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: Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape
   - other names/site number: Hargreaves Farm, 5PL.24

2. **Location**
   - street & number: Hwy 385 between CR 10 and CR 12
   - city or town: Holyoke

3. **State/Federal Agency Certification**
   - As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
     I hereby certify that this 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 meets the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
     - ___ national  ___ statewide  **x** local

     State Historic Preservation Officer
     Signature of certifying official/Title  Date

   - Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, History
     Colorado  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
Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape
Phillips County, CO

5. Classification

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Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter “N/A” if property is not part of a multiple property listing)
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Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
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6. Function or Use

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7. Description

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Narrative Description
Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape
Phillips County, CO

Summary Paragraph

The Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape District occupies the west half (320 acres) of Section 8 in Township 7N, Range 44W in Phillips County. The farm has been owned by the Hargreaves family since its establishment in the 1880s; single family ownership dating back to the nineteenth century is an extremely rare occurrence in Phillips County. Henry Hargreaves, an emigrant from Liverpool, England, filed a pre-emption claim on the southwest quarter of the section in spring 1887 and constructed a sod house and other farm buildings on the property. By the end of the year, he had broken twenty-four acres, seventeen of which had been planted. Henry Hargreaves received official title to the land in 1890. He expanded his property through a homestead claim on the northwest quarter of the section which he received title to in 1895. Unlike many of Phillips County’s early settlers who failed to make it through the drought and depression of the 1890s, Henry Hargreaves developed a highly successful farming and ranching operation, growing dryland wheat and raising beef and dairy cows. His achievements were touted in several promotional brochures published by the railroad. Henry retired around 1912 and his sons George and John Hargreaves took over farm management. In 1916, a large prairie fire destroyed most of the farmstead, with only the house surviving. Major rebuilding efforts soon followed with a new barn, corral, garage, water tank, silo, and stock tank constructed in the late 1910s/early 1920s. George died in 1943 and his sons Willis and James took over the farm. During the 1940s and 1950s, a garage, chicken coop, Quonset hut, granary, and grain bins were added to the farm. In 1964, the Hargreaves installed a new flood irrigation system on the farm, and switched crop production from dryland wheat to irrigated corn. Willis moved to Nebraska and his brother James bought his interest in the farm. James operated the farm with his wife Carol until his death in 1985. Carol currently lives out of state and rents the farm complex and surrounding land, which remain in agricultural production.

Narrative Description

SETTING

The Hargreaves Homestead is located approximately five miles south of Holyoke, the county seat of Phillips County. The farmstead complex is located on the east side of U.S. Highway 385, between County Roads 10 and 12. Located in northeastern Colorado, Sedgwick County borders Phillips County to the north, Logan County lies to the west, and Yuma County to the south. Chase and Perkins Counties in Nebraska border the county to the east. Part of the high plains, the climate of Phillips County is semi-arid with an average annual rainfall of around eighteen inches. The elevation of the Hargreaves Homestead is 3,752’. There is very little surface water in the county. The only waterway through the county is Frenchman Creek which forms a rough border between farmland to the north and the grazing land to the southeast. The northern part of the county is characterized by rolling plains covered with fields of wheat and corn while the southeastern portion is part of the Sand Hills region and utilized primarily for livestock operations, both cattle grazing and commercial hog farms. Agriculture is the primary industry in the county. Though a relatively small county (688 square miles), the land is intensively used with 432,154 acres in farms as of the 2007 agricultural census. Phillips County ranks eighth in Colorado in the total value of agricultural products sold, with profits divided almost equally between crop and livestock sales. Its top products are corn for grain (with 109,900 acres harvested in 2010), winter wheat (with 105,600 acres harvested in 2010), and cattle (with 33,000 head in the county in 2010). Grain storage is an important part of the agricultural economy, as well as the visual landscape, with 15,716,110 bushels of grain storage in the county.

A countywide reconnaissance survey of unincorporated Phillips County was completed in 2011, providing a context for evaluating the Hargreaves Homestead. The survey recorded 270 farmstead complexes with historic elements. The characteristic Phillips County farmstead is modest, neatly organized, and Midwestern in character. Most buildings are frame, painted white or red. The typical farm includes a one or one-and-a-half story house, a gable-roofed or gambrel-roofed barn, a garage, metal grain bins, a corral, a Quonset hut, a machine storage shed, a workshop, a chicken coop and one or more large windbreaks. The Hargreaves Homestead includes all these features. Compared to other farms in...
Phillips County, the Hargreaves Homestead retains higher than average number of original resources with a less than average amount of modern alterations.

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE FEATURES

Land Use Activities: Originally rolling prairie, Phillips County’s native grasses were home to large herds of buffalo, antelope, and deer. The nomadic Arapaho and Kiowa utilized the area as a hunting ground. These Native American groups were moved to reservations in Oklahoma and Wyoming in the late 1860s and were replaced by cowboys trailing cattle through the region. Homesteaders arrived in Colorado in the mid-1880s, breaking up the sod and converting prairie land to farm land. The soils are sandy and silt loams. The sandier soils are well-suited to corn and the silt loams to wheat production. In his pre-emption testimony, Henry Hargreaves describes his claim as “prairie land, sandy soil, good quality for farming” (Land Patent File 8835). The primary land uses on the homestead have been grain farming along with a dairy and beef cow operation. Henry Hargreaves owned additional land to the south that was used for summer pasture, but brought his herd up to this property during the winter, with a pasture area located south of the corrals. When a flood irrigation system was installed in 1964, the Hargreaves switched crop production from dryland wheat to irrigated corn. This was a common shift in Phillips County. Some dryland corn had been planted previously in the county (and continues to be planted) but the average yield per acre for irrigated corn is more than double that of dryland corn making irrigation very attractive. In the 1980s, the Hargreaves replaced the flood irrigation with a center pivot irrigation system. This was a common shift and has dramatically altered the historic High Plains square pattern of the farm fields, creating large irrigated circles within the existing squares. A typical center pivot system has quarter mile radius and can irrigated 130 acres. This leaves the corners of the square fields (approximately 30 acres) unirrigated.

