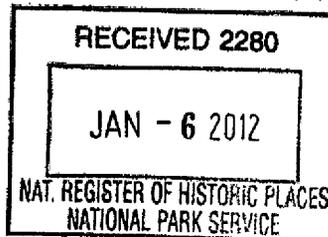


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



37

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. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids
other names/site number I.O.O.F. Home, I.O.O.F. Home Addition

2. Location

street & number 100 West 10th Street not for publication
city or town Dell Rapids vicinity
state South Dakota code SD county Minnehaha code 099 zip code 57022

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 X statewide local
Jay D. Voigt 12-29-2011
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
SD SHPO
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official Date
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:)
R. [Signature] 2/21/12
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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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
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	2	buildings
1	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
4	2	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

- DOMESTIC/institutional housing
- HEALTH CARE/sanitarium
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure
- AGRICULTURAL /agricultural field

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

- WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

- LATE VICTORIAN: Renaissance

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

- foundation: CONCRETE
- walls: STONE: Sioux quartzite
- STONE: Limestone
- BRICK
- TERRA COTTA
- roof: ASPHALT
- SYNTHETICS: Rubber
- other: WOOD

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids was built in 1910 to serve as a home for dependent children and the elderly members of the International Order of the Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.), Grand Lodge of South Dakota. It is situated at a higher elevation about half a mile to the north and slightly west of the main downtown, but on relatively level ground with many mature trees. Currently it is surrounded by residential subdivisions, an apartment complex, and some cultivated land. At the time that the I.O.O.F. Home Addition to the town of Dell Rapids was set aside, the surrounding land was mostly used for agriculture. The current 3.3-acre property includes a stone entrance gate on the eastern edge, the main three-story Sioux quartzite and limestone institutional building built in 1910, a wing attached to the south elevation that was built in 1959 and extends west behind the main building, a power plant to the west that was built in 1924 and is connected to the main building by a tunnel, and a four-car garage to the northwest of the main building built in the mid-1950s. To the north of the entrance drive, there remains a part of the orchard that once contributed to the Odd Fellows Home's 172-acre farm and grounds. Historically, there were barns and farm buildings located to the south and west of the power plant. The main entry drive has also been extended around the north side of the building, through the rear parking lot, and back out to the street. The non-contributing 1959 wing and garage do not detract from the overall integrity or the setting of the historic buildings. The 1910 building, the 1924 power plant and entrance gate, and the orchard—as contributing features of the site—retain the integrity needed to convey their significance to architecture as well as to the social history of the Odd Fellows Home as an institutional complex in South Dakota.

Narrative Description

1910 Main Building (Contributing)

The foundation of the Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids is made of concrete and stone.¹ The main eastern façade in Sioux quartzite consists of thirteen bays of windows, and the center seven bays project forward slightly with the outline of the roof. The wooden one-over-one double-hung windows in each bay are in single openings. The basement-level window openings are arched and made out of quartzite. The first and second floor window lintels are blocks of limestone. The first level of square-cut Sioux quartzite is regular coursed ashlar masonry, while the top two levels are irregular coursed ashlar masonry. The exterior walls feature stringcourses of limestone at each story, level with the base of the window rows, and beaded-joint mortar that matches the pink-purple color of the quartzite. There is a central projected, three-bay, one-story entryway porch, later enclosed with modern vertical wood board. It has modern glass-and-panel double doors, paired double-hung windows on either side of the doors and on the sides of the porch, quartzite columns, a continuance of the first-story stringcourse, and a metal balustrade on the balcony. Leading to the first-floor entryway are split concrete steps with a flag pole in front, shrubs to each side, and a metal railing that features a central "I.O.O.F." cast element. To the north of the porch is the quartzite cornerstone engraved "South Dakota / I.O.O.F. Home / Erected 1910." There are also original French doors opening onto the porch balcony that have an additional modern aluminum screen door mounted on the exterior. The hipped roof features asphalt shingles and is framed to have a slightly projected hipped section centered on the front and back façade. The wide, overhanging wooden eaves feature slightly angled brackets. There is a central cupola with wooden vented sides, overhanging eaves and brackets, a metal octagonal-dome roof, and a mount for a flag

¹ Minnehaha County Assessor's Office. Health Center Addition (formerly IOOF Home Addition), Parcel #1-04-09-126-002 and #1-04-09-126-003, Map #4-B (2010).

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pole.² The east façade also features a single hipped roof dormer with wood siding and a wooden casement window.

Alterations of uncertain date include: there having existed at least until 1959 three hipped dormers where now there is one, and asphalt shingles having replaced those marked as asbestos on the 1911 Sanborn insurance map. Also, according to a historic photograph in the late 1910s, the windows on the third floor appear to be six-over-one, the entrance drive ended at the front steps in a circle around a fountain, and the entryway had previously featured an open porch with a balustrade, likely made of wood and painted white, and stairs of quartzite and limestone arranged to lead straight up to the porch instead of splitting to either side.³

The north elevation features the same Sioux quartzite ashlar masonry, arched lintels on the basement floor, limestone window lintels and stringcourses on the first and second floors, one-over-one windows in three bays (paired in the center bay). The paired windows on the first and second floors have a strip of quartzite infill below the current windows that is original, nonetheless, as it is present on the south elevation in the 1911 photograph from the building's dedication.⁴ The south elevation is identical except that the central bay of windows has been removed to attach the 1959 wing.

Overall, the west elevation continues the style of slightly projecting central bays, quartzite ashlar masonry, limestone accents, and single one-over-one windows. The back entrance has been remodeled, likely at the time of the 1959 addition. The remodeled two-story back kitchen entrance projects from the façade, and is finished with regularly-coursed quartzite on the basement level and brick matching the 1959 addition on the first floor. It also features wooden windows on each side, glass-block infill windows flanking the aluminum door, a modern one-over-one window on the first floor, and a slightly sloping flat roof. On this elevation, there are also two additional entrances at each stairwell, on either side of the central back entrance, that have modern single glass doors and sidelights beneath quartzite arches as well as sweeping canopy roofs over the walk to the parking lot. Over those entrances are paired windows with large semi-circular fanlights and quartzite Roman arches. Like the front, east façade, the west roof has a single dormer of the same style, and the two square, interior brick chimneys are placed slightly on the western side of the roof peak.

The interior of the Odd Fellows Home has an original double entryway beyond the enclosed porch doors. The initial doorway and stonework within the enclosed porch have been painted. The first wooden door has a single pane of glass over a single wood panel, four-light transom, and side-lights with decorative muntin work over beveled wooden panels and granite kickplates. The second doorframe is its duplicate except for having no sidelight muntins or door. After the second door frame, there is a door off to the north that historically led to the reception/administration area and then a third metal-framed opening with gilt wood grille. Coming through that final frame, there is a large, brick veneer gas fireplace. Interior walls are plastered, and according to original plans the walls are "reinforced with one foot of hard burnt hollow brick laid together with corrugated metal strips."⁵ The hallways, which run north to south, are open with rooms on each side. Floors are concrete and vinyl has replaced the original maple flooring.⁶ There are also two main staircases between the first and second floors. The staircases have simple classical caps on square newels, paired double-hung windows with large arched fanlight on each landing, and brads in a wave pattern along the upper closed outer stringers. The southern staircase of the two has had woodwork partially covered with sheetrock. The then-nursing home did interior remodeling c. 1985 that included the replacement of original doors with heavy metal doors to each room and the addition of more bathroom facilities.

² As seen in a photograph from the 1911 building dedication. *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 25 May 1911.

