

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Hardeman Barns

other names/site number Moseley Hereford Ranch, 48TE1706

2. Location

street & number 5450 W. Highway 22 N/A not for publication

city or town Wilson N/A vicinity

state Wyoming code WY county Teton code 039 zip code 83014

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
5	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
5	1	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Ranching, Farming, and Homesteading in Wyoming, 1860-1960

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Agriculture/Subsistence/ animal facility

Agriculture/Subsistence/ animal facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: concrete
walls: log, wood
roof: metal
other:

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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 Hardeman Barns are a highly visible landmark along Highway 22 in Wilson just south of Grand Teton National Park. The buildings were built in 1930-1945 as part of a working ranch and include the main barn, bunkhouse, pump house, horse barn, and bull barn. Each of the buildings is constructed with logs with board and batten siding found on the gable ends. The prominent main barn was built by Wesley Bircher, a notable builder responsible for several barns in the area. The main barn features a dramatic gothic arch roof that was a hallmark of Bircher's barns. Currently the land is held in a conservation easement by the Jackson Hole Land Trust and the buildings are used for the operations of the Teton Raptor Center.

There was a ranch house on the property north of the horse barn. This house was removed sometime after 2001. It does not appear that any other buildings were added or removed from the property after the period of significance. Since the property is being nominated for the architectural significance of the remaining buildings, the loss of the house does not detract from the integrity of the property. The buildings are all in relatively good condition and retain a large amount of historic material. The horse barn and machine shed have each been renovated for use by the Teton Raptor Center. These renovations do not detract from the overall historic integrity of the property. As a whole, the district retains the vast majority of its historic materials and notable design features. Despite some residential development in the area, the immediate surroundings and large-scale views are still characterized by open spaces. The barns are located on approximately 27 acres of open space that is protected by a conservation easement.

Narrative Description

The Hardeman Barns complex contains six main features constructed between ca.1930 and 1945. The main barn, which is composed of two parts, is the centerpiece of the property. Other contributing elements include the horse barn, pump house, bunk house, and bull barn. The raptor barn (formerly machine shed) is considered non-contributing due to recent alterations. The buildings share common elements of log construction, some board and batten siding, and metal roofs.

Main Barn ca. 1935, 1945, contributing building.

The main barn was built in two distinct sections that are easily distinguished by the shape and height of their respective roofs. The north section features a broad gothic arched roof and the south section has a central gable roof with flanking shed roofs. Both sections are of log construction with wood chinking and boxed corners. The upper levels are covered with board and batten siding. The logs and board and batten have been painted red. The north section is taller than the south and has a commanding presence on the site.

The north section was designed and built in 1945 by prominent local builders Andy and Wesley Bircher. The Birchers are known to have built several prominent barns throughout the valley such as the ones at the Delta Q Ranch, Vandewater Ranch, and the Trail Creek Ranch. One of the trademark characteristics of their designs is a long, sweeping gothic roof as seen on the north section of the main barn. The roof sweeps down to the eaves at the top of the first story and is slightly flared along its bottom edges. The roof is oriented on a north-south axis and is covered with corrugated metal sheets. A cupola centered on the top of the roof has louvered vents. Additionally a gabled dormer with louvered vents faces west in the southern half. A secondary gable roof extends slightly west at the south end of the west elevation. This gabled roof is not original to the building. A triangular hood extends north over the hayloft on the north elevation.

The north elevation of the north section has a sliding wood door on a metal rail on the east half of the first floor. East of the door are two six-pane wood windows. The board and batten gable end features the painted 'HR' brand that is visible from the highway to the north. Above and below this emblem are large wood doors for loading hay up into the loft. The top door has vertical boards with diagonal and horizontal braces and has the brand 'C2-' painted on its face. The door is mounted on vertical metal rails that allow the door to slide up and down. Two six-pane and two four-pane wood windows flank the center bay of the gable end.

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The east and west elevations of the north section only have one story below the eaves of the arched roof. The east elevation is punctuated by five single-pane windows. At the south end of the elevation is a single wood pedestrian door. The west elevation has three single-pane windows similar to those found on the east elevation. The southern half of the elevation has a slightly protruding gable supported by knee brackets. Three openings with wood doors are found in this section. The south elevation connects to the south section of the barn and has one, single-pane window.

The south section of the barn is lower than the north and has a central gable roof with flanking shed roofs. A central cupola with louvered vents sits atop the central gable. The east and west elevations each have six, single-pane windows. A metal staircase on the south elevation leads up to a large opening that historically served to load hay up into the hayloft, but now serves as a primary pedestrian entry. Above this entry is a two-pane window. The first floor on the south elevation has two entries into the barn. West of the staircase is a pedestrian entry and east of the staircase is a large wood door mounted on an overhead metal rail.

