

GEORGE SPANGERBERGER FARMSTEAD, BARN  
2012 W. Illinois Ave.  
South Hutchinson Vicinity  
Reno County  
Kansas

HABS No. KS-77-I

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
Midwest Support Office  
1709 Jackson Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-2571

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
GEORGE SPANGERBERGER FARMSTEAD, BARN

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Location: The Barn is located at 2012 W. Illinois Ave., northeast of the Spangerberger Farmstead residence, east of the tool sheds, southeast of the garage, and south of the pole building, South Hutchinson Vicinity, Reno County, Kansas.

Present Owners: Kansas Department of Transportation

Present Occupant: None

Present Use: Vacant Barn

Significance: The barn contributes to the historic and agrarian character of the George Spangerberger Farmstead.

Description: The George Spangerberger Farmstead barn is located at the eastern extreme of the farm complex. It is set back approximately 207' from the north edge of US Highway 50 and is 195' east of the main residence. The barn is situated 55' southeast of the garage, and 82' south of the pole building. A four board fence connects these three structures forming a corral between the barn and pole building. There are two gates in this fence, one near the northwest corner of the barn and one near the northeast corner of this building. The land lying immediately south and east of the barn is a cultivated field.

The barn may have been one of the first buildings constructed at the site, possibly by the Thomsons as early as the mid 1880s. However, it is more likely that it was not built until the early 1900s by the Spangerberger family. The building was designed for use as a dairy barn. A summer storm in 1948 ripped off the barn's original gable roof and demolished the south and west exterior walls. Enough remained of the north and east walls to incorporate them in rebuilding the barn. Construction of the replacement structure, this time incorporating a gambrel roof, was completed in 1948.

The barn is a two-story, clapboard-clad, wood building with a rough-cut stone foundation. The composition-shingle gambrel roof features exposed rafter tails. This rectangular structure measures approximately 30' wide x 42'-6" long and is oriented on a north-south axis. The southern gable end has three horizontal sliding wood doors with drip boards. Two of these doors on the lower level provide access to pedestrian aisles running the entire length of the barn, while the third is a hay mow door in the loft. The northern side of the barn, which faces the corral connecting the barn and pole building, features four doors. Three of these doors, the east and west doors on the lower level and the hay mow door, are horizontal sliding wood doors with drip boards. The door in the center on the ground level is a Dutch door. A four-light fixed window is centered in the north gable above the hay mow door. The west door on the north side of the barn opens into an 11' x 12' stall or storage room. The center and east doors provide access to the two aisles extending the length of the barn.

Four windows, each measuring approximately 2' x 2', are evenly spaced along the east wall.

These four east openings are fixed four-light windows, two of which have been covered by wood. The west barn wall has a total of six openings. The northern opening is a fixed, 2' x 2', four-light window opening into the stall or storage area at the northwest corner of the barn. To the south along the west wall are five additional small square openings, each measuring approximately 2'-5" x 2'-7". Each of these openings has a Z-braced vertical board door. The two center bays each have two of these doors aligned with one near the floor and one near the ceiling, for loading the grain bins. The southern bay has only one door near the ceiling for external access to the feed storage bin in the southeast corner of the barn.

In the interior, the eastern aisle, measuring approximately 5' in width, provided access for horses, cattle, and humans to reach two small (5' x 9') stalls, two medium (9' x 9' and 10'-6" x 9'-0") stalls, and the 10'-6" x 9'-0" milking stanchion area. The heavy beams forming the east end of the dividing walls between these stalls were placed at a distinct slant, with the tops angling to the west. A narrow, approximately 2' wide, walkway connects the center and eastern aisles between the milking area and a small horse stall, near the middle of the barn.

The center aisle, also approximately 5' wide, accesses three feed storage bins along the west wall and feed troughs for stalls situated between the center and east aisles. Doors along the west side of the center aisle provide internal access to the three feed or grain storage bins. The two northern grain bins each measure approximately 10'-0" x 10'-8", have high sills, and could be closed off using boards slid into slots along both edges. The largest grain bin or feed and storage room, measuring 10'-6" x 10'-8", is in the southwest corner of the barn, and has a lower sill.

The second story of the barn consists of a single large undivided room. The rafters supporting the gambrel roof meet the wall studs immediately above the level of the loft floor. The only internal access to the barn loft is through a small opening in the ceiling immediately west of the central entry door in the north end of the barn. Access is made possible by a crude ladder formed by nailed wood cross pieces attached to the studs of the north wall. Loading access to the barn loft on the second story is provided by the horizontal sliding wood hay mow doors located above the center bay door on both the north and south walls.

