

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Sunnyfield Barn

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: 2103 North 5500 East

City or town: Eden State: Utah County: Weber

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination     request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

    national     statewide   X   local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

  A   B   X  C   D

<p>_____</p> <p><b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p><b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	<p><b>Date</b></p>
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In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

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**Signature of commenting official:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Title :** \_\_\_\_\_ **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government** \_\_\_\_\_

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:  
\_\_\_ entered in the National Register  
\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register  
\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register  
\_\_\_ removed from the National Register  
\_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
-

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Site

Structure

Object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	buildings
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	sites
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	structures
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural outbuilding/barn

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/storage

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/animal facility

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/processing

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/storage

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/animal facility

WORK IN PROGRESS

VACANT/NOT IN USE

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Improvement Era Dairy Barn

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

WOOD/Weatherboard: Walls

CONCRETE: Foundation

METAL: Roofing

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The Sunnyfield Barn in Ogden Valley, Weber County, is situated in the mountains east of Ogden. The barn stands among several farm outbuildings and is surrounded by pastureland. The barn, completed in 1927, is typical of Improvement Era dairy barns in Utah, with a rectangular footprint (about 70 feet long by 35 feet wide) and oriented on a north-south axis with the south end near the driveway. The foundation is concrete and extends about three feet above ground level. Horizontal wood drop siding is used on all sides of the barn. The siding is painted white with dark green trim around windows, doors and other openings. The interior consists of two floors – the ground floor and the hay loft above. Sunnyfield Barn meets all seven aspects of integrity. It has had only a few minor alterations and remains in its original location and setting.

Major design elements of its original function have been retained such as the hay loft doors, Jackson fork and pulley system, cross-ventilation openings, the feed bin with its chute (including a feed cart which was filled by the chute and used to distribute it), feeding troughs, milking aisles and stanchions, gambrel roof, multiple windows for required amount of daylight for cows and concrete floor with waste gutters for efficient cleaning.

The setting of the site remains very similar to when the barn was constructed – farms and pastureland still dominate the area. The original materials are still visible in the foundation, walls, doors, windows and interior elements. However, from the only known historical photo

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(Figure 1) we see the roofing has changed from wood shingle to corrugated metal. Workmanship methods are evident in the concrete foundation and wood beams and joinery.

Sunnyfield Barn sets the historical agricultural tone of the valley and serves as a landmark of Eden. The gambrel roof is the most notable design element that represents the time period in which it was built. Because so much remains unchanged, there is still clear evidence of how Sunnyfield Barn was originally used – from the way the cows were brought in to be milked and how they were fed and cleaned up after to the methods used for filling the hay loft.

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## **Narrative Description**

### **Site Context**

Sunnyfield Farm is located on North 5500 East in Eden, Utah, across from the west terminus of 2100 North. It is accessed by one of two vehicular driveways, both paved with asphalt, which connect in front of the Farm Shop (Photos 2 & 32). Parking areas are unpaved (with dirt and/or gravel surfaces). The site is mostly flat and open with various buildings surrounded by pastures, corrals and animal pens that are all still in use and divided by wood split-rail fencing (Photo 1). Outside of the site, the area is mostly agricultural with homes and occasional businesses scattered throughout.

### **Primary Building**

#### Sunnyfield Barn

##### *Exterior, North Elevation*

The north elevation is a gable end (Photos 3 & 4). On the ground floor, there are three doors. A Dutch door is located on the left side. A large entry with two sliding doors is in the center with the rail mounted on the outside. Another Dutch door is on the right side. Immediately above the large sliding doors is a door to the loft. On the upper portion, near the top of the steepest roof portions, there are two open windows of equal dimensions, one on the far left and the other on the far right. At the top of the wall, near the peak of the roof, is a small open window centered behind the pulley, which is covered by a roof overhang.

##### *Exterior, East Elevation*

This elevation is the most visible as it faces the road (Photo 5). A wood Dutch door is placed on the ground floor near the left side of the wall. Just above the top of the concrete foundation on the main level there are nine evenly spaced windows. If the elevation were to be divided into quarters, the windows would be found in three-quarters of the wall toward the right. Each window is identical with wood framing and nine lites each. On the top portion of the wall are painted the words “SUNNYFIELD FARM” in large, dark green letters with “EDEN, UT. EST. 1868” painted in smaller lettering below that. To the right of that is a square unglazed window.

