tests have located features, unit excavation has proven to be a productive means of documenting discrete features. Features, though, are not always located during shovel testing and the excavation of discontinuous units provides limited information on site stratigraphy and development. Results of previous farmstead archaeological studies have indicated that the excavation of large areas as opposed to individual units is the most productive means of gathering information about a farmstead site (Baugher and Klein 2002:168). Block excavations (consisting of contiguous 1-x-1-m test units) and the hand-excavation of trenches are proven methods of gathering information on farmstead sites (Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. 1994:2.11-2.12). Mechanical stripping is also an effective means of identifying feature locations, but close-interval shovel testing should be completed before stripping commences in order to gather information on general site stratigraphy and spatial patterning prior to the removal of the upper strata.

Appendix B

Remote sensing techniques have been used experimentally on Minnesota farmstead sites with mixed results. During a study of Southeastern and Central Minnesota farmsteads conducted for Mn/DOT by BRW, Inc., Dr. Kenneth Kvamme tested electrical resistance and magnetometry techniques at the Besril (Huysen) Farmstead (21GD0239) and Wuamett Farmstead (21ST0013) sites (Peterson and Penner 2000; Kvamme 1998). Investigations at the Besril farmstead were hindered by standing trees, a scatter of metallic debris across much of the site, and strong magnetic fields proximate to the extant house (Kvamme 1998:10-11). No noteworthy anomalies were identified during the survey (Kvamme 1998:13). At the Wuamett farmstead, portions of the chipped gravel driveway were impervious to the probes of the resistivity meter, while a steel well pipe, a small wire fence, and other iron and steel fixtures on the house and outbuildings produced magnetic signals that clouded the magnetic data (Kvamme 1998:4). Sixteen anomalies were identified at the Wuamett farmstead "most of which were easily explained by modern steel fixtures, pipes, fences, or mowing patterns" (Kvamme 1998:9). Two anomalies that were aligned parallel to the extant structures were considered strong candidates for structural remains. Testing of one of these features produced negative results, while the other feature produced architectural artifacts most likely associated with a cattle pen and milkhouse that oral history placed in the vicinity of the feature (Kvamme 1998:10; Peterson and Penner 2000:42-43). While there are certainly archaeological research questions and site conditions that are well-suited to remote sensing techniques, the results of the Besril (21GD0239) and Wuamett (21ST0013) farmstead investigations indicated that geophysical testing is not an optimal method for investigating farmstead sites for CRM projects. In general, geophysical testing was found to be time intensive and costly with the quality of the results not justifying the level of effort required (Peterson and Penner 2000:47). Remote sensing techniques are perhaps best suited to sites devoid of surface features and modern disturbances, such as an early farmstead site located within a pasture.

PHASE II LABORATORY METHODS

As with all sites, the identification and analysis of the entirety of the artifact assemblage is important for determining the research potential and eligibility of a farmstead site under Criterion D. An eligible farmstead site must contain archaeological evidence that can address research questions relevant to the research themes specified in the context *Historical Archaeology of Minnesota Farmsteads*.

As stated in the Minnesota SHPO manual for archaeological projects, the level of artifact analysis should be suited to the research design and the purpose of the investigation (Anfinson 2005:40). Artifacts from farmstead sites should be cataloged by someone familiar with historic period artifact types and nomenclature. Catalogs should include dates of manufacture and places of origin for identifiable diagnostic materials and artifacts should be categorized by class (ceramic, glass, personal items, etc.) and subclass (beverage bottle, tableware, lighting, etc.). Faunal analysis should include notations on butchery marks (e.g., cut, chop, and saw marks), if present, and cuts of meat.

The Phase II report text should contain an analysis section within which the general artifact classes are discussed and the results of this analysis should be synthesized with the results of the documentary research.

In both the generation of artifact catalogs and in the creation of categories of artifact analysis, an effort should be made to generate data that not only can address the research questions or themes relevant to the site being evaluated, but that can also be compared with the results of other farmstead site excavations.