The George Spangerberger Farmstead, Barn is in fair condition.

Sources:

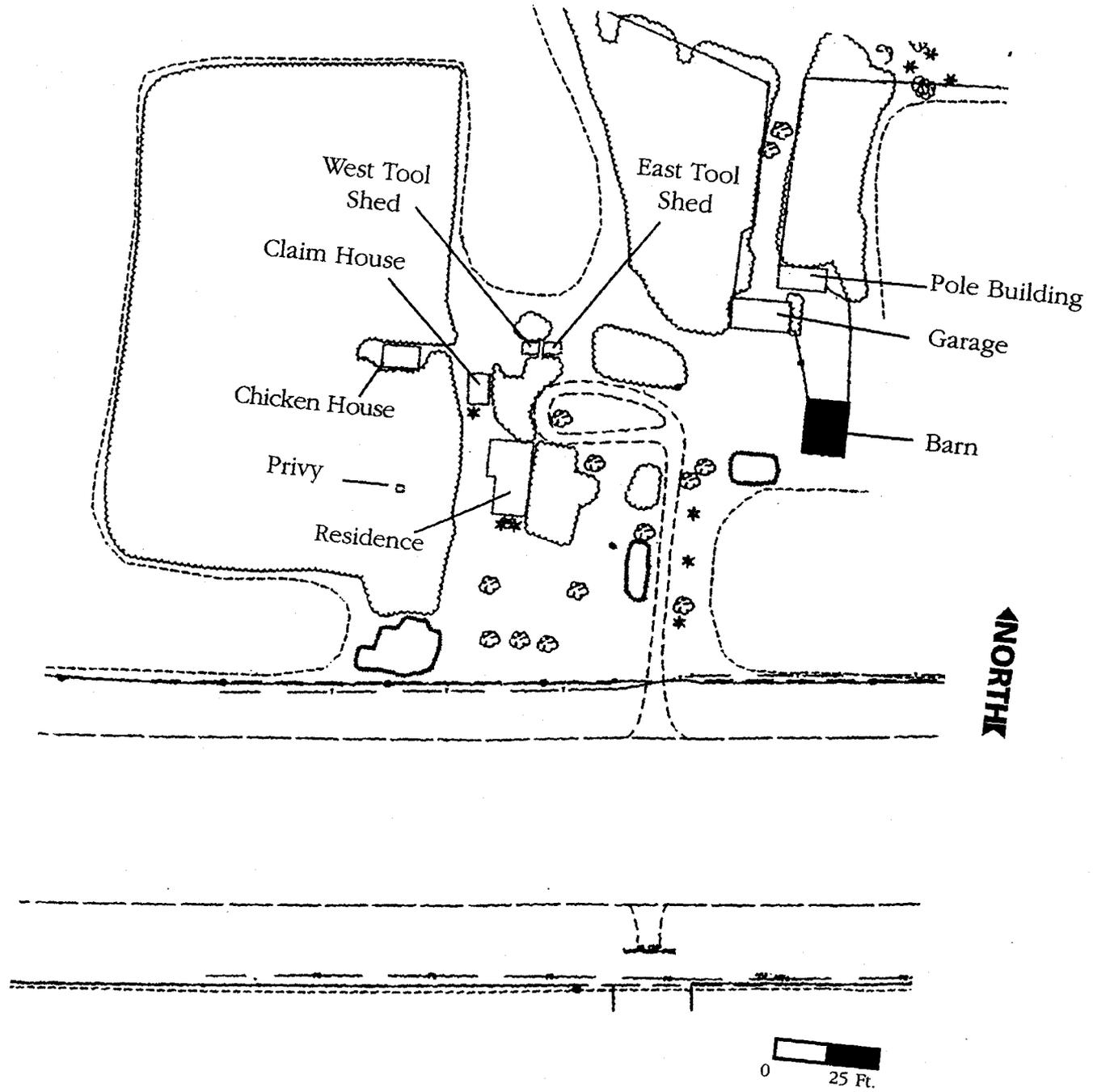
Interview with George Harold Walters (now deceased), interviewed by Sheryll L. White, notes on file in Archeology Office, Kansas State Historical Society