Boundary Demarcations: The district boundaries reflect the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) created by the federal government to administrate the survey, sale, and settlement of lands west of the original colonies. Used to subdivide and describe land parcels, the PLSS established a grid across the western U.S. based on 6-mile-square townships, which are then subdivided into 36 one-mile-square sections. The Hargreaves Homestead occupies the western half of Section 8 of Township 44N Range 6W. Henry Hargreaves acquired the land from the federal government under the Pre-Emption Act and Homestead Act, receiving the patent to the southwest quarter in 1890 and the northeast quarter in 1895. Most farms in Phillips County have grown from their original quarter section to cover multiple sections, but the checkerboard pattern created by the PLSS is still evident in the arrangement of fields and pastures and is easily visible in aerial photographs. Most of the county roads in Phillips County follow section lines, reinforcing the grid pattern. U.S. Highway 385 forms the western boundary of the property; County Road 12 forms the northern boundary and County Road 10 the southern boundary. Farm fields border the district on the east.

Patterns of Spatial Organization: The layout of the Hargreaves Homestead is typical of farms in Phillips County. A driveway leads from the highway to the house and then widens into a central work yard. All major buildings are clustered around the work area, with domestic features clustered around the house to the north and agricultural features clustered around the barn to the west and south. Large windbreaks shelter the farmstead complex from the frequent high winds on the plains. Windbreaks are situated to the north and west of the farm complex, the direction of prevailing winds. The windbreaks also form a partial boundary around the farmstead complex. Due to the flat topography, windbreaks are highly visible from a distance, indicating the location of farm complexes. The dense trees also provide some privacy. The farmstead is set further back from the road than is typically found on Phillips County farms with the house approximately 1,000 feet from the road.

Response to the Natural Environment and Vegetation Related to Land Use: Large, dense windbreaks composed of ponderosa and cedar are located to the north and west of the farm complex. Tree planting was an essential part of farmstead development on the plains. The flat, treeless topography of the plains offered no shade or relief from high winds. Trees made the farmstead much more pleasant, providing shade and blocking winds. They also provide habitat for wildlife and helped define the boundaries of the farmstead complex. During the Dust Bowl of the 1930s, the Soil
Conservation Service promoted windbreaks as a method for fighting soil erosion. The design of windbreaks became more formalized as many farmers began following their recommended designs. Windbreak trees have to be periodically replaced as trees die; the current windbreak trees were planted in the 1950s, but a historic photograph shows that trees were planted in the location of the windbreak along the north side of the drive as early as the 1920s. Maintaining a windbreak, especially through drought years, can be challenging due to the limited availability of water. Landscaping has also been used to define the domestic area of the farm. A grass lawn surrounds the house. Deciduous trees are located on the south and east sides of the lawn and along the north side of the barn, contrasting with the coniferous trees used in the windbreaks. There is little native plant growth on the farm, mostly small sections of native grasses around the corral or unirrigated corners of the farm fields.

The primary crop on the farm until the 1960s was winter wheat, which is well-suited to the region’s climate. Planted in the fall and harvested in early summer, winter wheat requires a cold period to produce grain. It could also be successfully raised as a dryland crop, since no waterways suitable for irrigation were located in the county. The development of drought resistant winter wheat varieties was essential to the agricultural development of the High Plains. Agriculture in the county changed dramatically with the development of pumps that could bring water up from the Ogallala Aquifer and new irrigation systems. Many farmers installed irrigation and switched from dryland wheat to irrigated corn production. Some installed flood irrigation, while others installed pivot irrigation. The introduction of center pivot irrigation also changed the appearance of the county’s farm fields, creating roughly 130 acre irrigated circles within the 160 acre square sections. The Hargreaves installed a center pivot irrigation system and moved to corn production in 1964. The homestead complex is now a narrow triangle of unfarmed land within two large circles of irrigated farmland. Crops are planted quite close to the farm building complex on the north and east, an example of farmers’ efforts to put the maximum amount of acreage possible into production.

Circulation Networks: The location of the farm on U.S. Highway 385 provides easy access to Holyoke, which offers large grain elevator facilities, farm supplies, as well as access to Highway 6. A dirt drive runs directly east from the highway to the house. The drive then turns south, with a series loops through the farmstead complex, providing vehicular access to all the buildings and structures. The drive is approximately ten feet wide. The drive separates the domestic area of the farmstead complex from the agricultural areas. In between the house and the barn, the drive expands to become a work yard. This space is large enough to temporarily hold horses, livestock, machinery, equipment, and vehicles, facilitating the movement of grain and livestock within and out of the farm complex. The work area also provided an area large enough for tractors, trailers, and other large vehicles to turn around. The drive exits the farmstead complex at the southeast corner, providing access to the farm fields.