Horse Barn ca. 1942, contributing building.

The horse barn is directly east of the main barn and is adjacent to the entry drive to the property. It has a gambrel roof clad in 5V metal roofing and is oriented on an east-west axis. A small shed roof section extends from the south elevation. Like the main barn is log construction with lapped corners and board and batten on the gable ends. Synthetic chinking is visible on the exterior, while wood chinking is visible on the interior. The entire barn rests on a concrete foundation. The horse barn was completely renovated for use as office space about ten years ago.

A wood deck leads to the main entry door on the west façade. The door opening is centered in the main part of the barn. A larger opening containing paired, four-over-four, double-hung, wood windows is directly above the door. Above this, in the gable end, is an opening with two, four-pane awning windows. The shed roof section contains two pedestrian entries that give access to restrooms. The east elevation has the same characteristics as the west façade except the shed roof section only has one pedestrian entry.

The north elevation has a central door opening that contains a shortened door and a four-pane awning window. Two additional four-pane awning windows flank this central opening. The south elevation consists of the shed roof section and contains three, four-pane awning windows.

Pump House ca. 1930, contributing building.

The pump house sits directly west of the main barn. It is of log construction with wood chinking and boxed corners. The gable roof is clad in 5V metal roofing. A brick chimney is located near the southeast corner. Log purlins are visible on both the north and south elevations. The entire building rests on a concrete foundation.

The only entry to the building is on the north end of the east façade. The entry has a sliding wood door and is partially sheltered by a small gable projection. The north, south, and west elevations all contain a single window opening. These windows on the south and west elevations are boarded over, while the opening on the north elevation has paired, four-pane, wood windows.

Bunk House ca. 1935, contributing building.

The bunk house is located northwest of the main barn. It is topped by a gambrel roof with corrugated metal roofing and has a brick chimney on its northeast corner. The walls are log construction with lapped corners and wood chinking. The building rests on a concrete foundation.

The east façade is divided into two unequal sections by the protruding log ends of an interior log wall. The south section is larger and has a large opening that has been framed in and covered with plywood. It is not known when the opening was filled, but it does not appear to be original. The north half of the façade has a single pedestrian entry.

The north elevation has two centered window openings. The main level window has paired six-pane wood windows, and the paired windows in the gable end are boarded over. The first floor window also has a protruding boxed screen. Unlike other buildings, the gable end on this elevation is clad with metal fish scale shingles. This decorative treatment is not

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found on any other buildings in the district. The gable end on the south elevation is covered with board and batten siding and is devoid of any openings. Round log purlins are visible on each of the gable ends.

Much like the east façade the west elevation is divided into two sections by the protruding ends of an interior log wall. Each section has a single window opening. The north opening has paired six-pane casement wood windows, while the south opening has a single six-pane wood window.

Bull Barn ca. 1935, contributing building.

The bull barn lies to the east, and is slightly separated from the rest of the buildings in the district. It has a simple gable roof on an east-west axis covered with 5V metal roofing. A concrete foundation supports the building and the walls are log with lapped corners and wood chinking.

The south façade is divided into three sections by the protruding ends of interior log walls. The middle section was historically open, but is now filled with plywood panels. A photo from 2005 shows this section open. The north elevation is likewise divided into three sections, but is devoid of any openings. The east and west elevations are identical. Each contains a single opening in the gable end that has been boarded over, board and batten gable ends, and visible log purlins.

Machine Shed (Raptor Barn) rebuilt 1990, altered 2009, non-contributing building.

The current building was rebuilt by a former tenant, then was completely renovated in 2009 and now serves as a raptor barn. It has a gable roof on a north-south axis covered with 5V metal roofing. The walls are clad in board and batten siding and the foundation is concrete.

The east elevation was historically open and served as entrance for machinery into the shed. During the 2009 renovation this elevation was enclosed with board and batten siding. Seven window units are found in this elevation. Entries to the building are found on the north and south elevations. The west elevation contains six window units. The windows and doors in the building were installed during the 2009 renovation and are not historic. Due to the large scale material changes made to the building it is considered non-contributing.

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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.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1930 – 1945

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Bircher, Wesley

Criteria Considerations N/A

(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 ranges from ca. 1930-1945. The beginning of the period of significance coincides with the construction of the first buildings on the property. Due to the utilitarian nature of many ranching/agricultural buildings it is often difficult to determine an exact date of construction for these resources. It is generally thought that several of the buildings on the property were built during a transitional period that began in the late 1920s and continued through the 1930s. The period of significance continues to 1945 which is the construction date of the south section of the main barn. This was the final building to be constructed on the site.