Interview with Naomi Stiggins, interviewed by Sheryll L. White, notes on file in Archeology Office, Kansas State Historical Society

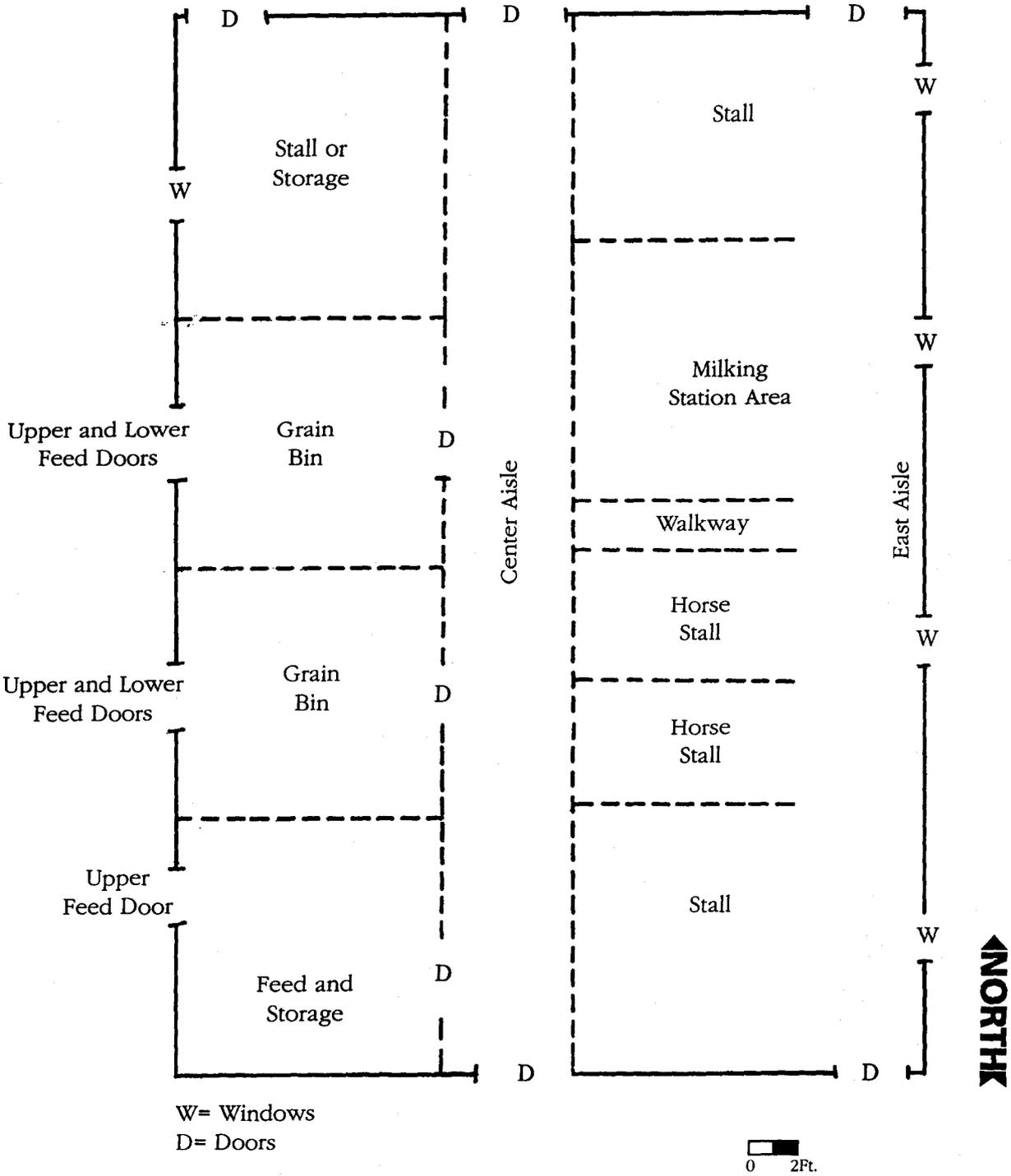
White, Sheryll, "Eberle Thomson, George Spangerberger Farmstead, A1 Site, Activity III Report," Contract 96-78 K-5046-01, Reno County, Hutchinson Bypass Alignment A. Ms on file, Archeology Office, Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka.