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*Exterior, South Elevation*

The south elevation is the other gable end (Photo 6). On the ground floor, a wood Dutch door is located on the left side with a nine-pane wood sash window immediately to the right of it. A large opening with dual sliding doors similar to those found on the north elevation are in the center. Centered between the center opening and the right edge of the wall is another nine-pane wood sash window. Roughly a foot above the left window is what appears to be a former rectangular opening that has since been covered with siding too match the rest of the wall. Above the sliding doors is another hinged door to the loft, matching the one found on the opposite end. About a foot above that door is a second rectangular opening covered in siding. To the right of that, almost aligned with the right ground floor window is a framed square with siding in the middle. Above and to the right is a third patched opening with uneven siding covering what was probably an opening into the loft. Also, similar to the north wall, there are two framed openings near the steepest portion of the roof, one on the left and one on the right. Centered between those and extending to the roof is a large opening for loading hay into the loft. Above the opening is an overhang extending farther than that on the north side with a pulley arm that reaches out past the overhang.

*Exterior, West Elevation*

Just above the concrete foundation wall is a horizontal row of 11 equally spaced windows (Photo 7). Each window is similar to the other wood-sash nine-pane windows on the barn. Above the windows is a solid wall with no significant features.

*Exterior, Roof*

The roof is a gambrel style with corrugated metal roofing. An undated historical photo shows the roof covered in what appears to be wood shingles. Overhangs extend from the north and south ends over the pulley arms used for bringing hay up into the loft. On top of the metal roofing, at the south end of the west side, there is a wooden ladder leading up to the apex. Two matching cupolas are equally spaced on the peak of the roof, dividing it into thirds. The rectangular cupolas are unpainted with vents on the east and west sides and topped with a gabled roof and lightning rods.

*Interior, Ground Floor*

The ground floor functioned primarily as a place for milking cows. The entire floor is poured concrete. Narrow walkways run along the outside edge and connect to the wide walkway running the length of the building. This walkway separates the ground floor interior into thirds (Photo 8). Along each side of the main walkway, shallow channels formed in the concrete floor run along the length of the barn, originally used to collect waste for easy removal toward the north end. On the west side is a row of calving pens that extend to about halfway down the building (Photos 14, 16 & 17). Just past that, to the north, is a steep, wooden staircase along the west wall that leads up to the loft (Photo 15). North of that, the floor is relatively open and currently used for storage (Photo 13). On the east side is the milking area separated by metal stanchions used for securing the cows. Along the east side of the milking area is a concrete trough for feeding the cows (Photos 8, 9, 10 & 13).

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Just as on the exterior, the concrete foundation wall is exposed and extends about three feet above ground level. All interior walls on the main floor are covered in what appears to be wood shiplap horizontal siding for sanitation purposes. The approximately ten-foot-high ceiling is supported by round wooden posts and rough-hewn wood beams. These posts and the walls are painted white. On the east wall, near the southeast corner, is a chute used to empty feed from the bin directly above on the upper level.

### *Interior, Loft*

The loft is accessed only by the narrow staircase near the center of the west side of the barn (Photo 15). The loft area was used to store hay and the Jackson fork, trolley and pulleys used to load hay into the barn are still intact (Photos 26 & 27). Just like the ground floor, the space has the same dimensions as the building. Posts and beams extend about ten feet above the floor. All the interior walls in the loft are unpainted with studs exposed except in the corners, which have sheets of plywood attached to the studs.

In the center of the north wall, a wood door swings outward from floor level opening to the outside (Photo 24). A ladder with rungs attached to the wall studs lead up to a small wooden platform (Photo 25). Above the platform is an opening in the wall that extends to the ceiling. Also near the platform is the north end of the hay trolley and the Jackson fork.

Several more ladders with rungs attached to the studs are spread along the east, south and west walls. The ladders on the east and west walls only extend to the where the roof slope begins. In the southeast corner, there's a feed bin measuring about eight feet square (Photo 22) which is emptied through the chute below it on the ground floor. The south wall has a wood door in the center similar to the north door (Photo 21), but the opening above it, near the roof, is much larger and was used for bringing hay into the loft with the Jackson fork.

### **Setting and Noncontributing Outbuildings**

Sunnyfield Farm is surrounded mostly by agricultural land with homes and occasional businesses scattered throughout. The site is mostly pastureland and corrals, anchored by the large Sunnyfield Barn. Noncontributing buildings around the main barn include the original barn (Photos 29 & 30), Farm Shop (Photo 31), a tractor shed (Photos 32 & 33), a loafing shed (Photo 34) and a smaller loafing shed (Photo 35). The noncontributing buildings do not detract from the integrity of the main barn as they are all agricultural buildings and are in line with the barn's setting and association.

### Original Barn

Directly west of the main barn is a smaller, wooden English barn (Photos 29 & 30) that is believed to have been built in or around 1914 according to a recent newspaper article. It covers a footprint of about 53 feet by 43 feet and is painted white with a metal roof. Since this was built before the contributing 1927 barn and isn't connected to the significance of the main barn, this is considered to be a noncontributing building.