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Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

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

The Hardeman Barns stand as striking visual icons of the rich ranching past of Jackson Hole. They are a visual reminder of the ranching past in the valley. Even as an increasing amount of development has occurred in the surrounding area the barns have been preserved and are landmarks in the community. Hardeman Barns meets the registration requirements of the Ranching, Farming, and Homesteading in Wyoming, 1860-1960 Multiple Property Documentation Form. The property is eligible under criterion C for its local significance in architecture. From the homestead era, through a period of gentleman farming, to its association with one of the last prominent ranching families in the area, this property has had an ongoing association with the ranching lifestyle. This complex of barns and functional buildings is an intact collection of buildings commonly found on working ranches in the area.

Under criterion C the barns are an excellent example of log construction often found on ranching properties. In particular the north section of the main barn stands out as an icon of barn construction in Jackson Hole. Designed and built by prominent local builder Wesley Bircher the barn has been cited as the inspiration for other barns in the area such as the one on the Hunter Hereford Ranch (NR listed 8/24/1998). Overall, the buildings all share a common and distinctive vocabulary of materials and design.

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

The Hardeman Barns sit on land that was originally homesteaded by George Goodrick in 1905. After arriving in Jackson Hole, Goodrick married Katherine Wilson, the daughter of "Uncle Nick" Wilson, who was one of the earliest homesteaders in the area and lent his name to the community of Wilson. Typically during this time ranches in Jackson Hole consisted of grazing a modest amount of cattle and putting up hay. They tended to be relatively small, self-sufficient operations that sought to make ends meet by sending enough livestock over Teton Pass for market.¹

By the end of the 1920s the land was involved in several transfers of ownership. During this time many ranches fell upon hard times as prices for cattle dropped following the end of World War I. Many of the smaller operations in the valley were unable to remain self-sufficient and a period of consolidation began. Then, with the onset of the Great Depression cattle prices plummeted and many ranchers were unable to continue. Calf prices dropped from \$12.60 per hundredweight in 1929 to \$4.10 in November, 1934. Although the number of ranches decreased, the overall number of cattle remained stable.² The larger ranches that could afford to do so, bought out the smaller ranches in order to expand their herds and land holdings. In general the self-sufficient model of the earlier homesteaders was giving way to a more market based model.

During this time of transition it appears that Goodrick transferred ownership to various family members in a series of transactions. The property then passed into the holdings of Mose Giltner, who boasted the largest herd of cattle in the valley at one time. In 1937 the property was acquired by Henry Weston. It is thought that during this transition period the south portion of the main barn, the pump house, bunk house, and bull barn were built.³

Major C.C. Moseley

Major Corliss Champion Moseley was born July 21, 1894, in Boise, Idaho, and was raised on a nearby farm. As the United States entered World War I, Moseley answered the call to service and enlisted in the aviation section of the Signal Corps. He was trained to fly at the School of Military Aeronautics in Berkeley, California, and saw combat over the front lines. After the end of the war, Moseley quickly made a name for himself in the aviation community. He won the inaugural International Pulitzer Air Race on Thanksgiving Day in 1920. The race was considered the foremost event in air racing. Moseley went on to set several speed records in airplanes.

¹ Michael Cassity, Mosely Hereford Ranch/Hardeman Ranch Barns Teton County Historic Site Survey, 2005, pg 400.

² John Daugherty, *A Place Called Jackson Hole*. Grand Teton National Park, Moose, WY, 1999, pg 152.

³ Cassity, pg 399.

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Following the end of the war, Moseley was placed in charge of the Air Corps schools under the direction of General Billy Mitchell, and was also a test pilot for new Army planes developed by the engineering division at Dayton, Ohio. In 1924 he organized and was the first commanding officer of the California National Guard, Air Unit in Los Angeles. Moseley ended his career in the Army in 1925.

Moseley then went to great success in the aeronautics industry taking on leadership roles in several companies. He was a founder of Western Air Express (later Western Airlines), vice-president and western manager of Curtiss-Wright Airport Corporation, and a director of Maddux Airlines. He was also involved with Douglas Aircraft and American Airlines. At around 1930 he started his first private flying school, the Curtiss-Wright Technical Institute (later Cal-Aero Academy) to train airplane technicians, mechanics, and engineers. In 1952 he founded the Grand Central Rocket Company, a predecessor of Lockheed Propulsion Company.

