

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received NOV 25 1986  
date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Nicholas Bohr Barn- Byre and Bluff Barns of Doniphan County (TR)

and or common Joseph Staudenmaier Barn

2. Location

SE of Troy

street & number SE 1/4, SW 1/4, SW 1/4, SE 1/4, S3, T4S, R21E not for publication

city, town Troy vicinity of

state Kansas code 20 county Doniphan code 43

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Joseph R. Staudenmaier etux

street & number Rt. 2

city, town Troy vicinity of state Kansas 66087

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds

street & number Doniphan County Courthouse

city, town Troy state Kansas 66087

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Doniphan County Cultural Resources has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date Survey 1985  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society, 120 W. 10th

city, town Topeka state Kansas 66612

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Nicholas Bohr Barn (ca. 1879) is located on the Joseph Staudemaier Farm near Troy, Kansas (pop. 1,240). The one-story, three-bay, center entrance, board and batten barn has a partial byre with a limestone foundation and metal sheathed, gable roof. The superstructure is supported by nailed, post and beam framing. The barn has a north to south orientation, with the byre located in the eastern third of the eastern gable end, built into embankments on its north and west sides. The barn measures thirty feet from north to south.

Vertically planked, double leaf rolling doors stand in the center bays of the north and south elevations. Stock stalls are located in the western bay of the threshing floor and the granary is located in the eastern bay. The center bay is used for wagon/machinery storage. Horizontal plank walls divide the bays. Hay lofts stand above the threshing floor in the eastern and western bays. A rectangular hay door surmounts the north wagon door. Rectangular vents pierce the barn's eastern and western gables. The barn is painted red.

Originally constructed as a dairy barn, the building maintains a high degree of architectural and structural integrity. The significant alteration to the barn has been the replacement of the original wooden roof with a metal roof. This is an alteration common to many of the barns included in this nomination.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
..... prehistoric	..... archeology-prehistoric	..... community planning	..... landscape architecture
..... 1400-1499	..... archeology-historic	..... conservation	..... law
..... 1500-1599	..... agriculture	..... economics	..... literature
..... 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	..... education	..... military
..... 1700-1799	..... art	..... engineering	..... music
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	..... commerce	..... exploration/settlement	..... philosophy
..... 1900-	..... communications	..... industry	..... politics/government
		..... invention	..... religion
			..... science
			..... sculpture
			..... social/ humanitarian
			..... theater
			..... transportation
			..... other (specify)

Specific dates      ca. 1879      Builder/Architect      Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Nicholas Bohr Barn (ca. 1879) is being nominated to the National Register as part of the Byre and Bluff Barns of Doniphan County (ca. 1860-1933) nomination under criterion C for its architectural significance. Constructed for Nicholas Bohr, a native of Alsace/Lorraine, who is listed in the 1860 census, the barn is an example of a three-bay, center entrance, partial byre, board and batten, gable roof and limestone foundation structure with a threshing floor and hay loft. The Bohr family retained ownership of the barn until 1956, when it was purchased by Joseph Staudenmaier.

The eighteen nominated barns share a common feature in that at least one side of each barn's foundation is embedded in an earthen bank or bluff; the majority of the barns are built into shallow banks, two of the barns are built into bluffs. These vernacular wooden and cement structures span a seventy year construction period and exhibit various masonry foundation, skeletal structures, and superstructures. The byre and bluff barns of Doniphan County are an excellent example of a vernacular form of architecture which was built to take advantage of the hilly topography of the county. These barns are representative of approximately thirty byre and bluff barns identified in a 1984-1985 cultural resource survey of Doniphan County. The remaining barns are too altered and/or deteriorated to be included in this nomination. Most of the nominated barns were constructed for stock and dairy cattle and remain in active use on working farms. The relative rarity of byre and bluff barns in Doniphan County and the high degree of architectural and structural integrity maintained by the nominated barns make this thematic grouping of vernacular agricultural structures extremely significant.