### Farm Shop

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This brick building was constructed in 1975 as a milk house and is now used for Sunnyfield Meats business operations with a retail shop on the east end (Photo 31). The building's footprint is about 87 feet long by 28 feet wide. The exterior walls are unpainted.

### Sheds

Three other smaller buildings on the same parcel as Sunnyfield Barn do not contribute to the significance of Sunnyfield Barn as they were constructed outside the period of significance. A tractor shed about 48 feet long and 28 feet wide is located stands perpendicular to the Farm Shop on its south side (Photos 31). A loafing shed / chicken coop measuring about 58 feet long and 20 feet wide stands about 30 feet to the west of the tractor shed (Photo 34) The eastern half of the shed is enclosed and used as a chicken coop. Another loafing shed about 23 by 34 feet is located about 10 feet west of the north end of the original barn (Photo 35).

A red brick house was once located east of the barn (Figure 1). Its construction date is uncertain, but it is known to have existed in 1959. The house was demolished in 2018 along with a small garage located between the house and Sunnyfield Barn. That same year, many large trees around the house and along the road were also removed. The area where the house and garage were located is now part of a larger pasture area. The Sunnyfield Barn is now fully visible from all along 5500 East, which it wasn't before the removal of the large trees and the house.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations



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(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1927

**Significant Dates**

1927

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Virgil B. Stallings

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Sunnyfield Barn is significant under Criterion C in the Area of Architecture as a quintessential example of an Improvement Era Barn. It was constructed in 1927, which is also the period of significance. In the Farm Bureau's annual report, they called it a "demonstration barn" because it was built as a model of best practices to show other farmers. Modern features included washable concrete floors, gutters, and long rows of windows for light. This design accommodated new milking machines they had recently acquired. A detached milk house kept the milk clean and refrigerated. Utah State University's Extension Service provided plans for the "ground stable" design. The reason it became a demonstration barn was that two brothers George and Virgil Stallings built it during the time that George Stallings served as President of the Utah Farm Bureau. In this role serving twenty thousand members, George advocated for farmers and shared ways they could increase their efficiency, sanitation, and yields. Upon the barn's completion in 1927 and during subsequent years, local Farm Bureau members toured the barn to benchmark ways that they could better their operations. The very term "Improvement Era barn" highlights that it was built during a period of farming modernization, and this barn epitomized the movement. Today, it is significant as the largest and most recognizable architectural landmark in Eden, similar to but smaller than the McPolin barn in Park City (NRIS #03000155). It is also the largest extant Improvement Era barn in the Ogden Valley and a physical reminder of Ogden Valley's agricultural past.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Criterion C Significance: Improvement Era Barn Architecture**

The Sunnyfield Barn is significant for its architecture under Criterion C because it was built as a demonstration barn to show best practices to other farmers. By the turn of the twentieth century subsistence farming was transitioning to specialized, market-driven agriculture.<sup>1</sup> The Stallings farm followed this pattern, specializing in dairy production.

Around 1914, Virgil B. Stallings had constructed a small barn on his portion of the property. This worked for over a decade. However, by the 1920s the Stallings brothers needed something more substantial, efficient, and that would meet new health requirements. Therefore, Sunnyfield Barn was designed with a separate milking parlor which would accommodate new milking machines they had recently installed. The milking parlor had washable concrete floors, gutters, and long rows of small windows for light. A detached milk house kept the milk clean and

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas Carter & Roger Roper, *Of Work and Romance: Discovering Utah Barns*, Salt Lake City, University of Utah, 1999.

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refrigerated.<sup>2</sup> The barn was a “ground stable” design typical of the Improvement Era, with a gambrel roof and cupola for updraft ventilation.

The new barn was completed in 1927, which is also the period of significance.

A newspaper article reporting activities for the Weber County Farm Bureau said this:

Weber County Farm Bureau has just closed a year of outstanding activity cooperation of the bureau with the extension service and the State Department of Agriculture... The dairy program the past year has included ...remodeling and building of barns and stables... Plans for barns and stables have been furnished to all who wished assistance, and one demonstration Barn was completed by Virgil Stallings of Eden.<sup>3</sup>

Sunnyfield Barn stands out because of the additional features requested by the Stallings brothers, who set out to build the best barn possible at the time. Later Farm Bureau publications reported that they hosted tours of the barn and surrounding farm.