³ Collections of the Dell Rapids Society for Historic Preservation.

⁴ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 25 May 1911.

⁵ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1910), 4215.

⁶ Assessor's Office. Health Center Addition.

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1923 Power Plant (Contributing)

The concrete foundation of the power plant is banked into the hill behind the 1910 building, and the hill slopes to the southwest corner of the power plant and then continues downhill to agricultural fields. The laundry/power plant was finished c. 1923 and is a small rectangular building with two floors and a basement. Using similar materials to the 1910 building, it was constructed with Sioux quartzite walls, limestone window lintels and sills, a limestone stringcourse and parapet roof line, and a cornice of quartzite and limestone bands with dentils along all but the back wall. It has a large, square, tapered smokestack made of brick on the northeast corner of the building. There is a post-1959 ramp to a concrete block second floor entryway on the east façade. There are also entryways on the second floor of the north façade, the first floor of the south façade, and a quartzite entry that extends out from the northwest corner and has ramp into the basement. The south and west elevations have full-length windows on the first floor level that have been partially infilled on the west façade with brick (in order to stem water infiltration), and on the second floor, most windows on each of the sides have been downsized with brick and wood (the brick matches that used for the 1959 wing). The three windows on the north elevation that retain original pane configuration are four-over-two double-hung wood windows. The basement of the power plant housed the boilers and workshop space. The first and second floors housed facilities for the laundry and living spaces.

1923 Front Gate (Contributing)

The front gate is also constructed from Sioux quartzite and it was dedicated in 1923. The gate is symmetrical, having six quartzite piers with bases and projecting bands just beneath the top rows. The two central piers are the shortest and feature original bronze plaques. The intermediate piers are connected to the center piers with a curved quartzite extension of their base. The outside piers are the tallest and also feature bronze plaques dedicated to Past Grand Masters of the I.O.O.F. Dr. Alonzo E. Clough and Harvey J. Rice. There is a cast iron gate between the center piers, iron fences above the curved quartzite between the center and intermediate piers, and fences between the intermediate and outside piers.

Orchard (Contributing)

The apple orchard, although untended for many years, is a significant remaining feature of the Odd Fellow Home's once large agricultural landscape that provisioned the Home through the labor of its staff and residents. The orchard was well-established at least by a June 1933 news article.⁷ The remaining portion lies to the north of the front drive.

1959 Wing (Non-Contributing)

The Miles E. Peck Memorial Wing, added in 1959, has a concrete foundation and textured brick walls of common bond with 6th course Flemish headers (or Flemish Stretcher Bond). Its eastern half, where it connects to the 1910 building, has three stories and the western half has two. Fenestration includes mostly triple casement windows with rowlock lintels, excepting one column of windows on the rear (north) façade near the connection to the historic building that are glass block. The west façade has no windows. Several windows on the east and south have been boarded up. On the north façade, there is a one story projecting entrance as well as another single door in the main wall. Along the western end of the south façade, there are two aluminum door entrances with a later aluminum and wood carport attached. The rubber roof is flat with no eaves.⁸ The interior has concrete floors and sheetrock ceiling and walls. Along with the main building, the addition underwent interior renovations in 1985.

When constructed, the 1959 Addition connected to the south façade of the 1910 building where a column of paired windows had been. It was built with a connector that was set-back from both the front and back elevations of the 1910 building, and is clearly differentiated as new construction through style and material.

⁷ *Argus Leader* (Sioux Falls, SD) 27 June 1933.

⁸ Assessor's Office. Health Center Addition.

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The wing extends west to the rear, so that the 1910 front façade is left as the dominant impression upon approaching the building from the main gate.

Mid-1950s Garage (Non-Contributing)

The mid-1950s garage is simple and rectangular; it was constructed with terra cotta blocks on the exterior walls that were textured and colored to resemble quartzite and limestone.⁹ There is terra cotta coping along the roofline and beams over the bays. Since its construction, the terra cotta has been painted over. There are piers between each of the four bays on the south façade, and the bays have manual overhead wood paneled doors. On the garage doors, the first rows have two panels, the second and fourth have six wood panels, and the third rows have six formerly glass windows that are now boarded over. The garage also has a regular door on the east façade.

⁹ The handles on the garage doors cast with the Raynor company mark date to c. 1955. "From the Pages of History: Raynor Mfg. Co." *Door & Access Systems* (Winter 2002), 54.

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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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1910-1947

Significant Dates

1910, 1923

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Schwarz, Joseph

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- 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.

Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance extends from the date of construction in 1910 to 1947, when the Odd Fellows Home ceased its operation as both a home for dependent children and for the elderly. This time period aligns most closely with the Home's significance within Social History in the state of South Dakota.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids is eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C with statewide significance in the areas of Social History and Architecture. From 1910 to 1947, it served as both a home for dependent children and for elderly members of the Odd Fellows through two world wars, the 1918 influenza epidemic, and the Great Depression. It grew to be a 172-acre home and farm that had served around 100 children and 150 elderly residents by 1935.¹⁰ It has statewide significance as the first and only home built by a fraternal order in South Dakota. Such fraternal order homes represent a substantial aspect of the early period of Progressive Era social welfare institutions before social work professionalized. In terms of its architectural history, the Home's 1910 main three-story landmark building, its 1923 power plant, and 1923 front gate were each designed by prominent regional architect Joseph Schwarz and are each made of the characteristic and locally-quarried Sioux quartzite with limestone accents, in a simplified Italian Renaissance architectural style.

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

The Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids is significant under Criterion A in the area of Social History for its representation of residential institutions and early developments in social welfare within South Dakota. This was the only welfare institution built by the International Order of the Odd Fellows within South Dakota. Built in 1910, it was the first home for dependent children built by a fraternal order in South Dakota, and at least in 1921 and 1933, was still the only fraternal order institution in South Dakota.¹¹ Other institutions for children were operated by the Lutheran church and the state.¹² Also, fraternal order homes were the earliest institutions for elder care in the state, predated only by veterans institutions like the 1902 Battle Mountain Sanitarium and veterans hospital in Hot Springs, SD. The Odd Fellows Home operated as both an orphanage and home for the elderly through 1947, when it ceased taking in dependent children.

The Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids is also significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for being an outstanding example of early-twentieth century Italian Renaissance Revival architecture in South Dakota. It was a transitional piece by Sioux Falls architect Joseph Schwarz between his early Sioux quartzite Romanesque buildings and his firm's later limestone Italian Revival and Neoclassical buildings. Its construction also exemplifies the use of Sioux quartzite, the quarries for which were a significant industry in Dell Rapids, and the use of reinforced concrete in fireproof construction—increasingly common for substantial institutional buildings in the early twentieth century.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

ODD FELLOWS HOME PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION

The International Order of the Odd Fellows was first organized in Dakota Territory on May 25, 1870, with a lodge in Yankton, shortly followed by lodges in Fort Randall, Vermillion, Elk Point, (all four in southeastern South Dakota) and Fargo (in southeastern North Dakota).¹³ The Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory was

¹⁰ Dale Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic: A History of Dell Rapids, South Dakota* (Dell Rapids: Dell Rapids Society for Historic Preservation, 2005), 78.

¹¹ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 18 May 1911; *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1921), 72; *Argus Leader* (Sioux Falls), 27 June 1933.

¹² Dr. Leon E. Truesdell, United States Bureau of the Census. *Children under institutional care and in foster homes, 1933* (Washington DC: GPO, 1935), 117.

¹³ Doane Robinson, *History of South Dakota*, vol. I (B.F. Bowen & Co., 1904), 516.