Clusters and small-scale elements: The farm district includes several key functional groups. On a large scale, there is the cluster of buildings, structures, and objects that comprise the farm headquarters, grouped together at the southwest corner of the quarter section. Within the farmstead complex, features are clustered by function. The domestic or residential area on the north end of the complex includes the house, rear lawn, and clothesline. Trees are used to help define the residential area. The agricultural functions on the farm are clustered to the south of the domestic area, separated from it by a driveway and work yard (roughly 100’ x 60’). The agricultural cluster includes work areas, equipment storage, and grain storage with features centered on the barn. There are also smaller clusters within the agricultural cluster, such as the grouping of grain bins to the east of the barn. The farmstead complex likely once included a vegetable garden, but its location is unknown. Several wooden utility poles are scattered around the farm complex, carrying power lines to the farm buildings; lights are also mounted on the posts. No archaeological survey has been conducted of the farmstead complex, but due to continuous use and extensive ground disturbance there is likely limited archaeological potential.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

Site (established 1887): The Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape encompasses half of a section (320 acres). The farmstead complex is located at the northern edge of the southern quarter section. Two circles of irrigated
corn occupy most of the district. A sliver of the land where the Hargreaves farm complex is located has been left unfarmed within the southern circle. The corners of the district have either been farmed with dryland crops or left in grass. A dirt drive that roughly follows the boundary between the quarter sections leads from U.S. Highway 385 to the farm complex. A dense windbreak of ponderosa and cedar, roughly 850’ long, lines the north side of the drive. Another windbreak, roughly 275’ feet long, is located on the west side of the complex. The farm has been primarily dedicated to grain production along with dairy and beef cows. Dryland wheat was grown until 1964, when a flood irrigation system was installed and production shifted to irrigated corn.

Buildings

House (c.1900/1908; Photos 4-6): Located on the north end of the farmstead, the house (48’x 29’) consists of a single-story rear section constructed c.1900 and a larger one-and-a-half story section added to the west in 1908. The house is sheltered by a large windbreak located to the west. The house rests on a concrete foundation and is sheathed in horizontal vinyl siding. The original section of the house is rectangular in plan with a broken front gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The 1908 addition is the same width as the rear and is covered with side gabled roof covered in asphalt shingles. A brick chimney is located on the gable ridge of the 1908 section. All of the original doors and windows have been replaced. The doors are covered with metal storm doors.

On the west side, a hipped roof porch extends across most of the width of the facade. The porch roof is supported by three round columns resting on a concrete foundation. The front door is placed off-center and a picture window flanked by decorative shutters is located to the south. A large gabled dormer window with gable returns is centered on the side gable roof. A pair of one-over-one sash windows is located on the dormer.

On the south side, a picture window flanked by decorative shutters is located on the west side of the 1908 section and a bay window topped with a hipped roof is located to the east. A modern three-part window fills the bay. A horizontal sliding window is located on the gable end. A door is centered on the original section, flanked by horizontal three-part windows that extend the length of the original section. This used to be a side porch.

A picture window is centered on the east side with a small sliding window located to the north.

On the north side, the 1908 section contains two openings on the main level; one holds a sliding window and the other an air conditioner. Paired one-over-one sash windows are located on the gable end. A single sliding window is located on the original section.

The picture windows were installed in the late 1950s or early 1960s. Other windows in the house were replaced c.1950s-1970s. The original wooden floor of the porch floor was replaced with concrete c.1970s. The vinyl siding was also added in the 1970s.

Barn (1917; Photos 9-14): Located on the west side of the complex, the gambrel-roof barn (60’x56’) was constructed in 1917. Lean-tos are located on the north and south sides of the barn, creating additional breaks in the gambrel roof line. A loafing shed (58’x 20’) is connected to west side of the barn. This barn replaced a barn burned in a prairie fire the previous year. Phillips County survey results show that gable-roof barns were the most common type in Phillips County, but gambrel roofs were also very popular. The dual-pitch of the gambrel roof provided more loft storage space for hay, but was also more expensive to build since it was more complex. Historically, barns were the central feature of the farmstead and served a variety of functions. The Hargreaves barn was originally designed to hold horses, dairy cows, and hay along with some storage space for farm machinery. Stanchions for milking were located in the lean-to on the north side of the barn. The barn was also used as a shelter for calves in the spring. The barn sits on a concrete foundation. The barn retains is original horizontal wood siding and wood-framed windows. The original wood shingle roof was replaced with metal sheeting in the 1950s.

The east side has three openings; a large opening centered on the roof ridge and an opening at each of the lean-tos. The central opening is covered by a pair of wooden sliding barn doors; single sliding barn doors cover the smaller openings on
the lean-tos. A hay hood is located on the gable ridge. Beneath the hay hood is a large square opening that has been enclosed with wood siding. Small, four-light fixed windows flank the opening.

On the south side, there are two small, square opening with no glazing. A door is located on the west end of this side. It is covered with a sliding barn door and leads into the corrals located on the south side of the barn. The south side of the loafing shed also opens onto the corral, allowing livestock to move freely between the corrals and the shelter of the loafing shed.

There are no openings on the west side of the barn or loafing shed. A loading chute is located adjacent to the west end of the loafing shed. Beneath the gable on the west side are the letters "h h" are painted. This was the Hargreaves brand; the initials stand for Henry Hargreaves.

On the north side of the barn there are three small four-light windows on the barn. There are no openings on the loafing shed.

Garage (c.1940s; Photos 6-8): Located south of the house, the garage (20' x 30') was constructed in the 1940s. It replaced an earlier garage (described below) which was moved to the south of the farmstead. The rectangular building sits on a concrete foundation. The walls are clad in horizontal wood siding, and the saltbox roof is covered in metal sheeting which was added in the late 1980s. The west side of the garage has three garage doors made of wood. The north side has a door and a four-light window. The north side has two four-light windows.