As hostilities increased in Europe in the late 1930s, Moseley and two others were asked to set up flying schools to help train pilots and mechanics. By 1941 Moseley had founded the Polaris Flight Academy in Lancaster, California, and the Mira Loma Flight Academy in Oxnard, California. At these schools, in addition to his existing Curtiss-Wright Technical Institute, it is estimated that 25,000 pilots and 3,500 mechanics were trained for the United States Air Force and an additional 2,500 pilots were trained for the Royal Air Force.⁴

Then in May, 1941, Moseley came to Jackson Hole lured by stories from his father who had visited the valley on horseback in earlier decades. Moseley became enamored with the place and began to buy property. He put together an extensive ranching operation purchasing the Charter Ranch in Spring Gulch, the Aspen M near Teton Village, the Red Rock Ranch in the Gros Ventre, the Hatchet Ranch, the ranch in South Park that became the polo grounds, and the subject property.

Moseley began to build his cattle operation with the subject property as its headquarters. His operation specialized in the production of purebred Hereford cattle. His cattle went on to win several awards. A photograph found in the collection of the Cattle Raisers Museum in Fort Worth, Texas, depicts "Reserve champion Hereford female, Lady Domino, owned by Moseley Hereford Ranch, Wilson, Wyo."⁵ Moseley also became a strong supporter of the Teton County 4-H and Boy Scouts. A college scholarship for Teton County 4-H members still bears his name. It was during Moseley's ownership that the north section of the main barn and the horse barn were constructed.

Moseley's ranch was not totally unusual and is representative of the emergence of so-called gentleman ranchers in Jackson Hole. "These were people who had made fortunes in other enterprises, bought up cattle ranches and other lands for a variety of reasons-but did not depend on cattle ranching for their livelihood."⁶ During the 1930s and 40s gentleman ranchers such as Stanley Resor, president of the prominent advertising firm, J. Walter Thompson Company; the Cockrell family, who prospered in the oil industry; and the Hunters, owners of several retail auto businesses, bought up ranches in Jackson Hole. Many of these ranchers originally came to the valley as tourists and guests of the various dude ranches in the area. Although these gentleman ranchers began their operations generally as a hobby, they found themselves part of the larger trend of land consolidation that had already begun in the area. As other smaller operators were unable to continue, the land was bought up by the larger operations.

These gentleman ranchers could afford to buy up large amounts of land and weren't necessarily dependent on these operations as their primary source of income. As a result they could also afford to build structures for more than simple utilitarian needs. They could build structures that were showcases for their ranching operations. Hardeman Barns represents both the utilitarian realities of early settlers as well as the more showy desires of the gentleman ranchers.

Moseley began to sell off his land holdings in Jackson Hole in the 1950s as his focus shifted to raising thoroughbred horses in California. He once wrote that his "ambition is to raise a Kentucky Derby winner."⁷ It seems that he dedicated himself to this pursuit. In 1971 he even patented a treadmill for horses for the purpose of more efficiently providing a cooling down period after a race or workout. By the end of the 1950s Moseley has sold most, or all, of his land in Jackson Hole. He sold the subject property to Gerritt and Lamar Hardeman in 1956.

⁴ "C.C. Moseley - Rancher and Aviation Pioneer," *Jackson Hole News*, June 27, 1974, pg 10; "Corliss Champion Moseley," http://www.dmairfield.com/people/moseley_cc/index.html. Accessed August 1, 2014.

⁵ "Lady Domino, Champion Hereford Female" Found at <http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph43980/>. Accessed August 6, 2014.

⁶ Daugherty, pg 160.

⁷ "C.C. Moseley - Rancher and Aviation Pioneer," *Jackson Hole News*, June 27, 1974, pg 10.

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The Hardeman Family

Gerritt Hardeman was born in Holland and arrived in the United States in 1911 when he was 19 years old. After spending about a year and a half in Iowa he came west and settled in Jackson Hole. He then worked a variety of jobs for several people in the area including Bobby Miller, Pierce Cunningham, and Bill Kelly. These jobs were hard manual labor and generally consisted of logging, building fences, and hauling freight. By 1919 Hardeman had saved enough money to buy the homestead of Charles and Helena Davis for \$2,500. After buying the homestead he continued to work other jobs, most notably hauling freight, in order to make ends meet. This was a common pattern for homesteaders as they tried to establish themselves on the land.⁸

In 1922 Hardeman married Alta Lamar Crandall. Together they built up a self-sufficient homestead. They kept a milk cow and chickens, raised a garden, and killed wild game. In the 1920s they began to raise cattle to sell at market. They sent their first cows to sell in Omaha, but did not receive the return that they were expecting. Small operations like the Hardemans could not afford to travel with their cattle to market, so they would commission the larger operators to transport their cattle. The Hardemans often lamented their lack of control when the cattle left their property and felt that they were not getting a fair price as a result.