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organized in 1875, and the Dell Rapids Lodge No. 8 was established the next year in 1876.¹⁴ In 1893, women in Dell Rapids formed the Coralyn Lodge No. 21 of the Daughters of Rebekah (the Odd Fellows' auxiliary order). After statehood in 1889, the Grand Lodge split between South and North Dakota in May 1890. At its height, the Dell Rapids Lodge had 250 members but ended its charter in 2008.¹⁵

Odd Fellows publications exclaimed the motto to "Visit the Sick. Relieve the Distressed. Educate the Orphan. Bury the Dead."¹⁶ In 1896, at the Grand Lodge of South Dakota annual meeting, H.A. Piper suggested the construction of a Home for the orphans and the elderly, and the order elected nine trustees, including several past Grand Masters, to oversee the effort.¹⁷ Over the next years, they worked to build up a financial fund for the Home, accumulating voluntary donations of just under \$2,000 by 1899, and just under \$5,000 by 1902.¹⁸ Donations came from personal funds as well as from fundraising parties and entertainments that some of the Odd Fellows and Rebekah lodges hosted.¹⁹ In 1904, the Grand Lodge began to require a minimum donation of \$0.25 from Odd Fellows members and \$0.10 from Rebekah members dedicated to the Home effort, and, though the required donation had its opponents, the required donations continued through the Home's operation.²⁰ The Coralyn Rebekah Lodge #21 in Dell Rapids contributed the most of the Rebekahs with an amount over \$500.²¹ With these efforts, more than \$32,000 had been raised by January 1910.²² The Trustees also visited several Homes in other states, compared costs by questionnaire for construction and maintenance for homes across the country, and communicated in particular with the I.O.O.F. Grand Lodge of Iowa, using their Home in Mason City, IA as a model.²³ Throughout the Home's history, the language of the Order: particularly love, brotherhood, service, loyalty, harmony, and pride fueled the rhetoric by the Home's Board of Trustees in appeals for financial support and reports on the Home's progress.²⁴

When the Grand Lodge put out the request for potential locations, many cities across the state submitted proposals and the Grand Lodge considered locations at Dell Rapids, Lake Preston, Big Stone, Sioux Falls, and Hot Springs.²⁵ The appeal noted that they would judge aspects of healthfulness, moral surroundings, convenience to schools with free tuition, churches and Sunday Schools, transportation access, and agricultural advantages.²⁶ Each proposed location presented bids to the Grand Lodge of the I.O.O.F. and the Dell Rapids proposal included (1) 32 acres, all the granite for the building except trim plus \$600 or \$2600 in cash, gas and water tax exemption up to \$2000, and free tuition for children living at the home; or (2) \$6400 and the board could choose its own location.²⁷ In 1909, the Dell Rapids bid was accepted at a vote of 131:26 over Hot Springs, the Trustees investigated the site, and they decided to buy seventy acres of "rich agricultural land, all

¹⁴ Robinson, *History of South Dakota*, 517-518.

¹⁵ Alan Van Ormer, "Odd Fellows part of history." *Tribune* 2009.

<http://www.dellrapidsinfo.com/article/20090923/NEWS/90921002>.

¹⁶ Robinson, *History of South Dakota*, 520; *Odd Fellow World* 44(3) (March 1937), cover.

¹⁷ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1896), 1802-1805; Robinson, *History of South Dakota*, 522.

¹⁸ Robinson, *History of South Dakota*, 523.

¹⁹ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 18 May 1911.

²⁰ Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 77; *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1905), 3011; *Odd Fellow World* 44(3) (March 1937), 2.

²¹ Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 78.

²² *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1910), 4136.

²³ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1907), 3481; *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1911), 144; *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 18 May 1911.

²⁴ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota); Hiram J. Hastings, *Fraternal Philosophy: The principles of brotherhood from the standpoint of a commoner* (self-published, 1922).

²⁵ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1909), 4003.

²⁶ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1908), 3754.

²⁷ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1909), 3957.

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in a good state of cultivation" from Harlan W. Cooley for \$8,755.²⁸ The Grand Lodge located the Odd Fellows Home on the outskirts of Dell Rapids, at a higher elevation overlooking the rest of the town, six miles from a school, and on the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 9, Township 104, Range 49. Its location was applauded at the 1910 annual meeting as "conspicuous from all parts of the city, overlooking the Sioux Valley and far into the surrounding country, and commanding a view of the river for nearly forty miles....such a building as is contemplated will be a landmark for a large area in the most densely populated part of the state."²⁹

As reported on January 6, 1910, in the *Dell Rapids Time & Tribune*, the plans as submitted to Dr. A.E. Clough, President of the I.O.O.F. Home trustees, by Sioux Falls architect Joseph Schwarz called for a 44x120 foot building, estimated to cost between \$25,000 and \$30,000.³⁰ The architectural plans for the Odd Fellows Home in Iowa, using fireproof construction methods, were made available to Schwarz and the Trustees, and "it was finally decided to build after a modified plan of that home."³¹ Throughout the construction process, Schwarz "was ever ready to inspect material and the work of construction and...took a lively interest in every part of the work."³² The Odd Fellows Home was built to be "a strictly fireproof building of modern construction, complete with steam heating by the most up-to-date method; complete plumbing and water service; also piped for gas and conduits for electricity," even though Dell Rapids did not establish a Light and Power Company until 1914.³³ It was built with reinforced concrete floors with maple flooring on the upper stories, steel and concrete stairs and partitions, asbestos shingles, and its stone walls were "reinforced with one foot of hard burnt hollow brick laid together with corrugated metal strips."³⁴ It had a dining room, kitchen, laundry, boiler room, fuel room, vegetable room, refrigerator, store rooms, and staff quarters in the basement. On the first floor was a reception area, Matron's quarters, reading room and male facilities. On the second floor were a nursery, sitting room, two infirmary rooms, and female facilities, and in the attic was space for storage and quarantine rooms.³⁵ Natural lighting would come from exterior windows, entrance hall glass doors, transoms over interior doors, and windows on the stairwells.³⁶ The Garner Construction Co. out of nearby Madison, SD, with subcontractors the Paulson Brothers (masonry), Dallison and Ward (cement), the Sims-Powers Company, and Nesby and Sons (finishing)—many of which were headed by I.O.O.F. members—built the Home.³⁷ Trustee Walter Crisp oversaw much of the construction in person and the Rebekah lodges were charged with providing for the Home's furnishings.³⁸ The grand lodge broke ground on May 22, 1910 and the cornerstone dedication was held on July 14, 1910.

The cornerstone dedication was a large affair. The Grand Lodge held its annual meeting for 1910 in Sioux Falls so that they could take trains to Dell Rapids for the dedication. Other special trains were arranged to bring other members and spectators from around the region. According to the Dell Rapids newspaper, it rained that day, but around 800 people on foot plus others in cars and carriages paraded up to the Home from the station downtown.³⁹ Bands accompanied the procession from Dell Rapids and Madison. The foundation

²⁸ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1909), 4003; *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 2 Dec 1909, 18 May 1911.

²⁹ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1910), 4214.

³⁰ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 6 Jan 1910.

³¹ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 18 May 1911.

³² *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge*, (1911), 150.

³³ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1910), 4215; Sanborn Map Company, *Insurance Map of Dell Rapids, Minnehaha County, South Dakota*, Sheet 1, January 1911, October 1927-December 1936; Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 101.

³⁴ Sanborn Map Company, January 1911, October 1927-December 1936; *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 18 May 1911; *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1910), 4215.