In 2023, an informal survey of Ogden Valley barns was conducted to prepare this National Register nomination, and 18 barns were identified as being more than 50 years old. Only one other Improvement Era barn might be considered a comparable visual landmark, at 218 S. 7700 East in Huntsville.<sup>4</sup> It is smaller and does not have the distinction of being a demonstration barn. Another Improvement Era barn is tucked at the back of the property at 374 S. 7300 East in nearby Huntsville.<sup>5</sup> While the Posnien barn has washable concrete floors and gutters, it lacks windows, has had metal siding added to the exterior south wall, and is much smaller than Sunnyfield Barn. Other Ogden Valley barns identified in that survey were built earlier, later, or are smaller.

Sunnyfield Barn retains its architectural integrity in that it is unchanged visually from the exterior, still has its original footprint, concrete floors, and other structural elements. The only major change has been the addition of beams for internal support and painting of the Sunnyfield Farm name on the exterior. Due to its imposing size, it is the most recognizable landmark in Eden and one of the most prominent buildings in all of Ogden Valley. In this regard, it is akin to the McPolin barn in Park City or the Olsen Barn in Cache Valley with its locally famous Dr. Pierce ghost sign. These barns are commonly photographed and have such a historical presence that they are readily identifiable to locals. Sunnyfield Barn is an indelible part of Eden’s landscape and is the most visibly prominent representation of its history as a dairy community.

### Improvement Era Dairy Barns in Utah

Although not as common in Utah as in many Midwestern states, early twentieth-century dairy barns still had their presence here—particularly in the northern part of the state, where the

<sup>2</sup> “Taking Care of Your Old Barn” Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.

<sup>3</sup> Stallings, George F. “Farm Bureau Co-operation.” *Ogden Standard-Examiner*, 19 Jan. 1928

<sup>4</sup> Current owner is Bill White.

<sup>5</sup> Current owner Heidi Posnien.

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climate was more conducive to raising dairy cattle and their feed. The Improvement Era in Utah began around 1910 and lasted into the 1940s. The following context for Improvement Era barns is quoted from *Of Work and Romance: Discovering Utah Barns*:

By the 1890s, subsistence farming began giving way to specialized, market-driven agriculture. The family farm that had been raising everything it needed narrowed its focus to a product or two that would generate cash. Agricultural colleges, including Utah State in Logan, helped boost this change through research into the scientific aspects of farming and, by the 1910s, publishing recommendations on not only how to farm more effectively but how to build more efficient barns and other farm structures. In 1927, for example, the college's extension service noted that it had provided plans for 73 barns and 523 other farm structures over the past two years.

Dairying was the choice for many Utah farmers who began specializing their operations in the early 1900s. The invention of the milk separator (c.1890) helped automate milk production, and Utah's growing cities, where families could no longer keep their own cow, provided a ready market for milk. Dairy farmers had to upgrade their operations, however, to meet new health requirements, including having concrete floors and a separate milking parlor. Barn layouts and the physical needs of dairy cows were topics of considerable discussion in publications produced by agricultural colleges and their extension services.

The standardized dairy barn that emerged in the 1910s is a long rectangular building with a gambrel roof—the quintessential image of a barn. This new dairy barn is larger than its predecessors. Both in scale and operation it resembles a factory. The linear rows of stanchions, with accompanying mangers for feeding and gutters for waste collection and removal, were designed for efficient feeding, milking, and clean-up. The milk house, a separate room either within the barn or attached to it, ensured sanitary handling of the milk. Feeding was simplified by chutes from the second-floor hay mow and by silos attached to the side of the barn.

Dairy barns also reflected new ideas about building. Gone were the heavy timber frames that were awkward to build and, with their crisscross beams, limited hay storage. They were replaced by dimensional lumber, "stud-wall" construction, and engineered rafters, which allowed for gambrel and round-arched or gothic roofs that accommodated more hay storage than a standard gable roof. Barn kits were even available through Sears and other building companies, further streamlining and standardizing barn construction. Another distinguishing feature of dairy barns is they were often painted on the exterior—a departure from earlier Utah barns that, for a combination of economic and climatic reasons, had been left unpainted.

Though dairy barns were the most common new barn type of the 20th century, they were not the only structures built for specialized agriculture. Others included

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sheep shearing barns to protect shearers and the wool from wet weather (Antelope Island ranch), occasional cattle feed-lot barns (Washaki Salers Barn in northern Box Elder County), large and small poultry houses (turkey and chicken), and facilities for fur-bearing animals (primarily mink and fox). The barnyard changed dramatically in the twentieth century as Utah's small family farms blended with the national economy.<sup>6</sup>

### **Additional Historical Information**

Sunnyfield farm is located in Eden, Utah, which is about twelve miles east of Ogden. It began as a homestead with a patent that was issued in 1872 to Richard Ballantyne for 160 acres on the southeast quadrant of section 34. Richard Ballantyne was Eden's most prominent civic and church leader. He was a Scotsman who came to Utah in Brigham Young's 1848 company. In 1849, he started the first Sunday school for children. He thus became known as the "Father of Sunday School" in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. After six sequential crop failures, he moved his family back to Ogden and sold off portions of his land including the southernmost portion of the southeast corner of section 34 to Joseph Stallings in 1887. In Joseph's later years, one of his plural wives, Charlotte, and their ten children helped run this farm.