In 1926 the Hardemans expanded their holdings by filing on a 280 acre property that the original homesteader had not been able to fully settle. With this extra acreage and the frustrations of sending cattle to out of state markets, they decided to focus on establishing a herd of purebred Herefords for local sale. Typically purebred operators sell their cattle to other area ranchers looking to improve their stock. They started with four or five purebred cows and were one of the earlier purebred operators in the area. Over the following decades they steadily increased their holdings. In 1943 they bought the adjacent Luther Taylor homestead and additional property from William Taylor. In total they owned 640 acres on their ranch.

As their resources and herd grew so did their reputation for the quality of their cattle. In an oral history interview Earl Hardeman, son of Gerritt and Lamar, recalled that they "first just sold to people in the valley and later on when he got bigger, people come from Pinedale. He sold a lot of cattle in Sublette County, Dubois, and places like that over the years."⁹ In 1948 experts from the University of Wyoming claimed that their cattle were among the best in the state.¹⁰

The Hardemans continued to operate on their property until 1955 when they sold their land to the National Park Service for \$100,000 to be included in Grand Teton National Park. As part of the sale they retained a ten year lease on the property, which allowed their sons, Earl and Howard (Howdy) to continue ranching on the land. By this time they had established themselves as a prominent family in the valley with a large and respected ranch. In an interview Lamar Hardeman said, "Gerritt always felt we would have a good living when we had 12 head of breeding cows. We had increased our herd to around 200 head when we sold to the National Park Service."¹¹

The Hardemans bought the subject property in 1956 from Moseley and continued their purebred Hereford business even as ranching declined. Through the second half of the twentieth century ranchers in Jackson Hole, such as the Hardemans, faced increasing development pressures. As the local economy became more tourism based, the land values increased dramatically. Many ranchers found that they could sell off their land and retire, or purchase a larger ranch elsewhere. When discussing the decline of ranching in the valley Earl stated in a 1981 interview that "in another 20 years you won't see a mother cow (raised) in Jackson Hole." Despite the desire to see ranching and its way of life continue, the high land values and development pressures make it difficult for many ranchers to justify continuing their operations.¹²

In 1977 Gerritt Hardeman passed away and management of the ranch fell to his four children: Earl, Howard (Howdy), Marie, and Helen. Earl and Howdy continued to run cows on the property, but they increasingly veered away from the purebred Hereford business. In a 1992 interview, Earl stated that he would typically buy cows in Idaho in the spring, then

⁸ Daugherty, pg 159; Earl Hardeman Oral History, 1981, 1988, and 1992. Found at Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum.

⁹ Earl Hardeman Oral History, 1992. Found at Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum.

¹⁰ Daugherty, pg 159.

¹¹ "Hardeman Barns History", Found at <http://view22.jhlandtrust.org/hardeman-barns-history/>. Accessed March 6, 2014.

¹² Earl Hardeman Oral History. 1981. Found at Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum.

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sell them in the fall to a couple ranchers from Nebraska. This allowed him to limit expenses and not have to take care of the cows in the often harsh winter.¹³

The pattern of development seen at the Hardeman Barns is a familiar one in Jackson Hole with homesteaders operating a small farm and ranch that was subsistence rather than market oriented. Then the agricultural depression of the 1920s and the Great Depression following it brought a consolidation of land that altered the pattern of land use. The ranches typically became market operations, and in this case, became focused on purebred cattle. Even when the land returned to local family ownership, the operation had ratcheted up and this remained a showcase ranch.

Architecture

The main barn is a visual focal point of the complex and an icon of barns in the region. It was designed and built by Wesley Bircher who was responsible for several other barns in the valley including the Delta Q Ranch, Vandewater Ranch, and the Trail Creek Ranch. The sweeping gothic-arched roof is a common element of all these barns and was a singular trait of Bircher's barns. While the full geographic scope of his building activities is not clearly known, he certainly had a wide influence within Jackson Hole. When William and Eileen Hunter set about developing the Hunter Hereford Ranch they reportedly instructed their architect to design a barn based on the north section of the main barn.¹⁴

Wesley Bircher grew up west of Jackson Hole on the other side of the pass that leads into the valley. His parents ran a livery station for travelers going over the pass. As a young man he moved to Jackson and set up shop as a carpenter and furniture maker. He was able to use his carpentry skills to build barns on local ranches and is generally credited with building seven barns in the valley.