³⁵ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1910), 4215-4216; *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 6 Jan 1910.

³⁶ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1910), 4215.

³⁷ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge*, (1911), 150; *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 18 May 1911.

³⁸ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 18 May 1911.

³⁹ The Grand Lodge, however, estimated around 2500 attendants. *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 21 July 1910; *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1911), 149.

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and basement walls had been completed and the Sioux Quartzite cornerstone was laid with an extensive time capsule of various Odd Fellows records and memorabilia. Dr. Clough's address from the dedication was re-printed in the paper along with the reporter's account of the time capsule.⁴⁰

The completed "grand edifice" itself was dedicated on May 17, 1911 (receiving the entire first and most of the third page of the Dell Rapids paper the next day), and the first residents, referred to as "guests," arrived on July 20, 1911.⁴¹ The final cost was reported both as \$35,111.16 and as \$37,049.59.⁴² The building's dedication also arranged for special trains from Sioux Falls and other cities, as well as a parade from the station with the Patriarchs Militant, South Dakota cantons, chevaliers from Minnesota, and bands from Madison, Mitchell, and Dell Rapids, all accompanied by attendees in carriages and automobiles.⁴³ After the presentations, the Home was opened for visitors to inspect the building. Despite hot winds blowing dirt through the air that day, and a recent severe storm, estimates reported in the paper put attendance between 6,000 and 8,000 people.⁴⁴ Some of the guests at the dedication were officials from Minnesota, North Dakota, and Nebraska, as well as board members and the girls orchestra from the Odd Fellows Home in Mason City, Iowa.⁴⁵ A large stand was placed at the front of the building and addresses were given by Trustees and Grand Lodge leadership including this reflection re-printed in the newspaper the next day:

And, this edifice, erected by human hands, prompted by human love, will stand through the coming years is a token of our faith in that universal law. Would it were worthier and its resources so vast that we could throw wide its welcoming doors and invite to its hospitality all the unfortunates of this new state to come and find comfort and peace and calm contentment within its sheltering walls.⁴⁶

The Home was a successful operation and quickly grew to the point where more capacity was sought. By 1913, the Trustees had broached the possibility of purchasing additional land, and a cemetery was considered in 1914.⁴⁷ The Reverend George Haskell, a past grand master from Michigan, gave over 100 lectures to raise money to purchase additional land.⁴⁸ A plan, initialized in 1919, removed the laundry and power generating operations from the basement to a separate outbuilding in 1923, freeing space in the basement for other uses. The new power plant building was also designed by Joseph Schwarz and connected to the main building through a tunnel.⁴⁹ The Odd Fellows chairman C.J. Bach submitted a request for bids to the publications *Engineering & Contracting* and *Public Works* for a contractor to install the "steam heating, plumbing, and wiring of new power house. Jos. Schwarz, archt."⁵⁰ At its completion, the power plant had a laundry, a furnace room, five bed rooms, reception room, and a boys work room.⁵¹

The Sioux quartzite front gate was also constructed around the same time, being dedicated in 1923 to Dr. Alonzo E. Clough, a past Grand Master of the I.O.O.F. in South Dakota, and Harvey J. Rice, past Grand Master and Grand Secretary. The gate and front drive served to differentiate the Home from the growing town and added to the intentionally grand impression presented to visitors and community members.

⁴⁰ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 21 July 1910.

⁴¹ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 18 May 1911; *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1911), 181-203; *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1912), 48.

⁴² *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1911), 62; *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 18 May 1911.

⁴³ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 11 May 1911.

⁴⁴ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 25 May 1911.

⁴⁵ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1911), 144; *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 11 May 1911.

⁴⁶ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 18 May 1911.

⁴⁷ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1913), 183; 1914, 151.

⁴⁸ *Argus Leader* (Sioux Falls), 27 June 1933.

⁴⁹ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1919), 166; May 1920, 112; *Odd Fellow World* 30(7) (July 1923), 8.

⁵⁰ "Bids Asked" *Engineering and Contracting* 58(6), (Chicago: 9 August 1922), 36; "Lighting and Power" *Public Works: Index* 53 (8 July 1922), 16.

⁵¹ *Odd Fellow World* 30(7) (July 1923), 8.

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DAILY LIFE IN THE HOME

Beyond the ideals that motivated the Odd Fellows to build a Home for dependent children and the elderly, the history of daily operations and conditions in the Home presents a full picture of the social role that the Home played in providing care for its residents and of how those operations were sustained over the years.

In its second year, a 1912 Dell Rapids *Journal* article lists nineteen children and five elderly as residents, the 1920 census lists twenty-one children and eight elderly, the 1930 census lists twenty-one children and eighteen elderly, and a 1937 report lists ten children and thirty-six elderly.⁵² Over the years the Home's residents totaled around 100 children and 150 elderly between 1911 and 1935.⁵³ The elderly ranged in age from fifty-three to eighty-two years old and were entirely Anglo-American in 1920, but from a mix of Anglo-American, Swedish, German, and French Canadian families in 1930.⁵⁴ In comparing the lists from the 1920 and 1930 census, the ages of the children ranged from five to fourteen years old and then from ten to nineteen years old.⁵⁵ They came primarily from South Dakota, but also from Canada, Indiana, and Illinois. They came to the Home from various family circumstances resulting from the 1918 influenza epidemic, economic hardship from the Depression, and losing one or both parents to scarlet fever, tuberculosis, pneumonia, or childbirth.⁵⁶ The Grand Lodge of South Dakota also anticipated that World War I would result in additional orphans in need of care.⁵⁷ The 1918 influenza epidemic made some children orphans but affected life at the Home as well, resulting in several of the adult staff, adult residents, and thirty-five children of the Home becoming ill, though none died as a result.⁵⁸ How children left the Home was just as important as how they arrived. By law, surviving parents could remove children at any time, so, in 1921, the Home Board instituted a policy that legal guardianship was signed over to the Home when the children came to them, and the children were discharged when they reached an adult age or when a single parent got re-married.⁵⁹

The Home later obtained additional land parcels, totaling 172 acres, and a combination of staff and residents ran the farm, both to supply the Home and to sell products locally. They had Brown Swiss cattle, milking cows, hogs, chickens, crop fields, a garden, and an apple orchard to help supply the Home with pork, eggs, poultry, fresh and canned vegetables and fruit.⁶⁰ For instance, in the 1919 Proceedings of the Grand Lodge it was noted that the Home had twenty acres of pasture, eight acres of alfalfa, three acres of potatoes, and the rest of the acreage in corn and oats; steer, hogs, calves, horses, and chickens; as well as a lumber wagon, light wagon, two carriages, bobsleds, manure spreader, drag, harrow cart, mower, cultivator, plow, and potato digger.⁶¹ A large barn, according to historic photographs, stood to the south and a hog house stood to the northwest of the power plant.⁶² In 1919, they finished erecting an implement building/machine shed, and in 1920 a silo.⁶³

Throughout the Home's operation, the staff members were essential to the care given. In 1920, the Home had a superintendent, a matron, a kitchen helper, a laundress, a seamstress, and a cook—the kitchen helper was

⁵² Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 78; U.S. Census Bureau, *Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920*. (Washington D.C., 1920); U.S. Census Bureau, *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*. (Washington D.C., 1930).

⁵³ Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 78.

⁵⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, 1920; U.S. Census Bureau, 1930.

⁵⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, 1920; U.S. Census Bureau, 1930.

⁵⁶ Dunkle, "Home Kids," 44.

⁵⁷ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1918), 325.

⁵⁸ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1919), 164.

⁵⁹ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1920), 130; 1921, 168.