Chicken Coop (c.1940s; Photo 8): Located south of the garage, the chicken coop (30' x 15') was constructed in the 1940s. After the Hargreaves stopped keeping chickens, the building was used for feeding bucket calves (a fenced enclosure was once located around it). Geese have also been kept in the building. The rectangular building sits on a concrete foundation and is clad in horizontal wood siding. The saltbox roof is covered in metal. The south side has two banks of windows at two different levels. Each bank of windows contains four, four-light wood windows. The south and east sides have doors constructed of the horizontal wood siding.

Claim Shanty (moved to the farm c.1910s-1920s; Photos 13-14): Located next to the silo, the claim shanty (11'x12') was moved to the farm from the Bessie Gassert homestead southeast of the farm in the Sand Hills. The original construction date is unknown. Homesteaders constructed claim shanties to meet the residence requirements of the Homestead Act. If the homesteader was successful, they would soon replace the claim shanty with a larger residence. The Hargreaves used the building as a shop/tool shed and later to store horse tack. The rectangular building sits on a concrete foundation and is clad in horizontal wood siding. The front gable roof is covered in wood shingles. The east side has a door, which has been replaced. The south side has a single four-light fixed wood window. The north side is not visible due to its location within the corral system.

Garage (c.1910s; Photos 17-18): Currently located at the south end of the complex, this garage (21'x15') was originally located closer to the house. It was moved and converted to a shop after it was replaced with a larger garage. Most recently, this building has been used to store irrigation equipment. The rectangular building sits on a concrete foundation and is clad in horizontal wood siding. The gabled roof is covered in metal. The fenestration appears to have been changed, but the dates are unknown. The south side has a wood panel door and four-light fixed wood window. The east side has a set of wood, double doors and infilled window.

Quonset Hut (c.1950s; Photos 18-20): Located at the southeast corner of the complex, the Quonset hut (35 'x 60') was constructed in the 1950s. Quonset huts were added to many farms in the mid twentieth century as a place to store and maintain equipment. The Quonset hut was developed during World War II. A lightweight, prefabricated structure, it could be easily shipped and erected without skilled labor. Constructed of corrugated galvanized steel, the buildings had a semicircular cross section. The support-free, open plan interior space was easily adaptable to a wide range of uses. After the war, the Quonset hut type was quickly adopted by farmers as all-purpose farm buildings. They were most often used as machine storage and workshop buildings, though they could also be adapted to grain storage. Quonset huts in Phillips County include both those ordered pre-fabricated and shipped to farms in pieces as well as locally produced examples. This Quonset hut has a double sliding door on the south side. It is rectangular in plan, and constructed of corrugated metal. The Hargreaves used it as a shop and storage building. Welding equipment for repairs was housed inside.
Structures

Granary (c.1940s; Photo 16): Located on the south end of the farm, the frame granary (16'x15') lies at the end of a row of later metal grain bins. It was built as part of the expansion of on-farm grain storage at mid-century. After the Hargreaves installed center pivot irrigation in 1964, they no longer raised much wheat, so the granary was not used. Corn was taken to the elevator in Holyoke rather than storing it on the farm. The small rectangular building sits on a concrete foundation and is clad in horizontal wood siding. The gable roof is covered in wood shingles. The east side has two wood entrance doors and the southern slope of the roof has a metal hatch for an auger to access.

Grain Bins (c.1950s; Photo 16): Five round corrugated steel grain bins with conical roofs are located north of the granary. The bins are 15' in diameter. They are arranged in a straight line, oriented north to south.

Silo (c.1910-1920s, Photos 13-14): Located south of the barn, the silo was constructed as part of the rebuilding of the farm complex after the fire. It was used to store silage for dairy cows. The silo stands approximately 20' tall and is constructed of poured concrete. It is fifteen feet in diameter. The conical roof is of frame construction and covered in deteriorating asphalt shingles.

Water tank (c.1910-1920s; Photo 15): Located at the south end of the farm, the water tank was constructed as part of the rebuilding of the farm complex after the fire. The water tank is constructed of poured concrete and topped with a conical roof. It is fifteen feet in diameter. The roof is of frame construction and clad in metal sheets. A windmill used to be located next to the water tank to draw water from a well but was replaced with a pump jack by mid-century. The well is no longer in use and the pump jack has been removed.

Corrals (1917; Photos 13-14): The corrals are located south of the barn and were constructed around the same time as the barn. The corral complex includes numerous enclosures and a loading chute at the northern end adjacent to the loafing shed. The corral fencing is built from a combination of unfinished logs, milled lumber, and metal piping.

Objects

Clothesline (c.1940s; Photo 6): A clothesline is located behind the house. It consists of wires suspended between two T-shaped metal posts. The construction date of the clothesline is unknown, but this clothesline is very similar in appearance to the clothesline at Evergreen Corner Rural Historic Landscape (5PL.217) which was added in the 1940s.

Stock tank (c. 1910-1920s; Photo 15): The circular concrete stock tank is located near the water tank and was likely constructed at the same time.

NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

Buildings

Machine Shed (1978; Photos 8, 20): Located on the east side of the complex, the pre-fabricated machine storage building (60' x 30') was added in 1978. Machine sheds were common farm additions during this period and as the number and scale of new farm machinery exceeded the capacity of existing farm buildings. The machine shed was used to store the tractor, combine, baler, and other equipment. The rectangular building sits on a concrete foundation and is constructed of metal panels. The north and south walls slope in towards the roof peak, while the east and west walls are perpendicular to the ground. The roof has a very low pitch to create a front gabled roof. A full-height entry with a pair a sliding doors faces south, and is the sole door. No windows are present.