By 1900, Joseph and Charlotte's son Virgil Stallings was ready for a farm of his own. That year, Virgil and his wife bought land just north of Virgil's mother's home. Five years later, in 1905, Virgil added to his land by buying an adjacent piece to the north from Josiah M. Ferrin.

This quote from the autobiography of V.B. Stallings gives a flavor of his early farm life:

As a boy on the farm I have mowed the hay with scythe and raked a great deal of hay by hand with the old wooden hand rake I have followed the old Buckeye Table Rake Reaper binding by hand my row for many days at a time I have helped to clear many acres of sagebrush and played around the fires at night while burning them I have stood in the door on the old homestead and watched the wild deer on the hillside.<sup>7</sup>

When Virgil's youngest brother, George, reached manhood, he acquired the southern portion of the land that his mother had owned, which was adjacent to Virgil's piece. The two brothers operated together as a cooperative farm. They shared equipment, hired hands, and other resources.<sup>8</sup>

The brothers were also active in helping to establish the Farm Bureau and other advocacy efforts. George was the more public of the two, holding many positions of leadership. Virgil attended to

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<sup>6</sup> Thomas Carter & Roger Roper, *Of Work and Romance: Discovering Utah Barns*, Salt Lake City, University of Utah, 1999, Pp.24-25.

<sup>7</sup> Stallings, Virgil B. "Autobiography of V. B. Stallings." FamilySearch. [https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/63419212?cid=mem\\_copy](https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/63419212?cid=mem_copy). Accessed 31 Oct. 2023.

<sup>8</sup> Sandra Jenkins oral history interview, 2023.

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the work at home while George was frequently away. These advocacy efforts placed the brothers in the epicenter of Improvement Era activities that focused on elevating all practices of the family farm, including record keeping, testing for the best outcomes, sanitation and efficiency. As part of their involvement, Virgil and George regularly collaborated with Utah State University Extension Service.

Farm Bureau annual reports show the tours they gave of their farm and of the barn. The 1927 annual report of Extension Work for Weber County showed other activities between Virgil and George's farms that included: tuberculosis testing, adding clover, cooling of cream, sowing sea oats, wheat, barley, and potatoes.

Family histories indicate that one cannot tell the history of the Farm Bureau in Utah or the history of the Stallings farm without the other. George served as President of the Utah Farm Bureau and received accolades for all that was accomplished during his tenure. This was a time when there were 20,000 Farm Bureau members in Utah, so this was a prominent position in the State.

Here is what a Farm Bureau Annual report said about George's tenure as President:

Hats off to Stallings: Farmers in Utah and everyone interested in the progression of agriculture in Utah owe a vote of thanks to George F. Stallings of Eden, Weber County, retiring president of the Utah State Farm Bureau. The most outstanding piece of work in years for the benefit of agriculture has been brought about during his administration as president of the Farm Bureau. As a result of his untiring efforts, Utah can boast one of the strongest agriculture organizations in any state in the union with 20,000 members who are united in a common cause....<sup>9</sup>

In 1937, Pineview Reservoir was complete, which took a portion of George's land that had the original home on it. In 1942, Virgil and his wife, Isabelle, sold their portion of the farm and moved to Brigham City. Virgil's nephew, Lowell and his wife Margaret, eventually purchased Virgil's portion of the farm, including the barn in 1959. George would remain on the farm and stay active in advocacy work until his death in 1959.

Lowell Stallings was active in helping to run the farm from the time he was a teenager. He graduated from Utah State University in 1953, he had his herd officially registered with exclusive use of the Stallings name.<sup>10</sup> He continued aspiring to the best practices of the day. Stallings created a purebred Holstein herd and received accolades in the newspaper for the quality of his farm, which was among the most productive in the nation. And it was Lowell Stallings who dubbed the farm "Sunnyfield Farm."

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<sup>9</sup> A.L. Christiansen, "Annual Report of Extension Work, Agricultural Agent Weber Co. 1927" (Utah: Weber County Farm Bureau, November 23, 1927).