Evaluating National Register Eligibility

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HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA FARMSTEADS

Appendix B

Halverson, H. P., S. O' Mack, and J. Sluss

1998 Phase I-II Architectural History and Historical Archaeology Along Trunk Highway 14 Between Owatonna and Waseca, Steel and Waseca Counties, Minnesota. MULT-98-16. Prepared for the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. On file at the State Historic Preservation Office, St. Paul.

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PHASE I PRE-FIELDWORK LITERATURE SEARCH CHECKLIST

Project Name _____ Mn/DOT Project No. _____

PROJECT LOCATION (for large projects complete a separate form for each township section)

Township _____ Range _____ Section _____ Quarter Sections _____

County _____ Farming Region: _____

PREVIOUS SITES AND SURVEYS

Examined

- Previously Identified Farmsteads in a 1-mile Radius _____

- Previous Cultural Resource Surveys of Project Area _____

- Nearest Previously Evaluated Farmstead in Farming Region _____
_____ Associated Period: _____

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Note changes in structures, arrangement of buildings, cultivated areas, pastures, tree lines, windbreaks, access roads, etc.

- Aerial (Yr: _____) Structure(s) Indicated Outbuildings Present & No. _____
Notes: _____
- Aerial (Yr: _____) Structure(s) Indicated Outbuildings Present & No. _____
Notes: _____
- Aerial (Yr: _____) Structure(s) Indicated Outbuildings Present & No. _____
Notes: _____
- Aerial (Yr: _____) Structure(s) Indicated Outbuildings Present & No. _____
Notes: _____
- Aerial (Yr: _____) Structure(s) Indicated Outbuildings Present & No. _____
Notes: _____
- Aerial (Yr: _____) Structure(s) Indicated Outbuildings Present & No. _____
Notes: _____

MAP RESEARCH

Examined

- Topo Map (Current) *Structure(s) Indicated* Quad & Year: _____
Notes: _____
- Topo Map (Historic) *Structure(s) Indicated* Quad & Year: _____
Notes: _____
- GLO Survey Maps *Structure(s) Indicated* Year of Survey: _____
Notes: _____
- GLO Tract Book (SAM 46) Date of Entry: _____ Name: _____
Notes: _____
- Andreas Atlas 1874 *Structure(s) Indicated* Assoc. Landowner: _____
Notes: _____
- Plat Book (Yr: _____) *Structure(s) Indicated* Assoc. Landowner: _____
Acreage: _____ Notes: _____
- Plat Book (Yr: _____) *Structure(s) Indicated* Assoc. Landowner: _____
Acreage: _____ Notes: _____
- Plat Book (Yr: _____) *Structure(s) Indicated* Assoc. Landowner: _____
Acreage: _____ Notes: _____
- Other Map Type (Yr: _____) *Structure(s)* Assoc. Landowner: _____
Acreage: _____ Notes: _____

OTHER SOURCES

- County History Source: _____
Notes: _____

- Century Farm Database *No Entry* Notes on Entry: _____

SUMMARY HISTORY AND ASSESSMENT OF SITE POTENTIAL

(Length of occupation, changes to number and types of buildings, possible ethnic associations, etc.)

PHASE I FARMSTEAD SITE RESEARCH POTENTIAL CHECKLIST

Project Name _____ Mn/DOT Project No. _____

Farmstead Name/Resource Identification No. _____

PROJECT LOCATION

Township _____ Range _____ Section _____ Quarter Sections _____

County _____ Farming Region: _____

SUMMARY OF PRE-FIELDWORK BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Period of Occupation _____

Ownership History _____

HISTORIC CONTEXT: ASSOCIATED FARMING DEVELOPMENTAL PERIOD(S)

Indicate all that apply (*Include level of certainty: 1= confirmed; 2 = probable*)