Objects

Three Fuel tanks (unknown; Photo 18): Three cylindrical metal fuel tanks elevated on metal stands are located at the southeast corner of the farm. Their construction date is unknown.
Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape
Name of Property

Phillips County, CO
County and State

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INTEGRITY

The Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape District is a working landscape that has evolved to meet changing farm needs. Most alterations to the landscape have occurred during the district’s period of significance which extends from 1887-1964. Changes reflect Phillips County farming trends such as the additional of grain storage in the 1940s and 1950s and the adoption of irrigation in the 1960s. Some changes have occurred after the period of significance including the construction of the machine shed, erection of fuel tanks, replacement of original roofing with metal sheeting, and the switch from flood irrigation to center pivot irrigation. However, all of these features fit with the character of the farm development in Phillips County and are small in scale in comparison to the overall size of the farmstead complex.

The land has been in continual agricultural production since 1887 and retains a high degree of integrity of settling, feeling, and association. The surrounding landscape also preserves its agricultural character. Land use changed with the introduction of center pivot irrigation, but this was done within the period of significance. The integrity of materials is good, with all farm building retaining their original wood siding except for the house. The windows and house of the porch have also been altered but the building retains its overall historic form. The other farm buildings retain their original windows. The integrity of design for the farmstead as a whole is very high with the layout of the farmstead complex virtually unchanged since the 1950s.

Overall, the Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape District exhibits strong integrity of location, feeling, setting, association, and design. The historic layout and building relationships are intact. The built features of the farm
Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape
Phillips County, CO

Name of Property
County and State

demonstrate farmers’ adaptations to the natural environment (windbreaks), knowledge of wider farmstead types and trends (gambrel-roof barn, silo, and farmstead arrangement) as well as the evolution of farming practices (expansion of grain storage at midcentury).
8. Statement of Significance

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

A  Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B  Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C  Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D  Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(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.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1887-1964
1900 – circa 1950s

Significant Dates
1887
1916
1964

Significant Person
(n/a if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation
n/a

Architect/Builder
unknown

Period of Significance (justification): The period of significance for Agriculture begins with Henry Hargreaves arrival on the property and establishment of the farm in 1887 and extends to 1964. Since the farm is still in use, its agricultural significance extends to the present, but it is being ended at earlier to comply with National Register guidelines. 1964 was chosen as the end of the period of significance rather than 1963 since 1964 was a significant year in the development of the farm with the introduction of center pivot irrigation. The period of significance for Architecture begins with the construction of the first part of the house c.1900 and ends c.1950s with the construction of the Quonset hut and grain bins.
Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape
Phillips County, CO

Name of Property
County and State

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape District is significant for its association with the development of agriculture in Phillips County from its initial development in the 1880s through the introduction of center pivot irrigation in the 1960s. Henry Hargreaves immigrated to Phillips County from Liverpool, England, arriving with the first wave of settlers in the late 1880s. Despite coming from a very different climate, Henry Hargreaves quickly adapted to agriculture on the High Plains, becoming one of the county’s leading progressive farmers. Henry Hargreaves acquired his first section of land under the Pre-Emption Act of 1841 (receiving title to the land in 1890) and the second section under the Homestead Act of 1862 (receiving the title in 1895). Hargreaves grew dryland wheat and raised dairy and beef cows. The Hargreaves Homestead is exceptional for having remained in the same family since the original land acquisition. A prairie fire destroyed all but the house in 1916, but the Hargreaves quickly rebuilt. Typical of midcentury development in Phillips County, additional grain storage and a Quonset hut were added to the farm complex during the late 1940s and 1950s. Reflective of the Hargreaves’ history as progressive farmers, they were one of the county’s early adopters of the new center pivot irrigation technology, installing a system in 1964. The Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape District is locally significant under Criterion A for **agriculture** for its association with dryland and irrigated farming in Phillips County as well as dairy and beef production for the period 1887-1964. It is also locally significant under Criterion C for **architecture** as an excellent example of a twentieth century farming complex with farm buildings of a type, period or method of construction representative of the evolution of such complexes in Phillips County between 1900 and circa 1950s.

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

**Criterion A (Agriculture):** The Hargreaves Homestead is eligible under Criterion A for Agriculture as an excellent example of a Phillips County farming operation and its evolution from the 1880s through the 1960s. The farm has been owned by the Hargreaves family since the 1887. Continuous ownership since initial settlement is extremely rare in the county. Most of the original nineteenth century homesteaders sold their land or lost it due to unpaid taxes, with their land eventually acquired by a new wave of home seekers arriving in the 1910s. The Hargreaves farm represents general farming trends in the county including the important role of immigrants in the agricultural development of Phillips County, the development of dryland wheat production, beef and dairy production, and the introduction of center pivot irrigation. Henry C. Hargreaves was a prominent county leader who played a key role in the early establishment of agriculture in the county, adapting farming practices to the local climate. The farmstead also includes a range of buildings from circa 1900 through 1950s which represent an evolution of farming practices.

**Criterion C (Architecture):** The Hargreaves Homestead is also eligible under Criterion C for Architecture as an excellent example of a Phillips County farmstead complex. Both the house (side-gabled frame building with a prominent central dormer) and barn (a frame gambrel roofed building with integrated lean-tos) are representative of typical early twentieth century farmstead design in Phillips County. The farmstead complex also includes a chicken coop, two garages, water tank, silo, corral, frame granary, metal grain bins, Quonset hut, and windbreaks, all characteristic of Phillips County farmsteads.