Over time, framing systems of barns evolved to provide the largest possible volume in relation to a given amount of materials. During the late 19th and early 20th century, farmers and carpenters developed framing systems to help open up loft spaces. Many of the early advances in barn framing were the result of farmers and builders rather than architects and engineers. Barn builders such as Joseph Wing and John Shawver developed plank truss systems that became widely used. The Shawver system was adopted by Sears and became available for purchase as a barn kit. Other companies including Aladdin and Montgomery Ward also offered various barn kits that could be shipped out on railroad cars. Given the distance to the nearest rail head, it is unlikely that these kits were used in Jackson Hole. Ranchers in the valley had to rely on skilled builders like Wesley Bircher to design and build their barns.

Plans for gothic-arch roof barns emerged in the first decades of the 20th century. Agricultural engineers and the farm press touted the utility of the form and its ability to withstand high winds. However the complexity and cost of building it was a common issue for builders and property owners.

The process of building the gothic-arched roof barns is demanding and time-consuming. It requires soaking the rafters so they can be shaped to the proper contour for supporting the large roof. Despite the cost it is a system that has some practicalities as it allows for large open spaces clear of internal supports. This allows for easy and large-scale storage of hay in the upper portion of the barn. The large size of C.C. Moseley's herd necessitated an expansion of the existing barn. The arched design of the barn offered the maximum available volume to accommodate the needs of his ranch.

The main barn is not the only architectural feature of note. The other buildings are relics of their own times and functions that have been adapted to the changing needs of the ranch. It is the total arrangement of other buildings that came earlier and later that gives spatial texture to this ranch. It demonstrates that this was a real working ranch in Jackson Hole fashion that put to excellent use the humble buildings of the earlier generations.¹⁵

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

"C.C. Moseley – Rancher and Aviation Pioneer." *Jackson Hole News*, June 27, 1974.

¹³ Earl Hardeman Oral History. 1992. Found at Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum.

¹⁴ Ann Hubber, Janene Caywood, Kathryn Schneid. Hunter Hereford Ranch National Register Nomination, listed August 8, 1998.

¹⁵ Cassity, pg 400.

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Cassity, Michael. *Bridges in Time: A Survey of Historic Resources in Teton County 2004-2005*. Prepared for the Teton County Historic Preservation Board, 2005.

Cassity, Michael. *Wyoming Will Be Your New Home, Ranching, Farming, and Homesteading in Wyoming, 1860-1960*. Cheyenne, WY: Wyoming State Parks and Cultural Resources, 2011.

“Corliss Champion Moseley.” Davis-Monthan Field Register web site, accessed August 1, 2014, http://www.dmairfield.com/people/moseley_cc/index.html

Daugherty, John. *A Place Called Jackson Hole*. Grand Teton National Park: National Park Service, 1999.

“Hardeman Barns History.” View 22 web site, accessed March 6, 2014, <http://view22.jhlandtrust.org/hardeman-barns-history>.

Hardeman, Earl, Oral Histories conducted 1981, 1988, and 1992. Available at Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum.

“Hardeman One Tough, Fast-Talking Cowboy.” *Jackson Hole News & Guide*, February 26, 2003.

Hubber, Ann, Janene Caywood, and Kathryn Schneid. “Hunter Hereford Ranch National Register Nomination.” Listed August 24, 1998.

Lady Domino, Champion Hereford Female, Photograph, n.d.; digital image, (<http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph43980/> : accessed August 06, 2014), University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, <http://texashistory.unt.edu>; crediting Cattle Raisers Museum, Fort Worth, Texas.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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): 48TE1706

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 6.2 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 12 510431 4816006
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

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

The nominated boundary is bounded on the north by State Highway 22, on the east by a fence line that runs just east of the bull barn, on the west by the property line. The southern boundary is a straight line across the property approximately 660 feet south of the north boundary. The nominated boundary is depicted on an accompanying map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes all of the extant buildings and structures associated with the workings of the ranch. Existing features, such as fence lines, roads, and parcel boundaries are utilized as much as possible to define the boundary.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Brian Beadles
organization WY SHPO date _____
street & number 2301 Central Ave telephone 307-777-8594
city or town Cheyenne state WY zip code 82002
e-mail brian.beadles@wyo.gov

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.)

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: Hardeman Barns

City or Vicinity: Wilson

County: Teton

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Richard Collier

Date Photographed: June, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Overview of barns showing the main barn, bunk house, pump house, and machine shed, photographer facing northeast.

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1 of 19

Overview of barns showing main barn, bunk house, and pump house, photographer facing south east.

2 of 19

North and east elevations of the main barn, photographer facing southwest.

3 of 19

North elevation of the main barn, photographer facing southwest.

4 of 19

East elevation of north section of main barn, photographer facing west.

5 of 19

West elevation of main barn, photographer facing north-northeast.