⁶⁰ *Argus Leader* (Sioux Falls), 27 June 1933; Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 78; Dunkle, Amy. "Home Kids." *South Dakota Magazine* (July/August 2001), 43.

⁶¹ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1919), 165.

⁶² Collections of Dell Rapids Society for Historic Preservation.

⁶³ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1919), 164; *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1920), 111.

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Danish and the rest were Anglo-American.⁶⁴ They had a man, William Andrews, overseeing farm operations in 1919 who was perhaps not an official staff member.⁶⁵ In 1923, the *Odd Fellow World* noted that the Home had a new matron, Ella Kingery, and that having a male farmer was "absolutely necessary" for their growing farming operations.⁶⁶ The matron, Eleanor (or Ella) Kingery, had replaced a woman reportedly dismissed for excessive punishment of the children.⁶⁷ In 1930, the workers included Ella Kingery, two cooks, a laundress, a governess (all female), and a male farmer; the farmer and one of the cooks were Norwegian immigrants.⁶⁸

The children worked on the farm as they were able, generally dividing the work between the Home and the farm by conditions of age and gender.⁶⁹ The children walked to school, walked back to the Home for lunch and dishwashing, scrubbed floors, planted potatoes, butchered the animals their kitchen used, and the older ones sometimes worked on other local farms.⁷⁰ They received lessons in etiquette and moral education at the Home, having worship and sermons in the parlor and scriptural lessons at meals.⁷¹ The children also attended church weekly and were able to choose between the denominations as they or their families wished (the organization was predominately Protestant).⁷² The children played with the Home's dog Buster, rode the horses and pony on the farm, had a phonograph, got a radio in 1923, learned sewing and cooking (girls) and gardening (boys), took music lessons, performed concerts in-house and for assorted I.O.O.F. meetings, had an outdoor playground, played baseball and croquet, had Easter baskets and visits from Santa, and shared handmade toys.⁷³ Later, at least one of the children worked for the Civilian Conservation Corps, and several of the children fought in World War II (their service is memorialized in a line of flag poles along the front drive of the Home).⁷⁴

Special events added to the social experience of the Home's residents and also served as fundraising opportunities for the Home's Trustees. In 1919, the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge remarked that "the Home, to the maintenance of which we have given our sacred promise, is one of the practical representations of the principles upon which our Order is founded."⁷⁵ That year, the I.O.O.F. annual encampment was held in Sioux Falls and on the second day the entire assembly traveled up to Dell Rapids to visit the Home and was treated to a parade from the depot, a hymn by the children, a tour by the Dell Rapids' Rebekah lodge, dinners around town, and a program in the City Park.⁷⁶ The publications of the I.O.O.F. Grand Lodge of South Dakota consistently reported on the numbers of residents, deaths of the elderly residents, special events like Santa's visit in 1920 and a wedding in 1925, as well as expressing their pride in and encouraging financial and volunteer support for the Home.⁷⁷ Special funds were set up for residents' birthdays, clothing, and food.⁷⁸ In 1936, when the financial situation was particularly hard, the *Odd Fellow World* noted that various lodges around the state were holding card parties and dances to raise money for the Home.⁷⁹ Leadership

⁶⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, 1920.

⁶⁵ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1919), 171.

⁶⁶ *Odd Fellow World* 30(12)(December 1923), 4.

⁶⁷ Dunkle, "Home Kids," 45.

⁶⁸ U.S. Census Bureau, 1930.

⁶⁹ Van Ormer, "Odd Fellows"; Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 78.

⁷⁰ Dunkle, "Home Kids," 45; *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1920), 111.

⁷¹ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1920), 133.

⁷² *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1919), 164.

⁷³ Dunkle, "Home Kids," 45; *Odd Fellow World* 30(3) (March 1923), 2; *Odd Fellow World* 32(8) (August 1925), 4; *Argus Leader* (Sioux Falls), 27 June 1933; *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1920), 128.

⁷⁴ Dunkle, "Home Kids," 46.

⁷⁵ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1919), 44.

⁷⁶ *Ibid*, 135.

⁷⁷ *Odd Fellow World* 28(1) (January 1921), 3; *Odd Fellow World* 32(2) (February 1925), 7.

⁷⁸ *Odd Fellow World* 44(3) (March 1937), 2.

⁷⁹ *Odd Fellow World* 43(7) (July 1936), 3; *Odd Fellow World* 43(4) (April 1936), 12; *Odd Fellow World* 43(6) (June 1936), 4.

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encouraged members to visit the Home to see the fruit of their donations, volunteer their services in person, and even hang pictures of the Home in their regular meeting places.⁸⁰

The Odd Fellows Home ceased to be an orphanage after 1947. A new addition was attached to the south elevation in 1959. In 1964, it converted from a retirement facility to a nursing home open to all members of the public.⁸¹ The building underwent an interior renovation in 1985, continued to serve as the Odd Fellows Nursing Home, and was subsequently sold to the Dell Rapids Community Hospital (later the Dells Area Health Center) in 1998. It was vacated in 2003 and sold to the current owner in 2006.

FRATERNAL ORDERS AND SOCIAL WELFARE

Fraternal orders that provided insurance, orphanages, retirement homes, and other social services were incredibly important for the young families of growing Great Plains communities who had only distant ties to their extended kinship networks. They also provided social control in a political climate increasingly anxious about populist and socialist movements. The I.O.O.F. was an organization formed in its American incarnation in 1819 in Maryland for male Anglo-Americans—those with British or older American ancestry.⁸² Fraternal orders were commonly created for specific immigrant, racial, or religious communities.⁸³ Historian, David T. Beito, has argued that most fraternal orders promoted similar conservative codes of values including “thrift, self-reliance, reciprocity, self-government, and civility,” combined with gender (and racial) exclusivity, in order to create stability and downplay the influence of political and class differences.⁸⁴ As discussed above, similar rhetoric surrounded the establishment of the Odd Fellows Home in Dell Rapids.⁸⁵

Fraternal orders began founding institutions for social welfare in the mid-nineteenth century and there was a “tide of orphanage building that characterized most parts of the country in the 1880’s and 1890’s.”⁸⁶ According to a 1925 article on child welfare programs of fraternal orders and churches, the earliest fraternal order institutions were a Masonic orphanage in 1850 in California, and a Jewish orphan asylum established by the Independent Order of B’nai B’rith in 1855 in New Orleans.⁸⁷ Most fraternal orders took time to raise support and funding—building most of their institutions in the first decade of the twentieth century when social organizations like fraternal orders were at the height of their popularity.⁸⁸ Alternatively, many orders instead created systems of health or life insurance for their members. One historian has given a “conservative estimate” that one-third of adult males were members of a fraternal order in 1910.⁸⁹ In 1909, there were forty-four other Odd Fellow Homes across the country, with another twelve proposed including locations in Europe, Canada, and Australasia.⁹⁰ In 1925, the Odd Fellows was one of thirteen different orders providing organized care for children and the elderly, and the Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids was one of ninety-three such fraternal institutions nationwide.⁹¹ One of the common criteria of eligibility for fraternal homes like those of the Odd Fellows, was your own or your parents’ membership in the order or its auxiliary.⁹² They took in children who were orphans or had a single parent who could not care for them, and kept the children until the parent

⁸⁰ *Odd Fellow World* 43(7) (July 1936), 2; *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota I.O.O.F.* (Grand Lodge of South Dakota, 1914), 53.

⁸¹ Van Ormer, “Odd Fellows”; Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids’ Attic*, 78.