<sup>10</sup> "Eden Resident Gets Herd Name," Ogden Standard Examiner, 27 Dec. 1953

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Stallings added a new milking parlor in 1975, which is a non-contributing building where the Sunnyfield meats and butchering operation resides today.<sup>11</sup> He passed away in 2005 at the age of 86 soon after finishing the fall plowing. Following his death, he received eulogies from the Farm Bureau and Utah State University.

Sunnyfield Farm is representative of many family farms in Ogden Valley, in that it has been operated by family members for five generations. Changes on the farm mirror changes in the community beginning as indigenous land, then being granted as a homestead property by the U.S. government and then serving as a subsistence farm for the Stallings family. Ultimately, the Stallings family adopted best practices during the Improvement Era, becoming a model farm with some of the highest production yields not only in Utah, but the nation. Members of the Stallings family were active in founding the Farm Bureau and other agricultural advocacy groups, and they maintained statewide prominence in these circles for three generations.

### Eden/Ogden Valley

The small agricultural community of Eden, Weber County, Utah is known for its picturesque beauty, fertile grasslands, and numerous waterways, all surrounded by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. Located about 12 miles east of Ogden, Eden lies between the north and middle forks of the Ogden River in Ogden Valley. In 1848 and 1852, Church President Brigham Young sent two exploration parties. After that, three communities of year-round residents were established: Eden, Huntsville, and Liberty.<sup>12</sup> The first cattlemen came in 1856 and by 1860 small farms were beginning to form. Eden was surveyed in 1866 by Washington Jenkins who suggested the biblical name of Eden because of its beauty.

Settlers obtained patents issued by the U.S. government or from the Union Pacific Railroad which had received land from the government as payment for building the railroad. At first, settlers of Eden lived on scattered farms, but they moved closer together into the village when conflicts with indigenous people flared.

As farms began specializing, Ogden Valley families predominantly ran dairy herds. By 1900, the Utah Gazetteer listed 54 professional entries in Eden, and of those, 42 were dairies and another 3 were creameries. The valley remained a farming community through the middle of the twentieth century.

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<sup>11</sup> "Building Permits". *Ogden Standard-Examiner*, 26 Sep. 1975.

<sup>12</sup> "Settlement of Eden", Waymarking.com, accessed 19 Oct. 2023.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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### 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 4 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

#### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Latitude: 41.29717

Longitude: -111.81624

**Or**

#### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

#### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 34, TOWNSHIP 7 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, SALT LAKE BASE AND MERIDIAN, U.S. SURVEY: BEGINNING AT A POINT NORTH 00D18'55" EAST 1603.35 FEET ALONG THE SECTION LINE AND SOUTH 87D11'58" EAST 43.68 FEET THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 34; RUNNING THENCE NORTH 02D15'12" EAST 178.06 FEET; THENCE NORTH 88D11'05" WEST 330.98 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00D18'55" WEST 309.58 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 88D44'17" EAST 320.52 FEET; THENCE NORTH 02D15'12" EAST 128.33 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. See Map #3 for boundary detail.

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**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries described are the current legal boundaries of the parcel where the Sunnyfield Barn is located, along with the other outbuildings noted in the nomination. The boundary also includes farmland sufficient to convey the agricultural setting.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Shalae Larsen, Braden Miskin  
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organization: Evalogue.Life  
street & number: PO Box 13922  
city or town: Ogden state: Utah zip code: 84412  
telephone: 801-917-4299

date: January 18, 2024

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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**Map 1: Locator Map**



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Map 2: Neighborhood Aerial Image



