

ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE,
SHED,SUPPLY AND EQUIPMENT DEPOT
(SPARE INERT STORAGE)
(Building No. 88150)
Quesada Drive
Black Hawk Vicinity
Meade County
South Dakota

HABS No. SD-21-AB

HABS
SD-21-AB

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

National Park Service
Midwest Region
1709 Jackson Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-2571

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE SHED, SUPPLY AND EQUIPMENT DEPOT (SPARE INERT STORAGE) (Building No. 88150)

HABS No. SD-21-AB

Location: Ellsworth Air Force Base, Quesada Drive, Black Hawk Vicinity, Meade County, South Dakota.₁

Significance: This building possesses documented historical association with Rushmore Air Force Station, an early 1950s federal storage and maintenance facility for nuclear weapons. The station was a key component in the American strategy defense build-up which occurred during the early years of the Cold War.₂

Description: The Shed, Supply and Equipment Depot (Spare Inert Storage) Building is a small equipment storage building that was built in 1952 for the Rushmore Air Force Station. The building is one story, of vernacular military style and a rectangular plan form, 24' x 19'-4", with a small offset, 11'x13'-4". Both the foundation and walls are concrete block. The building entrance is on the south wall. The main entrance is a set of double metal doors with one small light in each. The offset of the building has a single metal door on the south face. The gable roof has shallow eaves with wood trim. The north and south walls of the building's exterior have raised areas designed to resemble windows and are in-filled with wood. There is a similar detail made to resemble a transom above the main south doors. The interior space is unfinished.₃

History: This building was built for a cost of \$14,845.99 and was completed for the Rushmore AFS on July 5, 1952. The building's original name was the Shed, Supply & Equipment Depot. The original function was ordnance equipment storage. It was transferred to Ellsworth AFB on July 5, 1962. The building has since been used primarily to store miscellaneous items.₄

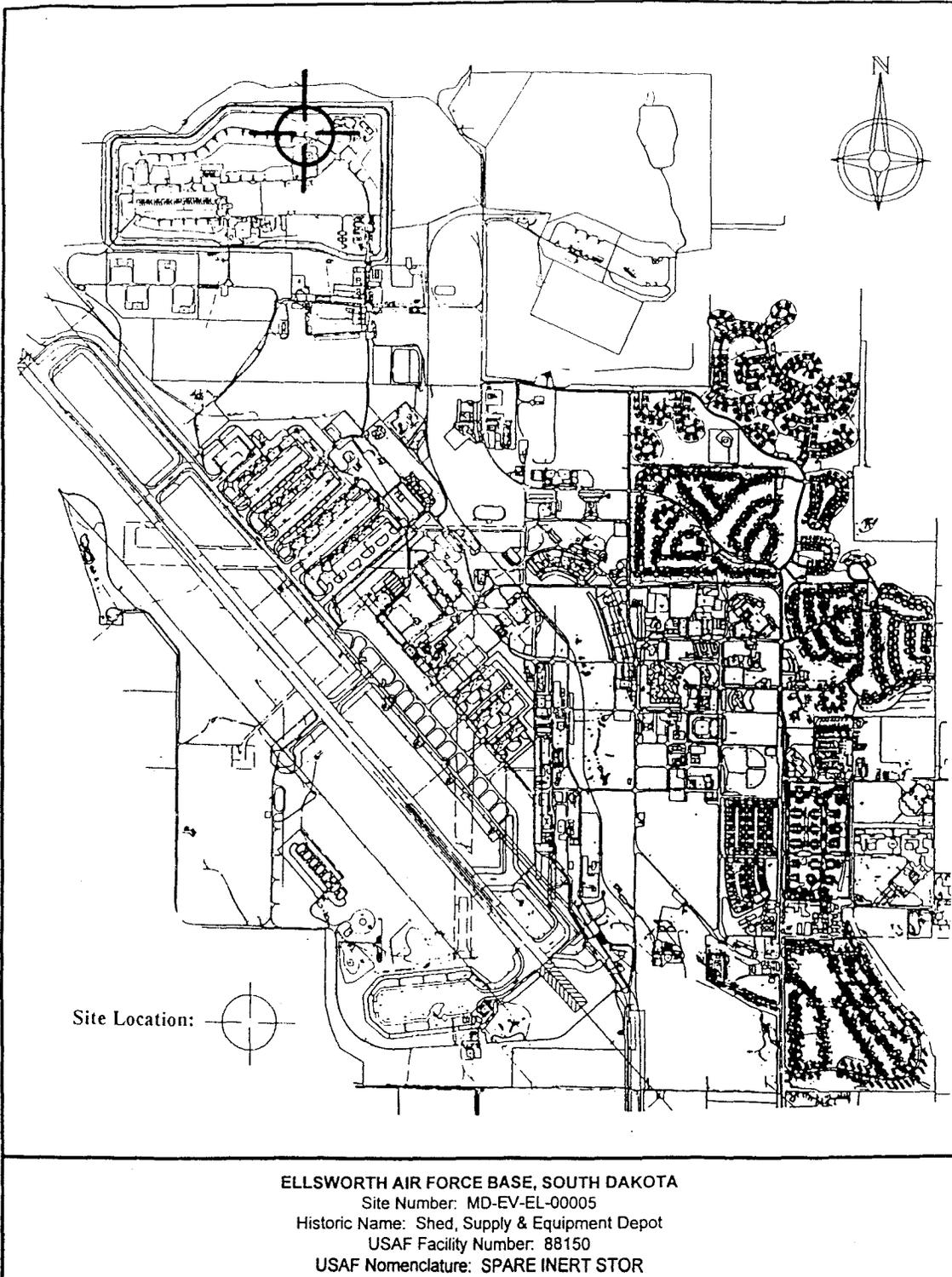
Historian: Lee Geiger, Rapid City, South Dakota, April, 1999