⁸² David T. Beito, “To Advance the ‘Practice of Thrift and Economy’: Fraternal Societies and Social Capital, 1890-1920,” *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 29(4) (Spring 1999), 585.

⁸³ Beito, “To Advance,” 585-586.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, 586-597.

⁸⁵ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge*; Hastings, *Fraternal Philosophy*.

⁸⁶ Areson and Hopkirk, “Child Welfare Programs,” 86.

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*, 86.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*, 87.

⁸⁹ Beito, “To Advance,” 585.

⁹⁰ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1909), 3975.

⁹¹ Areson and Hopkirk, “Child Welfare Programs,” 87.

⁹² *Ibid.*, 87, 90.

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remarried, an extended relative's family could take them, or until the child reached adulthood.⁹³ Few were in the business of arranging adoptions. Generally speaking, into the 1920s, institutions created by fraternal orders did not have staff trained as professional social workers and there was "a widespread dislike of the 'red tape' of social work which [fit] in conveniently with an impulsive desire to do something immediately effective as an outlet for aroused altruism."⁹⁴ At the same time, nationwide, Progressive Era activists began working to professionalize areas like social work within governmental institutions and asylums, and increasingly within church-sponsored institutions.⁹⁵

Geographer, William B. Meyer has also made arguments that social welfare institutions like fraternal order homes often had particular spatial roles in late nineteenth century cities that can be examined in terms of elevation. He found that before the automobile and good roads became firmly established, higher elevations around nineteenth-century cities had little residential or commercial development and commonly hosted "other land uses—such as parks, large residential institutions, and extractive and nuisance industries."⁹⁶ For institutions, "their size and campus design relegated them to the edge of town, bleak at first for want of trees, but later shrouded in parklike semiseclusion."⁹⁷ For instance, in studying Worcester, Massachusetts, Meyer noted that its Odd Fellows Home was located "on a donated upland site north-northwest of downtown."⁹⁸ In Dell Rapids, the Odd Fellows Home is similarly located on the edge of an outcrop of higher elevation northwest of the original city grid. State leadership of the Odd Fellows took great pride in its beacon-on-a-hill setting that overlooked the town, river, and surrounding country, while still being convenient to railroad transportation, good agricultural land, and schools.⁹⁹ The *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune* noted that some of those who attended the dedications on July 14, 1910 and May 17, 1911 did so by automobile, the first of which had only arrived in town within the previous few years.¹⁰⁰ The technological advancement of the car soon opened the outskirts of early-twentieth century towns to increased development.

DELL RAPIDS AND SIOUX QUARTZITE

Dell Rapids Township was surveyed in 1859 and first homesteaded by several Norwegian farmers in 1868.¹⁰¹ The town of "Dell City" was later formed on the Big Sioux River in 1871, though its name changed to Dell Rapids with the arrival of a post office in 1872.¹⁰² In local business, town leaders had a flour mill and dam operating in 1872, a business district established by 1875, and a Sioux quartzite quarry up and running from the earliest days.¹⁰³ The town had a ferry in 1874, a territorial road from the Minnesota line west to Fort Thompson on the Missouri River passed through Dell Rapids in 1877, and the first train arrived on September 17, 1880.¹⁰⁴ In 1880, Dell Rapids had a population of 993 people (with around 180 eligible voters).¹⁰⁵ Fraternal organizations were a key opportunity for social interaction among the residents of the young and aspiring town, the first being the Odd Fellows Lodge No. 8 formed in 1876 with the corresponding Coralynn Lodge No. 21 Daughters of Rebekah forming in 1893.¹⁰⁶ Later, other social organizations formed in Dell

⁹³ Areson and Hopkirk, "Child Welfare Programs," 90-91.

⁹⁴ Ibid, 95.

⁹⁵ Ibid, 95.

⁹⁶ William B. Meyer, "The Poor on the Hilltops? The Vertical Fringe of a Late Nineteenth-Century American City," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 95(4) (December 2005), 773, abstract.

⁹⁷ Michael P. Conzen, "Understanding Great Plains Urbanization Through the Lens of South Dakota Townscapes," *Journal of Geography* 109 (2010), 12.

⁹⁸ Meyer, "The Poor on the Hilltops?" 781.

⁹⁹ *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge* (1910), 4214.

¹⁰⁰ *Dell Rapids Times & Tribune*, 14 July 1910, 17 May 1911.

¹⁰¹ Dana R. Bailey, *History of Minnehaha County, South Dakota* (Sioux Falls, SD: Brown and Saenger, 1899), 998.

¹⁰² Bailey, *History of Minnehaha County*, 1007.

¹⁰³ Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 6-7, 21.

¹⁰⁴ Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 40-41; Bailey, *History of Minnehaha County*, 1008.

¹⁰⁵ Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 7.

¹⁰⁶ Robinson, *History of South Dakota*, 517-518; Bailey, *History of Minnehaha County*, 1030-1031.

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Rapids included a Masonic lodge in 1882, a Grand Army of the Republic post in 1883, a Knights of Pythias lodge in 1890; a Modern Woodmen of America camp in 1892, a Women's Christian Temperance Union in 1894, the Order of the Eastern Star in 1895, a Women's Relief Corps in 1895, and a Good Templar lodge first in 1877 then permanently in 1895.¹⁰⁷ By 1899, the city had four newspapers, three banks, six Protestant and one Catholic churches, and a telephone company.¹⁰⁸ The city added a gas plant in 1905 and had meters in use by 1908.¹⁰⁹ The first Dell Rapids Light and Power Company was organized in 1914, but the Northern States Power Company took over and finished installing the first electric street lights in 1920.¹¹⁰ Main Street was not paved until 1925 despite automobiles arriving at least by 1909.¹¹¹ The Odd Fellows Home came to Dell Rapids as the town was growing and in the process of stabilizing the infrastructural and social systems needed to support such an institution.

In Dell Rapids, the key significant industry through its history has been the quarrying of Sioux quartzite stone. Sioux quartzite is found in a cluster of veins throughout southwestern Minnesota and southeastern South Dakota. It varies between purple, pink, and grey colorations and is incredibly durable. By 1884, the McBain quarry in Dell Rapids employed 121 men with fifty specializing as stonecutters, and, with the other companies who also started quarries there, in 1886, employed 300 men.¹¹² They worked on processing the stone for building materials, interior furnishings like tabletops, and for paving stone. An 1888 fire downtown resulted in many wooden structures there being replaced with quartzite buildings.¹¹³ The height of the quarry industry in Dell Rapids came in the early 1900s, with the employment of 500 men of Eastern U.S., Scotch, Norwegian, African-American, and Chinese backgrounds, as well as the wider use of steam-powered machinery.¹¹⁴ Stone was shipped by rail across the upper Midwest. The industry declined with World War I, changing architectural trends, and the Great Depression's effect on the business climate generally. Quarry operations continue to produce paving stone, ballast, and sand products.

ITALIAN RENAISSANCE

The Odd Fellows Home's Main Building and the Power Plant were built respectively in 1910 and 1923, and they were designed by prominent Sioux Falls architect Joseph Schwarz, who practiced from the late 1880s to the 1920s. Many of his earliest buildings were Richardsonian Romanesque and made of Sioux quartzite. The Odd Fellows Home is done in Sioux quartzite, but in an Italian Renaissance classicist style that Schwarz's firm began using more frequently for the institutional and public commissions they received later in his career.