**Character Defining Features:** Land Use, Boundary Demarcations, Topography, Vegetation, Patterns of Spatial Organization, Circulation Networks, Buildings, Structures and Objects

The Hargreaves Homestead is significant for its overall intact rural landscape. It is an excellent example of a High Plains rural farm landscape in northeastern Colorado. The rolling plains surrounding the Hargreaves Homestead have changed
relatively little since Henry Hargreaves settled the property in 1887. The primary alteration has been the change in farming practices and crop patterns brought about by the introduction of center pivot irrigation. The wide-open view shed of adjacent farmlands exists much as it did 126 years ago. The built features developed by the Hargreaves continue to exist in harmony with the natural landscape features. According to the Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes National Register Bulletin, the significant components of a rural landscape include spatial organization, response to environment, circulation networks, boundary demarcations, building, structures, objects, and land use. The Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape includes all of these components.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

**Farm establishment- Henry C. Hargreaves**

The settlement of the northeastern corner of Colorado began in the 1880s, as the lure of open lands drew land seekers from states to the east as well as European immigrants. Initially the absence of wood and water in the region was seen as a barrier to settlement, but as lands further east were filled, homesteaders began to reconsider the farming potential of the High Plains. The settlers acquired land in a variety of ways: the Homestead Act of 1862 granted 160 acres to anyone willing to build a residence, farm the land, and live there for five years. Under the Timber Culture Act of 1873, homesteaders could increase their land holdings by planting and maintaining groves of trees. Those who didn’t want to wait the five years needed to “prove up” a claim could instead purchase land from the US government through a homestead commutation (making proof after six months in exchange for a cash payment) or under the Pre-Emption Act of 1841. The Pre-Emption Act (which pre-dated the Homestead Act) allowed individuals living (or squatting) on public lands to buy the land at a low price ($1.25 per acre). Individuals could buy up to 160 acres of government land; like the Homestead Act, the individual had to prove residency on the land as well as productive use. Settlers had to file a declaration of intent to claim land under the Pre-Emption Act at a land office and then prove up before receiving title. (Eventually deemed redundant with the Homestead Act, the Pre-Emption Act was repealed in 1891). Settlers could also buy land from railroad companies, which received large tracts of public land to help fund construction and encourage settlement along the new rail lines. The Burlington Railroad completed a line through northeastern Colorado in 1887. The Burlington’s land division, the Lincoln Land Company, platted towns along the route. Railroad companies feverishly promoted these new communities, enticing settlers by running emigrant trains with special rates and encouraging immigration by advertising in European publications. Successful settlement meant more business for the railroads, creating a market for commercial goods as well as a shipping point for crops and livestock. During the 1880s the population of northeastern Colorado grew rapidly, and in 1889 Phillips County was one of thirteen new counties created by the state legislature.

The initial wave of Phillips County settlement reached its peak around 1890. The following decade saw many farm failures. Too many homesteaders “started in an arid climate, penniless, without any knowledge of the methods needed, and with seed, feed and family supplies to be purchased for six months to two years before any revenue could be expected” (Cottrell 1910, 4). There were large delinquent tax lists during the 1890s. Land ownership records from the county’s early decades show landowners frequently losing their land due to an inability to pay taxes, often buying it back from the sheriff only to lose it again. The challenges of settlement were exacerbated by the Panic of 1893, followed by a drought in 1894 during which few farmers succeeded in growing anything. Many gave up their claims and left the region. The population fell from 2,642 in 1890 to 1,583 in 1900. The number of cattle rose from 3,701 to 23,633, however, during the same period as farm land was turned over to grazing land and the region was promoted for ranching rather than farming.

Henry C. Hargreaves settled the southwest corner of Section 8 of Township 44N Range 6 W in April 1887. Henry was born in Liverpool, England in 1859. He married Catherine Lynch in 1884. Their sons John and Thomas were born in 1884 and 1885. Henry Hargreaves raised dairy cows, but after hoof and mouth disease killed off his herd, Henry decided to
immigrate to the United States. Henry’s father and his stepson James came with the family, which arrived in 1886. They arrived in Phillips County in 1887. Henry filed a declaration of intent under the Pre-Emption Act in April 1887 and began construction of a sod house. The Hargreaves family moved onto the land in May when the house was completed. The sod house was 16’ x 40’ with 7’ tall walls; it was located to the west of the current house. (No remains of the house are visible and the exact location is unknown.) The roof was constructed of boards, tar paper, and sod. The house had three rooms, the interior was plastered with a lumber floor. The house was furnished with three bedsteads and bedding, a table, five chairs, a cupboard, a set of dishes, cooking utensils, a stove, a lamp, a clock, and a mirror. Henry also constructed a barn/chicken house (29’ x 61’) and sod hog pen (8’ x 16’). The farm also had wire fencing, a 125’ well, and a windmill. By the time Henry filed his proof on the property in December 1887, he had broken out twenty-four acres of land and planted seventeen acres in corn, vegetables and feed. The Hargreaves had two horses, two colts, two cows, two pigs, and fifty-seven chickens. Henry finally received the patent to the land in December 1890.

Henry Hargreaves expanded his holdings through the Homestead Act and Timber Culture Act. Around 1890, he filed a homestead claim for the northwest section of Section 8 of Township 44N Range 6W. He received the patent to the quarter in December 1895. Henry also claimed the southeast quarter of the section under the Timber Culture Act. Created to promote the growth of trees on the prairies, the Timber Culture Act worked similarly to the Homesteading Act. Instead of being required to live on and farm the land, claimants under the Timber Culture Act were required to successfully plant trees. The act initially required the planting of forty acres of trees on each 160 acre claim; this was later reduced to ten acres. Each acre was to be planted with 2,700 trees; at least 675 trees per acre had to survive for the claim to be successful. The claimant could make proof and receive a land patent after eight years and had up to thirteen years to make the claim. Since Hargreaves received the patent in 1901, he filled the initial claim timber between 1888 and 1893. None of the trees planted by Hargreaves have survived.