___ Indeterminate

___ Period 1: Early Settlement, 1820-1870**

___ Period 2: Development of a Wheat Monoculture, 1860-1885**

___ Period 3: Diversification and the Rise of Dairying, 1875-1900

___ Period 4: Industrialization and Prosperity, 1900-1920

___ Period 5: Developing the Cutover, 1900-1940**

___ Period 6: Development of Livestock Industries, 1900-1940

___ Period 7: Depression and the Interwar Period, 1920-1940

___ Period 8: World War II and the Postwar Period, 1940-1960

****Due to the limited number of resources associated with Periods 1, 2, and 5, sites with intact archaeological deposits from these eras should undergo a Phase II evaluation.**

PROPERTY TYPE

STEP 1: CONFIRM THAT THE PROPERTY IS A FARM

Archaeological, Documentary and/or Oral Evidence Must Confirm that the Site is a Farm

Yes – Proceed to Step 2

No – Farmstead Context is Not Applicable

(the site should be evaluated using standard Minnesota SHPO contexts and NRHP criteria)

FIELD SURVEY RESULTS

STEP 2: SITE STATUS

High Research Potential – Proceed to Step 3

- Farmstead is not occupied but extant
- Farmstead is abandoned and in ruins (collapsed structures)
- Farm was destroyed by a catastrophic event

Moderate Research Potential – Proceed to Step 3

- Farm is extant and operational
- Building superstructures removed (foundations and/or depressions are still visible)

Low Research Potential – No Further Work Recommended

- No farm remnants are visible – entirety of site has been graded or plowed
(Exceptions may be made for rare farmstead types – see text for Step 2)

STEP 3: STRUCTURAL REMAINS

High Research Potential – Proceed to Step 4

- Farmhouse, barn, and outbuildings from the period of significance are standing
- Farmhouse from the period of significance standing and ruins/foundations of the barn and other outbuildings are visible
- Foundations/ruins with farmhouse and barn locations identifiable

Moderate Research Potential – Proceed to Step 4

- Foundations/ruins with discernible orientation, but building type not discernible
- Unidentifiable depressions

Low Research Potential – No Further Work Recommended

- Farmhouse is less than 50 years of age and constructed at the same location as the farmhouse from the period of significance
- Farmhouse present, but the main barn and the majority of the other elements from the period of significance have been removed and their locations graded/disturbed
- No structural remains visible
(Exceptions may be made for rare farmstead types – see text for Step 3)

Foundation Material(s) _____

STEP 4: CONDITION OF THE FARMSTEAD SITE

High Research Potential – Proceed to Step 5

- Extant structures, intact foundations, or distinct depressions

Moderate Research Potential – Proceed to Step 5

- Partially intact elements

Low Research Potential – No Further Work Recommended

- Disturbed - more than 75% of the farmstead site area is disturbed

RELATIONSHIP TO PROJECT APE

STEP 5: IDENTIFY PORTION OF FARM WITHIN THE PROJECT APE

Based on Documentary, Archaeological, or Architectural Evidence (check all that apply)

High Research Potential – Proceed to Step 6

- Entire Farmstead Dwelling and at Least One Agricultural Outbuilding

Moderate Research Potential – Proceed to Step 6

- Dwelling Only Cluster of Outbuildings without Dwelling
 Single Outbuilding or Farm Element Side or Rear Yards

Low Research Potential – No Further Work Recommended

- No Structures or Physical Farm Elements in APE
 Fields Only Front Yard Only

ARTIFACTS AND FEATURES

STEP 6: ARTIFACT CONTEXTS

Intact archaeological deposits identified during a Phase I survey indicate high research potential, but their absence does not eliminate the site from further testing due to the limited nature of Phase I testing.

Intact Archaeological Features

- Located Absent No Subsurface Testing

Sheet Midden Near Buildings

- Present Absent No Subsurface Testing

Artifact Scatter in Plowed Field Only

- No Further Work Recommended (see text for possible exception)

No Archaeological Deposits or Foundations/Ruins/or Depressions Identified

- No Further Work Recommended

ASSOCIATIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS

Consider if the farmstead is potentially eligible for its associations with any of the following or if adjustments to the recommendation need to be made for rare or exceptional sites, etc.