Doniphan County (est. 1855) experienced a substantial population increase in the twenty years following the Civil War, with many settlers moving from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Germany. The barn building traditions brought by these settlers combined with the suitable topography contributed to the building of the byre and bluff barn type in Doniphan County. Most of the nominated barns are three-bay, center entrance, gable roof structures with limestone foundations, a full byre, a threshing floor, and a hay loft. There are groupings of period types, such as the board and batten barns with louvered vents from the 1870s and 1880s, the large, gambrel roof barns from 1910s, 1920s and 1930s, and the gradual transition from post and beam construction to plank framing. In 1891 J. D. Walters of the Kansas State Agricultural College called the byre (bank)/bluff barn an "all-purpose barn of the Kansas farmer" in an article entitled "The Barn," which was published in the Quarterly Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. Walters described the bank barn as follows:

It gives a warm basement for the milk cows and cattle, and an accessible second story for the draught animals—for tools, machines, harness, and grain—and a roomy attic, or loft, for hay, straw, and fodder. In many states this form is objectionable for sanitary reasons, but in the dry climate of Kansas it is preferable to any other, unless there should be an unusually moist ledge directly against or under it...The building should be

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date entered

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Item number

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located so that the basement will be partly in the ground on the north and west, and so that a low embankment, or filling, on these sides will give access to the second story.

While the byre or bluff barn presented a practical solution for Doniphan County's rolling topography, harsh winters, and high winds, it was not the most common solution. The byre and bluff barns built between 1860 and 1933 generally cost from \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 and while this may have been cost effective investment, it was an expensive investment. In addition, the higher degree of skilled craftsmanship required to construct a byre or bluff barn as opposed to most barns without foundations also hindered their construction. While the byre and bluff barns of Doniphan County are a sturdy survivor of a barn type built in Doniphan County between 1860 and 1933 they are not prolific, being far outnumbered by more inexpensive, rectangular wooden barns without foundations.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than 1 acre.

Quadrangle name Atchison NE

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 15 324560 4399200  
Zone Easting Northing

B                 
Zone Easting Northing

C               

D               

E               

F               

G               

H               

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The nominated property is located on the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , S3, T4S, R21E in Doniphan County, Kansas on a tract measuring 56 x 50 feet, whose northeast corner is 14.1 feet directly northeast of the northeast corner of the barn's foundation. Beginning at the northeast corner of the parcel the boundary proceeds 50 feet south, 56 feet west, 50 feet north, and 56 feet east to the point of beginning.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Martha Gray Hagedorn, Architectural Historian

organization Kansas State Historical Society

date October 28, 1986

street & number 120 W. 10th

telephone 913-296-5264

city or town Topeka

state Kansas 66612

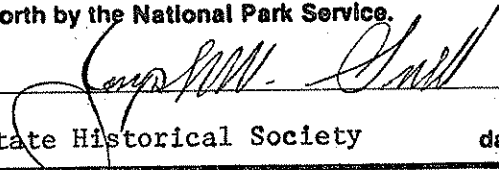
# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society

date October 28, 1986

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
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BIBLIOGRAPHY—Byre and Bluff Barns of Doniphan County