Annie (1887), George (1889), and Frank (1890) Hargreaves were born on the new homestead. The Hargreaves replaced the sod house with a one-story frame house around 1900. This was expanded shortly after. In December 1908, the Holyoke State Herald reported that “H.C. Hargreaves south of town is erecting a large two story residence on his farm.” Henry quickly made a success of farming. According to his obituary, he was one of the first to introduce summer fallowing in the county and also experimented with new varieties of grain suited to dryland farming. Henry Hargreaves’ success was promoted in a 1910s railroad brochure, “There’s a Farm for You in Colorado.” According to the publication, “the best method of farming has been proved—the adaptable crops tried out—markets established and now the fruit of the pioneer’s ripe experience is yours for the asking.” The Hargreaves Farm was used as proof of this statement with Henry Hargreaves reporting that “I have had excellent results with Fall wheat yields during the past 12 years; the majority of these yields have been over 40 bushels per acre; many of these crops would have bought the land on which they were raised.”

Henry retired from active farming around 1912 and moved into Holyoke, living with his daughter Annie and her family. In addition to farming, Henry was also involved in county government and business. He served as County Clerk from 1912 to 1917 and as deputy County Treasurer under his son Thomas from 1919 to 1933. He was also the President of the Phillips County State Bank for ten years and served on the local school board. George and John Hargreaves took over management of the farm after their father’s retirement.

**Rebuilding c.1917-1930s**

In 1916, a large prairie fire came through the property and destroyed all of the farm buildings except for the house. This initiated a major rebuilding effort. By the early twentieth century, most Phillips County farmers had abandoned their soddies for frame houses. Lumber, along with building plans, could now be obtained from local lumber yards. Farmers could also order a new house, barn, or other outbuilding from a catalog, to be delivered as a kit via the railroad. Farmsteads expanded and modernized as farming took hold. A typical farmstead included a house, general barn, tank house, chicken coop, granaries, cellar, garage, outhouse, and corral. In addition, many included specialized buildings such as milk houses or hog barns. Trees were also an essential feature of the farmstead; farmers planted dense
windbreaks to block the stiff prairie winds and to prevent erosion. Barns were essential to working farmsteads, and so were often the first building a farmer constructed. A farm family might even live in part of their barn while building themselves a residence. Barns generally included horse stalls, a tack room, and equipment storage on the main level with a loft for hay storage above. Barns might also be built to accommodate dairying, for many farmers also kept a few milk cows. Milk products and eggs were additional sources of year-round income for farmers. Granaries were essential for storing grain for cattle and hogs.

A new barn was the Hargreaves’ top priority and a large gambrel roof barn was completed in 1917 along with new corrals. A garage, water tank, silo, and stock tank were also constructed in the late 1910s or 1920s. A claim shanty was moved onto the property and placed near the barn where it was used as a shop and tool shed. A photo of the farm was featured in a circa-1923 Burlington Railroad promotional publication as an example of successful tree growth on the plains.

George married Agnes Hansen Donnelly in 1923 and they moved into the house on the Hargreaves farm. They had five sons: Wayne (1924), Robert (1926), Wilbur (1929), Willis (1933), and James (1938). His brother John married Arpy Bone in 1914. They had three sons: Charles (1927), Raymond (1920), and Harold (1923). John and his family lived across the highway to the west.

Modernization/Expansion c.1940-1964

American agriculture was changing dramatically during the mid-twentieth century. Many people were leaving rural areas for cities and towns, and farming was no longer the predominant occupation in the United States. At the same time, farms became dramatically more productive, with fewer farmers working larger, more specialized farms. Crop yields increased dramatically due to the introduction of new herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, and crop varieties, as well as new machinery that changed the ways crops were planted, such as narrower rows. The machinery was an expensive investment, and farmers needed to plant more acres to get a return on their equipment. The new machinery also contributed to the development of more specialized farms since most crops required specific equipment. But the machinery also reduced labor costs and the need for extra labor at harvest. With new combines, two people could complete harvest in a fraction of the time it once took a large crew. The improved yields and quicker harvests also created an increased demand on grain elevators. Though the co-op elevators in Phillips County rapidly expanded during the 1950s, they could not always keep up with demand. As a result, many farmers started to add more on-farm grain storage as well as drying systems. Then if the elevator was full, a farmer could store the crop in his own bins, dry it, and wait until the market was high. Previously, farmers had generally been anxious to get their grain to market as soon as possible in order to cover farm expenses. However, in the late 1930s the government initiated the Commodity Credit Corporation, which would lend money to farmers with grain stored in approved granaries or grain bins as collateral. Goals of the program included stabilizing crop prices and ensuring against future crop prices. On the Hargreaves Farm midcentury improvements included the construction of a new garage (c.1940s), a new chicken coop (c.1940s), a granary (c.1940s), a Quonset hut (c.1950s), and five metal grain bins (c.1950s).