6 of 19

South and east elevations of main barn, photographer facing northwest.

7 of 19

East elevation of south section of main barn, photographer facing northwest.

8 of 19

Northeast corner of horse barn with main barn in background, photographer facing southwest.

9 of 19

Northwest corner of horse barn, photographer facing southeast.

10 of 19

West façade of horse barn, photographer facing east.

11 of 19

East façade and south elevation of pump house, photographer facing northwest.

12 of 19

South and west elevation of pump house, photographer facing northeast.

13 of 19

East façade and south elevation of bunk house, photographer facing northwest.

14 of 19

North and west elevations of bunk house, photographer facing southeast.

15 of 19

West elevation of bunk house, photographer facing east.

16 of 19

Southeast corner of bull barn, photographer facing northeast.

17 of 19

North elevation of bull barn, photographer facing south.

18 of 19

Northeast corner of machine shed, photographer facing southwest.

19 of 19

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Property Owner:

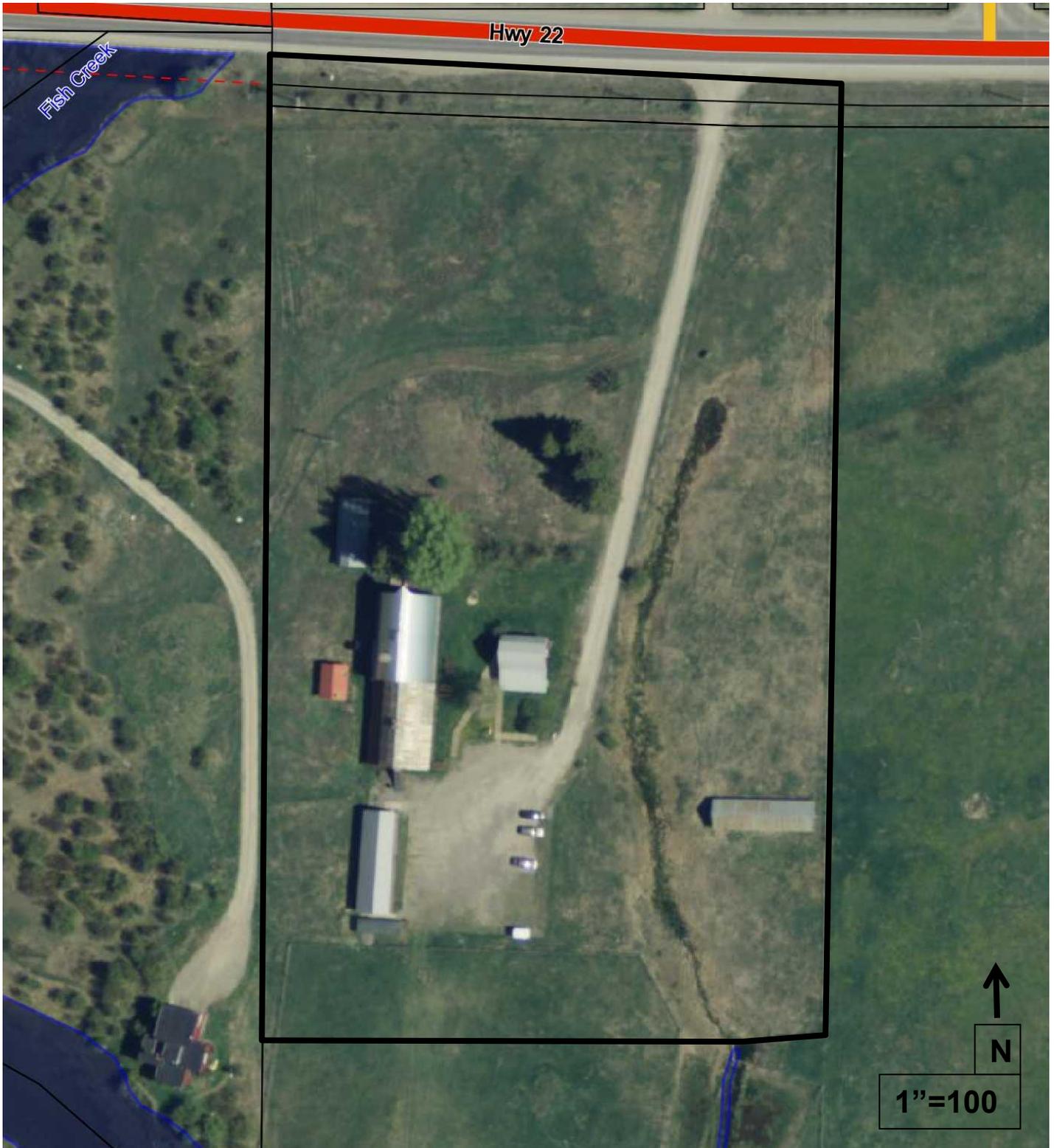
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Jackson Hole Land Trust
street & number P.O. Box 2897 telephone _____
city or town Jackson state WY zip code 83001

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.