Historian:

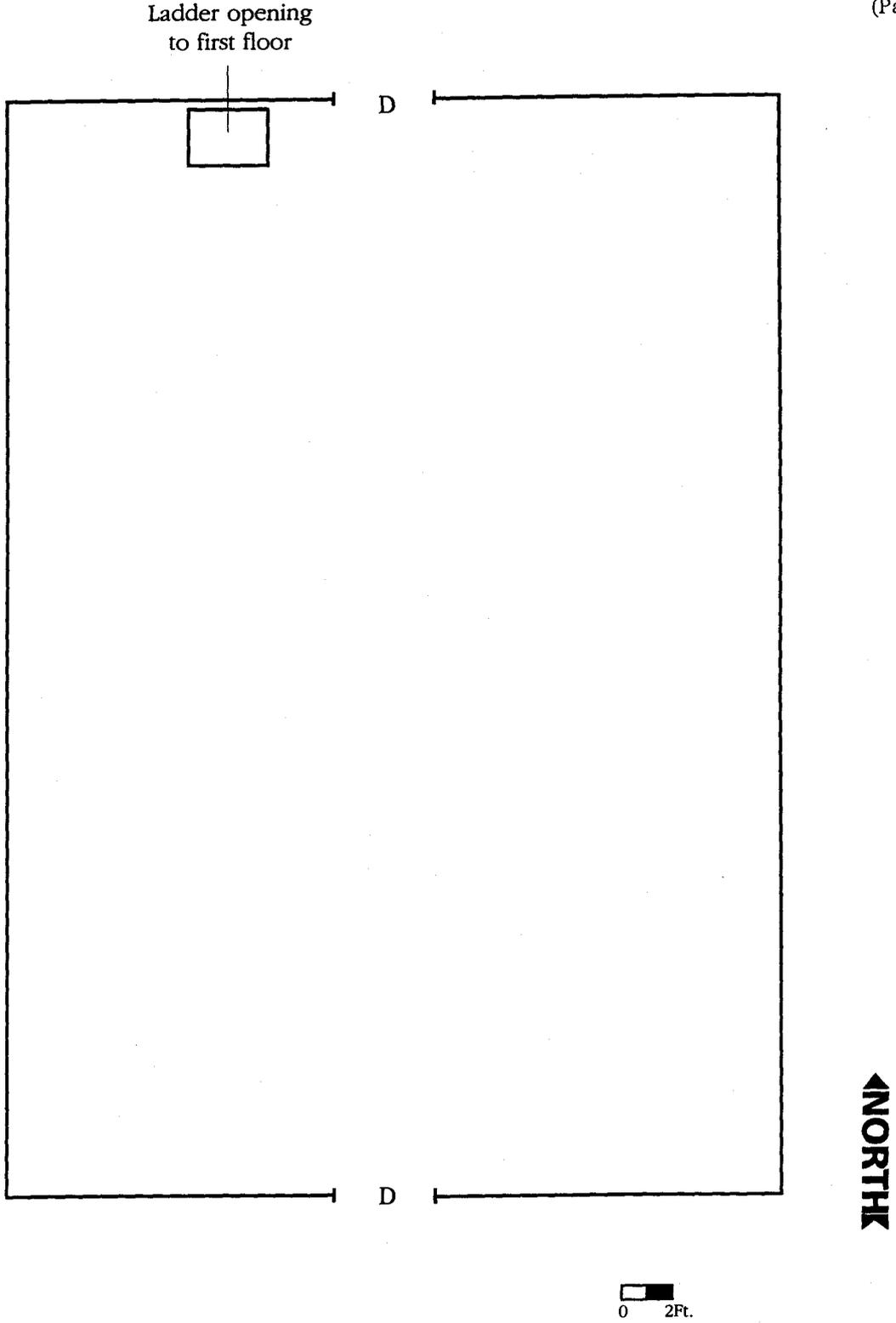
Sheryll L. White was the historian for the Spangerberger Farmstead project. White conducted the basic research and interviews and prepared the reports from which the historical information was taken. Marsha K. King conducted limited additional research, drafted the HABS documentation, and compiled and prepared the HABS document.



SITE PLAN SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE GEORGE SPANGERBERGER FARMSTEAD, BARN.



FLOOR PLAN OF THE GEORGE SPANGERBERGER FARMSTEAD, BARN, FIRST STORY.



FLOOR PLAN OF THE GEORGE SPANGERBERGER FARMSTEAD, BARN, LOFT.