From 1890 to 1915, the Italian Renaissance Revival style was primarily used with large and elaborate "architect-designed landmarks."¹¹⁵ Revivals reflected a renewed interest in conservative European architecture after the "picturesque" Victorian architecture of the late-Nineteenth Century.¹¹⁶ Common features of Italian Renaissance Revival include a hipped roof at a low pitch, arches, columns, symmetrical facades, tripartite divisions of space, flat roofs and balustrades, wide eaves and brackets, recessed porches, quoins, and stringcourses.¹¹⁷ Elements of Italian Renaissance seen on the Odd Fellows Home include the low hipped roof,

¹⁰⁷ Bailey, *History of Minnehaha County*, 1031-1034.

¹⁰⁸ Bailey, *History of Minnehaha County*, 1020-1028; George W. Kingsbury, *History of Dakota Territory*, vol. III (Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing, 1915), 318.

¹⁰⁹ Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 38.

¹¹⁰ *Ibid*, 101.

¹¹¹ *Ibid*, 43.

¹¹² Nighbert, *From Dell Rapids' Attic*, 21.

¹¹³ *Ibid*, 21.

¹¹⁴ *Ibid*, 22.

¹¹⁵ Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, [1984] 2000), 398.

¹¹⁶ Rachel Carley, *The Visual Dictionary of American Domestic Architecture* (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1994),

176.

¹¹⁷ McAlester, *A Field Guide*, 397-403.

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recessed flat-roof porch with balustrade and columns at the entrance (though altered, still present in the current building), a symmetrical tri-partite façade, stone stringcourses to separate the floors, and wide eaves with brackets.¹¹⁸ The 1910 Odd Fellows Home departs from textbook Italian Renaissance Revival by using rusticated Sioux quartzite construction instead of polished stone masonry, and differentiating the first from the upper floors not by the texture of the stone, but by switching from coursed to random ashlar masonry. It also is simpler, without elaborate entablature or finely detailed ornamentation, likely due to the architect's prior expertise in the Romanesque style and the Odd Fellows' budgetary constraints. The power plant is a much simpler building but similarly uses quartzite and limestone in a Renaissance style with quoins and decorative bands of limestone above the first floor windows and near the cornice. The front entrance gate with its symmetrical quartzite piers and the extended, tree-lined entrance drive also conform to the impression of the Home as an estate.

JOSEPH SCHWARZ

Joseph Schwarz worked in Sioux Falls, Dakota Territory from the early 1880s through the 1920s; one of the 'first-generation' architects who had learned the trade through apprenticeship rather than higher education. He was born in New York City in 1858 to German parents, grew up in La Crosse, Wisconsin, and worked for his father's carpentry business as well as for a local construction contractor.¹¹⁹ He came to Dakota Territory and settled in Sioux Falls in the early 1880s when its population was growing from 2,164 in 1880 to 10,167 in 1890—presenting many opportunities for an aspiring architect.¹²⁰ He was successful, and by 1901, had advertised in *The Minneapolis Journal* for a draftsman to work for him, and his sons also worked as draftsmen for him in their early careers.¹²¹ He worked at 112 ½ N. Phillips Avenue in downtown Sioux Falls and lived at 212 S. Prairie Avenue, Sioux Falls, in a neighborhood of predominately Anglo-American professionals and merchants.¹²² Through much of his career, Schwarz's main professional competition was Wallace Dow; both became experts in masonry construction using the locally available Sioux quartzite for Richardsonian Romanesque architecture. Dow had arrived in town first and also had the additional advantage of being Anglo-American, Protestant, and connected with many of the prominent politicians and businessmen in the territory.¹²³ Throughout his career, Schwarz, as a German Catholic, received many commissions for Catholic churches across the region. Schwarz's firm obtained an increased number of public commissions for university and civic buildings in the twentieth century, as Sioux Falls and the region continued to grow, and after Dow retired in 1905. By then Schwarz had a more established reputation—particularly after the 1899 four-story Richardsonian Romanesque Jewett Brothers warehouse in Sioux Falls.¹²⁴ In 1907, the local paper credited him with being the oldest practicing architect in Sioux Falls.¹²⁵ By the time of his death, his obituary stated that "his reputation...extended all over this section of the northwest and he was one of the best known and respected citizens of Sioux Falls for a long period of years."¹²⁶

¹¹⁸ McAlester, *A Field Guide*, 397, 409.

¹¹⁹ David J. Wishart, ed., *Encyclopedia of the Great Plains* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2004), 94.

¹²⁰ His obituary reported that he came in 1881 and his biography in the 1899 county history says he came and opened his business on May 15, 1884. *Argus Leader* (Sioux Falls), 28 December 1925; Bailey, *History of Minnehaha County*, 684; U.S. Census Bureau, *Tenth Census of the United States, 1880* (Washington D.C., 1880); U.S. Census Bureau, *Eleventh Census of the United States, 1890* (Washington D.C., 1890).

¹²¹ *The Minneapolis Journal*, 4 May 1901; U.S. Census Bureau, 1920; U.S. Census Bureau, *Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910* (Washington D.C., 1910).

¹²² Polk-Avery Directory Co. *Sioux Falls City Directory 1910* (Sioux Falls, SD: Polk-Avery Directory Co., 1910), 249; U.S. Census Bureau, 1910; U.S. Census Bureau, 1920.

¹²³ Michael Bedeau, Correspondence by phone, 4 May 2011.

¹²⁴ David Erpestad and David Wood, *Building South Dakota: A Historical Survey of the State's Architecture to 1945* (Pierre: South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 1997), 127.

¹²⁵ *Argus Leader* (Sioux Falls), 25 November 1907.

¹²⁶ *Daily Argus Leader* (Sioux Falls), 28 December 1925.

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According to a preliminary inventory of his commissions in South Dakota, Nebraska, and Iowa, he designed at least twenty-two Catholic churches or parish buildings, twenty schools or university buildings, sixteen commercial or warehouse buildings, six Carnegie libraries, six other public buildings, five residential properties, four county courthouses, and four churches of other denominations. Using stone, and to a lesser degree brick, masonry, his early work was predominately Romanesque with some use of the Gothic style—the latter for churches in particular. He continued to build in Romanesque style with Sioux quartzite, but also transitioned into using Indiana limestone both on Italian Renaissance hotels and public buildings, as well as on Neoclassical Carnegie libraries, courthouses, churches, and school buildings. Two of the courthouses, in Moody County, South Dakota, and Lyon County, Iowa, used the exact same plans. He also designed a few residential homes including his own in 1888 and a \$2,500 six-room "prize home" for the local paper in 1908.¹²⁷ His sons, Henry J., Edmund A., and Joseph Jr. worked as draftsmen and then as architects in their father's firm, and Henry, at least, went to the University of Pennsylvania for architecture around 1900 and returned to work for his father.¹²⁸ They represented the 'second-generation' of Dakota architects who had university-training and often came in with professional firms instead of as individuals. His sons' university training influenced some of the Schwarz firm's later buildings; his son Henry is said to have chosen the Italianate style for the 1912 Central Fire Station in Sioux Falls.¹²⁹ Joseph Schwarz died in 1925 and was buried at the Sioux Falls Catholic Cemetery, and his son Joseph Jr. carried on the firm at least through the mid-1930s.¹³⁰

¹²⁷ "Historic Avenues in Sioux Falls, South Dakota," Planning and Building Services Department, City of Sioux Falls (February 1983), 20; *Argus Leader* (Sioux Falls), 7 September 1908.

¹²⁸ U.S. Census Bureau, 1910; U.S. Census Bureau, 1920; Erpestad and Wood, *Building South Dakota*, 127.

¹²⁹ Erpestad and Wood, *Building South Dakota*, 178.