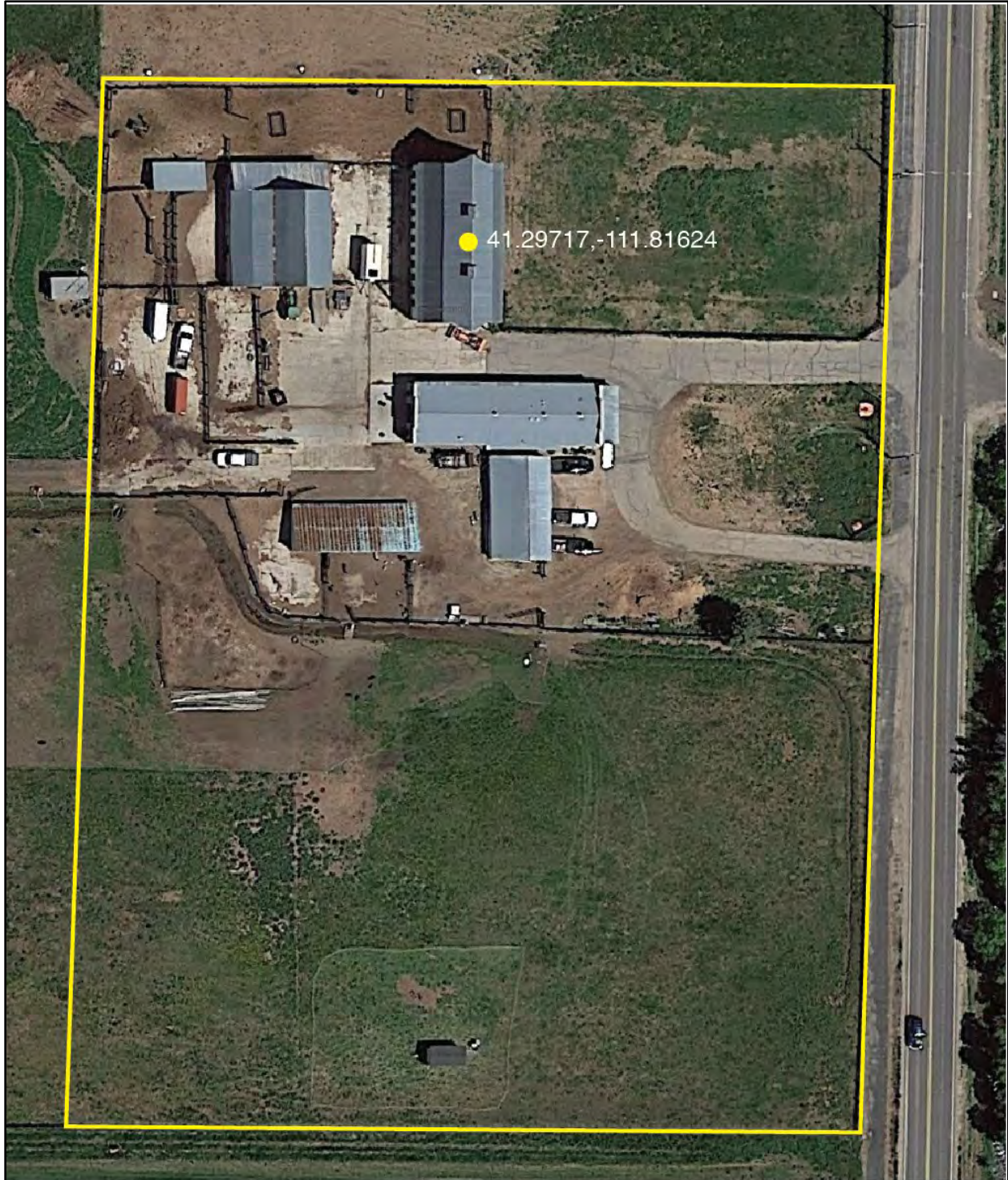
Sunnyfield Farm  
2103 North 5500 East  
Eden, Weber County, Utah



Sunnyfield Barn  
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**Map 3: Site Aerial Image**



Sunnyfield Farm  
2103 North 5500 East  
Eden, Weber County, Utah



100ft



Sunnyfield Barn  
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**Photographs**