- None Known
 Association with Significant Events, Patterns, or Trends (NRHP Criterion A)
 Association with Significant Individuals (NRHP Criterion B)
 Construction (NRHP Criterion C)
 Association with an Ethnic Group of Local Significance (Specify) _____
 Other (Specify) _____
-

ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL RESEARCH

While optional, the number and variety of documentary resources available strengthens the research potential

- Agricultural Census
- Photographs
- Oral History Potentially Available from Occupants, Neighbors, or Family Descendants
- Family mentioned in County History
- Local Historical Society or Historian has in Information on the Farm
- Other _____
- Population Census
- Century Farm

HISTORICAL LANDSCAPE FEATURES

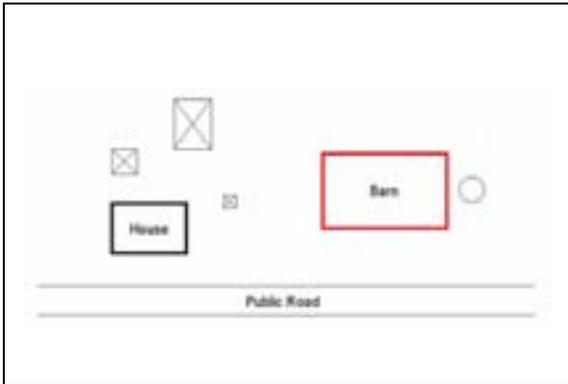
While optional, landscaped areas and domesticated plantings indicate good site integrity and research potential

- Present
- Domesticated Plants Present (Lilacs, Arborvitae, Bulbs, Rhubarb, Fruit Trees, etc.)
- Absent

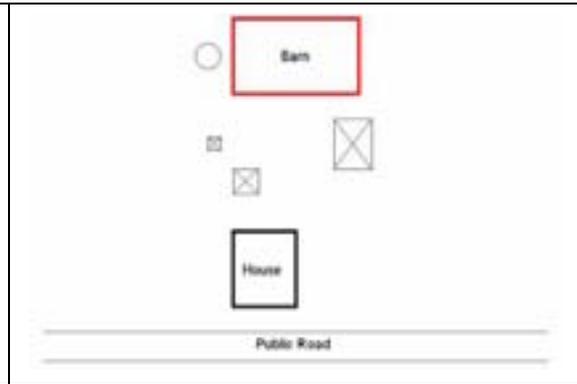
FARM LAYOUT

Select the Farmstead Site Layout

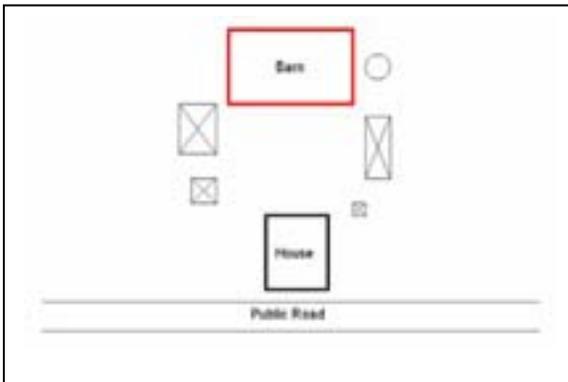
Not Discernible



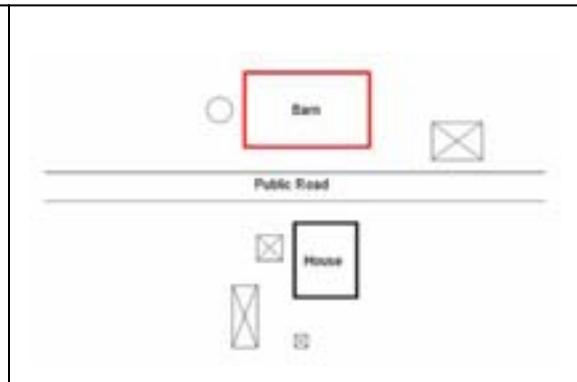
Linear Plan



Linear Square Plan



Hollow Square or Courtyard



Bisected Plan