Sources: Hufstetler, Mark, "Ellsworth AFB History Sites Inventory", 1994; "Real Property Records-Building 3501, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota" Manuscript Records on file at the Real Property Office, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota.

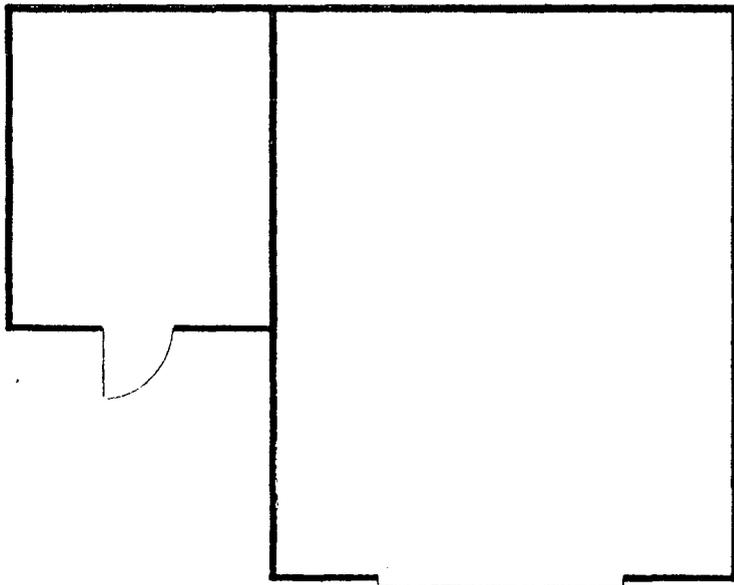
NOTES

- 1 Hufstetler, Mark, "Ellsworth AFB History Sites Inventory", July, 1994
- 2 Ibid
- 3 Ibid
- 4 "Real Property Records-Building 88150, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota", Manuscript Records on file at the Real Property Office, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota

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SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"