¹³⁰ *Argus Leader* (Sioux Falls, SD), 28 December 1928; "Historic Avenues," 20.

Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids
Name of Property

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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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: South Dakota State Archives
Siouxland Heritage Museums, Sioux Falls

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): MH00001314

Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids
Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3.3 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>14</u>	<u>683462</u>	<u>4855430</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

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

The boundaries of the property include Lots 1 and 2 (parcels #1-04-09-126-002.000 and #1-04-09-126-003.000) in Tract A of the Health Center Addition (formerly the I.O.O.F. Home Addition), Dell Rapids.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are based on the current land parcel boundaries that encapsulate the core complex of buildings historically associated with the Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Liz J. Almlie
organization South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office date December 9, 2011
street & number 900 Governors Drive telephone 605-773-6056
city or town Pierre state SD zip code 57501
e-mail Liz.almlie@state.sd.us

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids
Name of Property

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Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids

City or Vicinity: Dell Rapids

County: Minnehaha County

State: South Dakota

Photographer: Liz Almlie

Location of Original Digital Files: South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0001
East façade of 1910 Building, camera facing west.
Date Photographed: April 6, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0002
North elevation of 1910 Building, camera facing south.
Date Photographed: April 6, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0003
West elevation of 1910 Building, camera facing east.
Date Photographed: August 10, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0004
East elevation of 1923 Power Plant, camera facing west.
Date Photographed: April 6, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0005
East and north elevations of 1923 Power Plant, camera facing southwest.
Date Photographed: August 10, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0006
West and south elevations of 1923 Power Plant, camera facing northeast.
Date Photographed: August 10, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0007
East elevation of 1959 Wing, camera facing west.
Date Photographed: August 10, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0008
East and south elevations of 1959 Wing, camera facing northwest.
Date Photographed: August 10, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0009
West and south elevations of 1959 Wing, camera facing northeast.
Date Photographed: August 10, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0010
North and west elevations of the 1910 Building and the north elevation of the 1959 Wing, camera facing southeast.
Date Photographed: April 6, 2011

Odd Fellows Home of Dell Rapids
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SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0011
Entrance drive and 1923 Front Gate, camera facing east.
Date Photographed: April 6, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0012
1923 Front Gate, entrance drive, and east façade of the 1910 Building, camera facing west.
Date Photographed: April 6, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0013
Orchard, camera facing east.
Date Photographed: August 10, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0014
South and east elevations of mid-1950s Garage, camera facing northwest.
Date Photographed: April 6, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0015
Front doors to the 1910 Building, inside the enclosed porch, camera facing west.
Date Photographed: April 6, 2011

SD_Minnehaha County_Odd Fellows Home_0016
The front hallway entrance in the 1910 Building, camera facing west.
Date Photographed: April 6, 2011

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Rasmusson Properties, LLC
street & number 128 W. Carmel Lane telephone 605-367-1132
city or town Sioux Falls state SD zip code 57108

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications 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.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

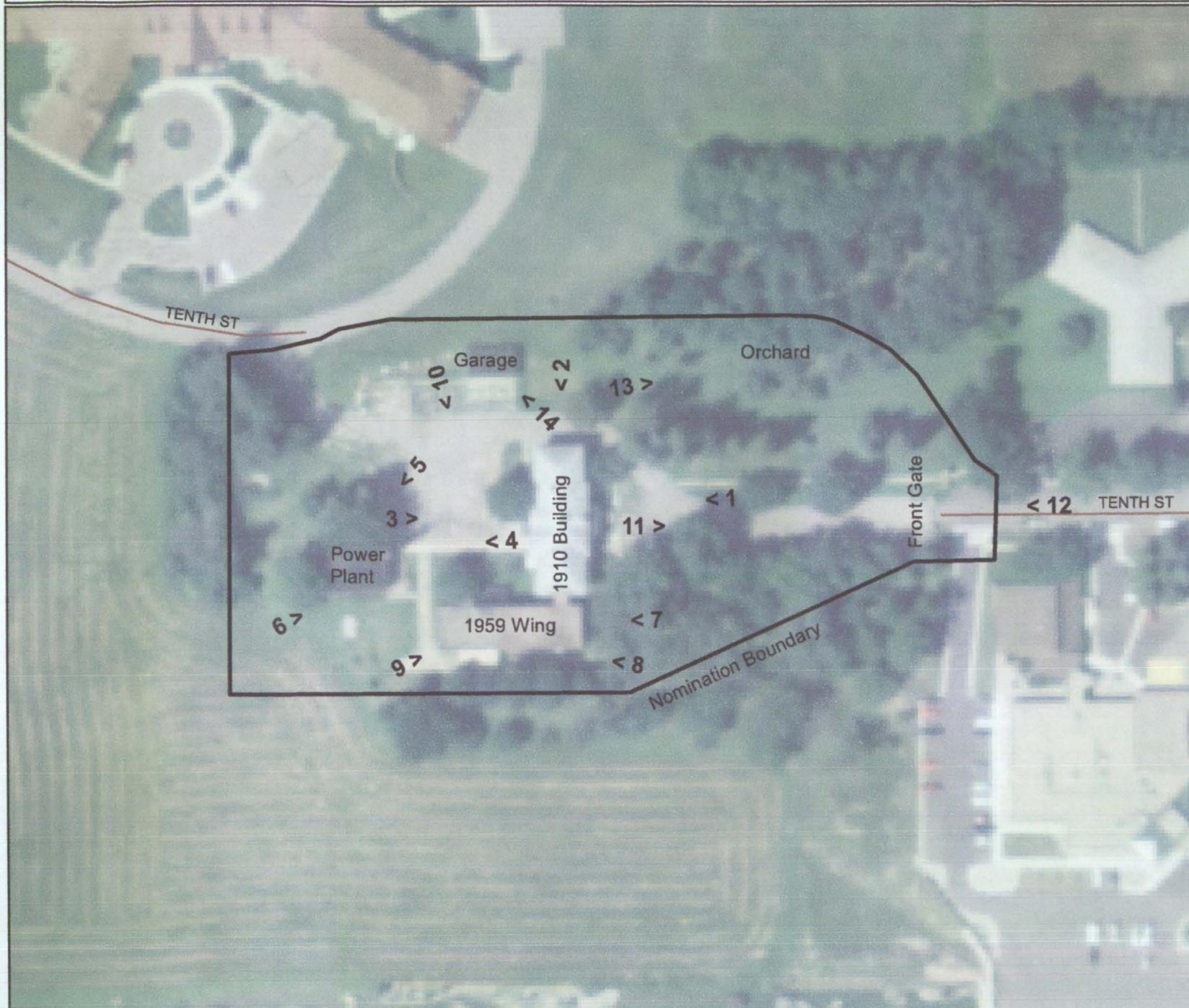
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION REVIEW MAP



Legend

Local Roads(NSTRI) - DOT

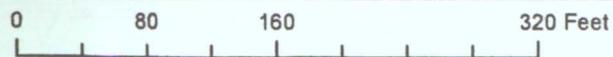
- By Surface Type**
- Minimum Maintenance
 - Graded or Gravel Surface
 - Hard Surface Roads
 - National_Register_Boundary
 - 1 > = Photo Location



NOMINATION FOR:

Odd Fellow Home of Dell Rapids,
Dell Rapids,
Minnehaha County

SOUTH DAKOTA
COUNTIES

















Small sign on the brick wall, likely containing the name of the building or institution.



















DELIVERIES
FOR
DAHC
NURSING HOME
100 W. 10TH ST

OFFICE 6

SECOND