**Photo Log**

Name of Property: Sunnyfield Barn

City or Vicinity: Eden

County: Weber

State: Utah

Photographers: Braden Miskin, Shalae Larsen

Date Photographed: Apr-May 2023

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

**Photo Key**

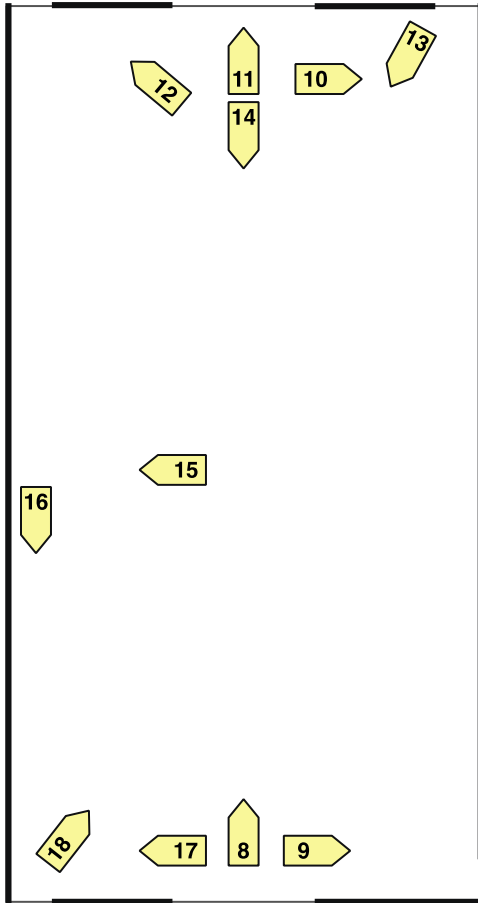
**Photo Key 1: Site & Barn Exterior**



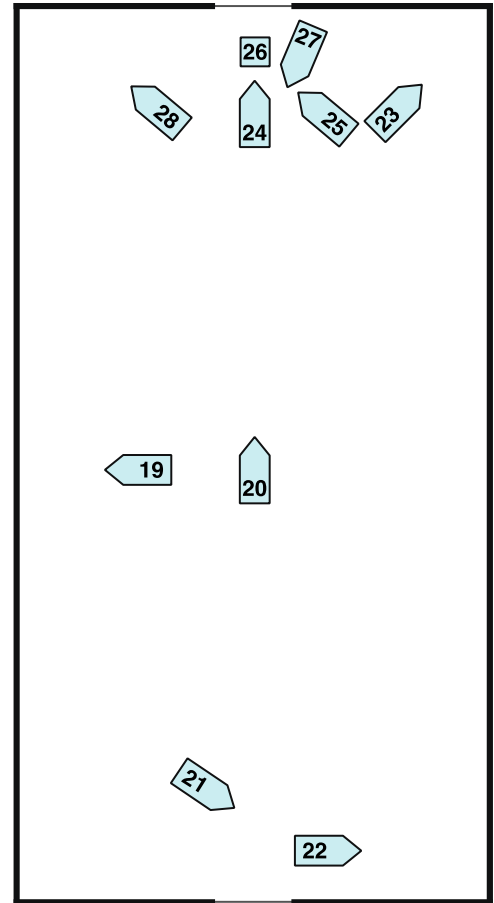
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**Photo Key 2: Barn Interior**



NORTH



NORTH



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**1 of 35** View of Sunnyfield Barn from 5500 East. Camera facing southwest.



**2 of 35** Approaching the barn on the driveway from 5500 East. Camera facing west.



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**3 of 35** View of the south from north side of Farm Shop building. Camera facing northwest.



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**4 of 35** Alternate view of south exterior wall. Camera facing northwest.



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**5 of 35** East elevation. Camera facing west.



**6 of 35** North elevation. Camera facing south.



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**7 of 35** West side of the barn exterior. Camera facing east.



**8 of 35** View from the south end of the center aisle on the ground floor. Camera facing north.



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**9 of 35** Southeast corner of the ground floor. Camera facing east.



**10 of 35** Northeast corner of the ground floor. Camera facing east.



Sunnyfield Barn  
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**11 of 35** North end of the center aisle. Camera facing north.



**12 of 35** Northwest corner of the ground floor. Camera facing northwest.



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**13 of 35** View from the northeast corner. Camera facing southwest.



**14 of 35** View from the north end of the center aisle. Camera facing south.





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**15 of 35** Staircase in the middle of the west wall leading up to the hay loft. Camera facing west.



**16 of 35** Southwest corner of the main floor. Camera facing west.



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**17 of 35** View from the north end of the center aisle. Camera facing south.



**18 of 35** View across the calving/loafing pens from southwest corner. Camera facing northeast.



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**19 of 35** Top of staircase in the hay loft. Camera facing west.



Sunnyfield Barn  
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**20 of 35** View of north end of the hay loft from the middle of the floor. Camera facing north.



Sunnyfield Barn  
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**21 of 35** Middle of south wall in the hay loft. Camera facing southeast.



Sunnyfield Barn  
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**22 of 35** Southeast corner of the hay loft. Camera facing south.



Sunnyfield Barn  
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**23 of 35** Northeast corner of the hay loft. Camera facing northeast.



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**24 of 35** Center of north wall in hay loft. Camera facing north.





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**25 of 35** Upper portion of north wall in hay loft. Camera facing northwest.



**26 of 35** Jackson fork suspended from ceiling of hay loft. Camera facing up from the north end.



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**27 of 35** Jackson fork and trolley system in the hay loft. Camera facing upward and southwest.



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**28 of 35** Northwest corner of hay loft. Camera facing northwest.



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**29 of 35** Smaller barn built around 1914, west of the main barn. Camera facing northwest.



**30 of 35** South elevation of the smaller barn. Camera facing north.



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**31 of 35** South and east elevations of Farm Shop. Camera facing west.



**32 of 35** East elevation of Tractor Shed, south of Farm Shop. Camera facing west.



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**33 of 35** Southeast corner of Tractor Shed. Large loafing shed in back. Camera facing northwest.



**34 of 35** South elevation of large loafing shed / chicken coop. Camera facing north.



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**35 of 35** South elevation of small loafing shed, Camera facing north.



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**Figure 1 of 1** Undated historical photo of the barns and former house. Camera facing southeast.



**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.