In 1964, the Hargreaves decided to install a new flood irrigation system on the farm. Before the introduction of pumps that could raise water from the Ogallala Aquifer, irrigation in Phillips County had been very limited. No waterways suitable for irrigation run through the county. In the early years some farmers tried flood irrigation with water pumped up from wells by windmills and allowed to flow over fields, but this was not practical for large scale irrigation. The water for the Hargreaves flood irrigation came from a well dug to the east of the Quonset in 1964. Water was raised using a natural gas powered engine. The original output of the well was 2,600 gallons of water per minute but the flow has lessened as the level of the aquifer has lowered. A gated 10-inch aluminum pipe carried the water from the well to the corn fields. From the pipe, water was directed into trenches dug between the rows of corn. Agricultural statistics for Phillips County show the impact of new irrigation methods. According to the U.S. Census of Agriculture, in 1950 there were seven farms using irrigation in 1950, forty-two farms in 1964, and 143 farms in 1974. Irrigation also changed what farmers grew, dramatically increasing the production of corn, which became the primary irrigated crop in the county. In 1950, Phillips County farmers planted 35,773 acres of corn and 131,955 acres of wheat. By 1984, they planted 64,492 acres of corn and 99,602 acres of wheat.
Flood irrigation was soon replaced by pivot irrigation which enabled a much more uniform and precise application of water to fields and less labor. Additionally, it could operate over uneven ground, eliminating the need to level land for successful irrigation. In addition to irrigation, the pivot system can also be used to apply fertilizers and pesticides to crops. The Hargreaves switched to a center pivot irrigation system in the 1980s. With a pivot irrigation structure, a long pipeline with sprinklers was placed on a wheeled support structure and could be rotated around a central pivot point in a radial movement. The pivot system had a quarter-mile radius and could be used to irrigate approximately 130 acres of a 160 acre section (the corners are left unirrigated with the center pivot system.) The pivot irrigation system was developed by Frank Zybach, a Colorado dryland wheat farmer, in the late 1940s. The design took many years to perfect in order to achieve a durable design. In 1954, Robert Daugherty of Valley Manufacturing acquired the patent to Zybach’s design and continued to develop it. Sales were slow initially as early systems were unreliable and farmers had to be convinced to make an investment in the new technology. Pivot irrigation would completely transform farming on the High Plains and the appearance of the landscape, creating a pattern of circles within squares. By the 1970s, pivot irrigation had remade agriculture with *Scientific American* calling center pivot irrigation systems “perhaps the most significant mechanical innovation in agriculture since the replacement of animals by the tractor” (Gustafson 2012).

George managed the Hargreaves farm until his death in 1943. George’s sons took over farm operations, and Willis and James bought out their brothers to become the farm owners in the early 1960s. Willis and his wife Maxine lived in the house until 1966 when they moved to Kansas.

**Farming since 1965**

James married Carol Rutan in 1965 and they moved into the house on the farm in 1966. They bought out Willis’ interest in the farm in the 1970s. James and Carol had two children, Robert and Kristy. James and Carol farmed and ranched until James’ death in 1985. Carol remained on the farm for awhile, but has now moved to Washington State. The farmstead complex and surrounding land is currently leased and remains in agricultural production.

9. **Major Bibliographical References**

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


BLM General Land Office records - www.glorecords.blm.gov


Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape
Phillips County, CO


Land Patent file 8835, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.


U.S. Census Records via ancestry.com


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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:**
- x State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

**Name of repository:**
- History Colorado

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**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):**
- 5PL.24

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 320
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

The UTM reference point was derived from heads up digitization on Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) maps provided to OAHP by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

**UTM References**
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)
Hargreaves Homestead rural historic landscape
Phillips County, CO

Name of Property

W ½ Section 8, Township 44N Range 6W

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encompasses the two original quarters of land acquired by Henry Hargreaves. Though Hargreaves later acquired additional property, this half section remains the historic center of farm operations and includes all resources historically associated with the farm operation.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Abigail Christman (for property owner)
organization Center of Preservation Research, College of Architecture and Planning, University of Colorado
Denver date June 2013
street & number Campus Box 126, PO Box 173364 telephone 303-315-5323
city or town Denver state CO zip code 80217
e-mail Abigail.Christman@ucdenver.edu

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:

Name of Property: Hargreaves farm
City or Vicinity: Holyoke
County: Phillips County
State: Colorado
Name of Photographer: Abigail Christman
Digital tifs on file with the National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Photo #1
Site overview, camera facing southeast towards farm (11/08/2012)

Photo #2
Site overview from driveway, camera facing west towards farm (09/15/2012)
Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape
Phillips County, CO

Name of Property

Photo #3
Site overview, camera facing north towards farm (11/08/2012)

Photo #4
House southwest corner, camera facing northeast (09/15/2012)

Photo #5
House northwest corner, camera facing southeast (09/15/2012)

Photo #6
House east elevation, camera facing southwest (09/15/2012)

Photo #7
Garage north elevation, camera facing south (09/15/2012)

Photo #8
Garage, Storage, and Chicken Coop, camera facing northeast (02/17/2011)

Photo #9
Barn east elevation, camera facing west (09/15/2012)

Photo #10
Inside barn, camera facing west (09/15/2012)

Photo #11
Barn, Loading Shed, and Loading Chute, camera facing southeast (02/17/2011)

Photo #12
View of driveway, camera facing south (09/15/2012)

Photo #13
Corral, Claim Shanty, Silo, and Barn, camera facing northwest (09/15/2012)

Photo #14
Corral, Claim Shanty, Silo, Barn, and Loading Shed, camera facing north (09/15/2012)

Photo #15
Trough and Corral, camera facing east (09/15/2012)

Photo #16
Granary and Grain Bins, camera facing west (09/15/2012)

Photo #17
Garage southeast corner, camera facing northwest (09/15/2012)

Photo #18
Southeast corner of site, camera facing northwest (02/17/2011)
Hargreaves Homestead Rural Historic Landscape

Photo #19
Quonset hut east elevation and driveway, camera facing south (09/15/2012)

Photo #20
East side of site, camera facing northwest (02/17/2011)

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS

H1 Hargreaves House c.1923. Photo from brochure in the collection of the Phillips County Historical Society.