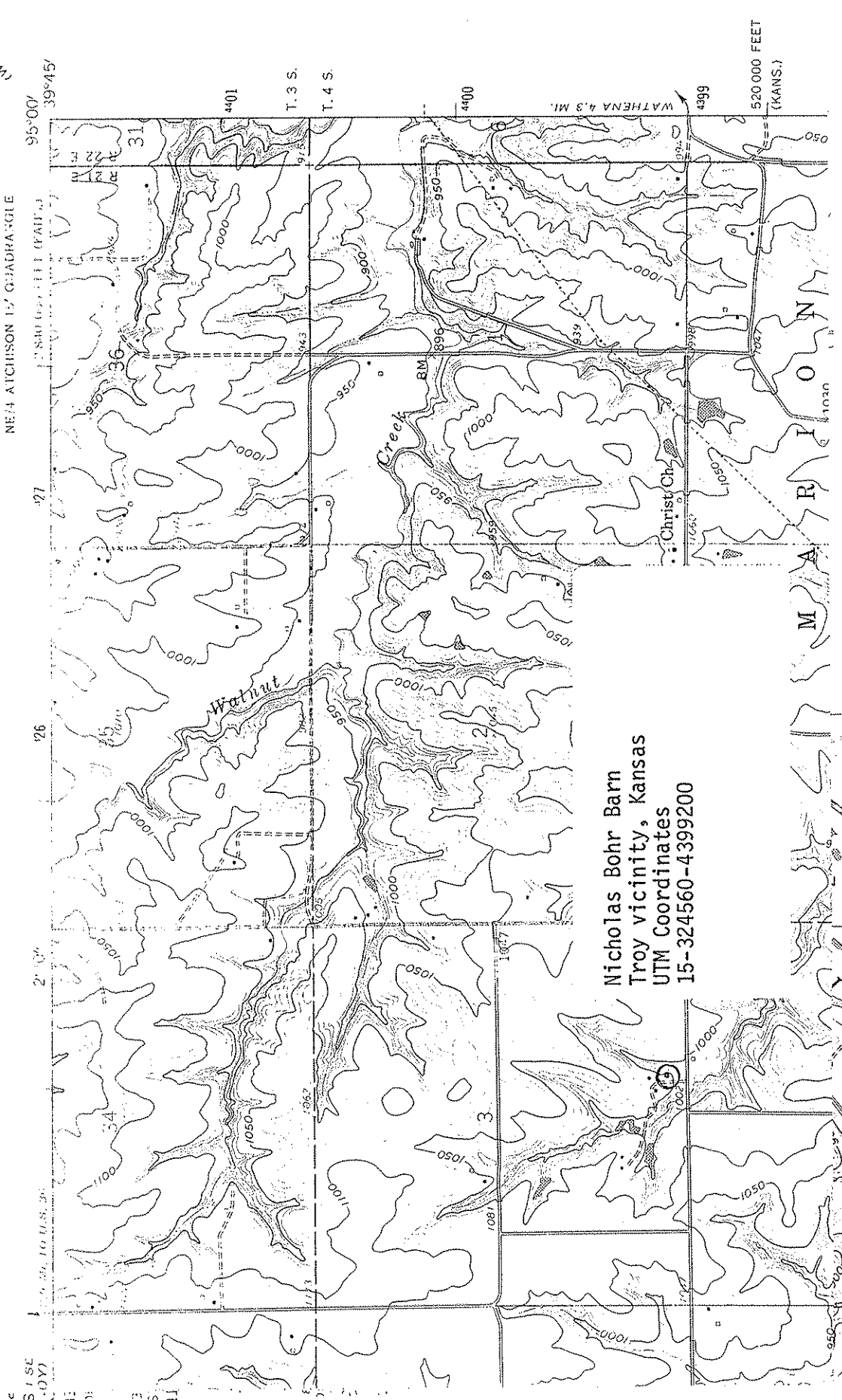
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ATCHISON NE QUADRANGLE

KANSAS—MISSOURI

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NE 1/4 ATCHISON 15' QUADRANGLE



Nicholas Bohr Barn  
Troy vicinity, Kansas  
UTM Coordinates  
15-324560-4399200

7053 14 SW  
(MATHENA)

95°00' 39°45'

27

26

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401

T. 3 S.

T. 4 S.

400

WATHENA 4.3 MI.

4999

520 000 FEET  
(KANS.)

15 SE  
A (000)

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Nicholas Bohr Barn  
Troy vicinity, Kansas  
Martha Hagedorn  
July, 1986  
Kansas State Historical Society  
South & West elevations, NE view  
1 of 5

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Nicholas Bohr Barn  
Troy vicinity, Kansas  
Martha Hagedorn  
July, 1986  
Kansas State Historical Society  
East elevation, SE corner, West  
view  
3 of 5

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Nicholas Bohr Barn  
Troy vicinity, Kansas  
Martha Hagedorn  
July, 1986  
Kansas State Historical Society  
North & East elevations, SW view  
2 of 5

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Nicholas Bohr Barn  
Troy vicinity, Kansas  
Martha Hagedorn  
July, 1986  
Kansas State Historical Society  
Byre level, SE corner, West view  
4 of 5

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Nicholas Bohr Barn  
Troy vicinity  
Martha Hagedorn  
July, 1986  
Kansas State Historical Society  
First level (threshing floor),  
West view  
5 of 5