Hardeman Barns
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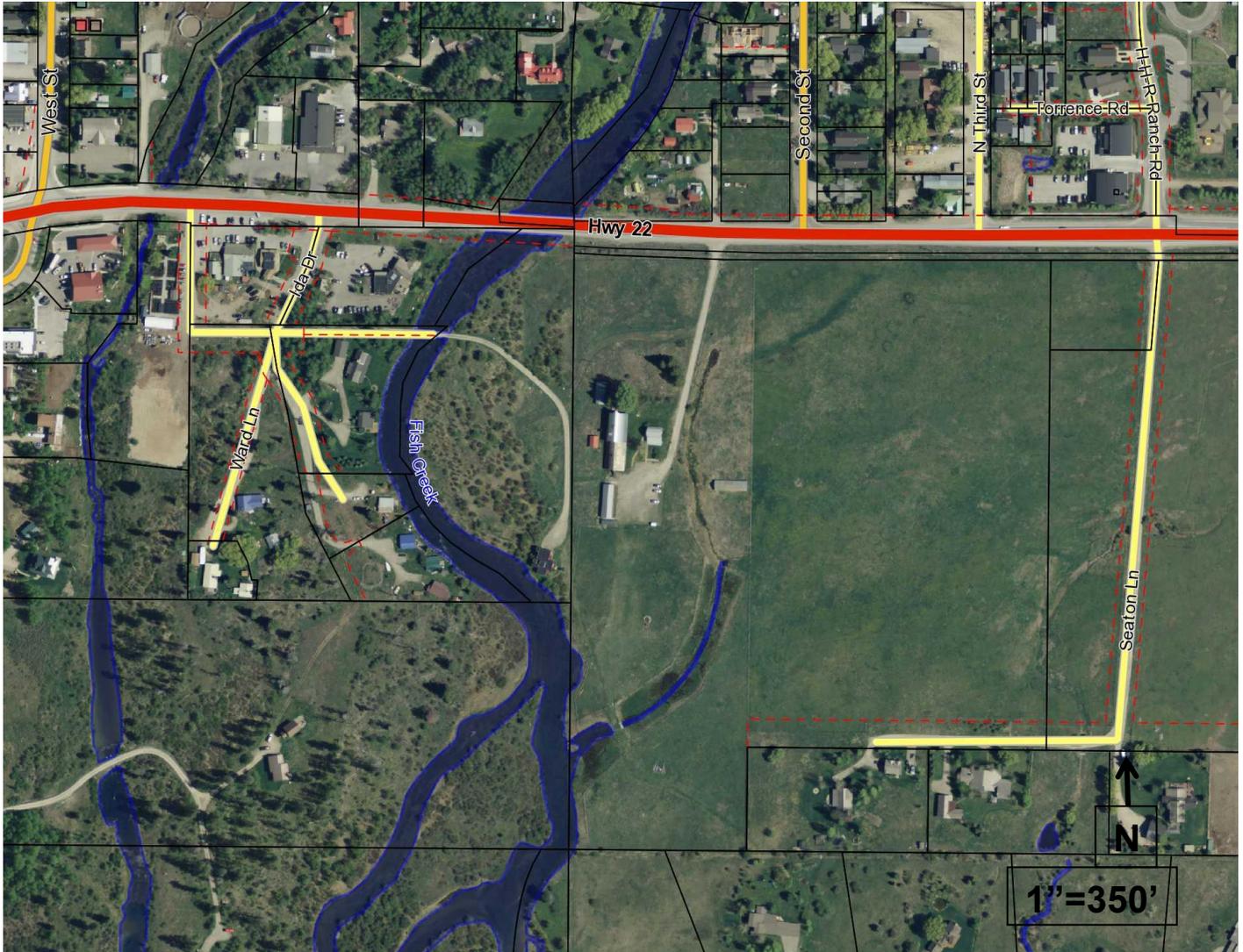


Site map of Hardeman Barns, Teton County, Wyoming.

Hardeman Barns

Teton County, WY
County and State

Name of Property



Map of Hardeman Barns, Teton County, Wyoming, showing the immediate surroundings.

Hardeman Barns

Teton County, WY
County and State

Name of Property



Hardeman Barns, Teton County, Wyoming, photo key.