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**NRC-025-A**  
**Submitted: June 20, 2014**

# **ASSESSMENT OF THE VISUAL EFFECTS OF THE POWDER RIVER BASIN PROJECT, NEW BUILD SEGMENT, ON PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED HISTORIC PROPERTIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA AND WYOMING**

**Prepared for DM&E by HDR Inc. in Compliance with the Section 106  
Programmatic Agreement for the**

## **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**395 E Street SW  
Washington, DC 20043-0001  
Docket No. 33407**

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## CONTENTS

<b>1.0</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1-1</b>
1.1	BACKGROUND .....	1-1
1.2	PURPOSE FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF VISUAL EFFECTS .....	1-2
<b>2.0</b>	<b>SOUTH DAKOTA.....</b>	<b>2-1</b>
2.1	ANALYSIS OF SITES .....	2-1
2.1.1	SITE 39CU2938 .....	2-1
2.1.2	SITE 39CU2944 .....	2-2
2.1.3	SITE 39CU2986 .....	2-3
2.1.4	SITE 39CU2987 .....	2-5
2.1.5	SITE 39CU3322 .....	2-6
2.1.6	SITE 39CU3619/CU025000002-04 .....	2-8
2.1.7	SITE CU00000050.....	2-9
2.1.8	SITE 39FA0065.....	2-10
2.1.9	SITE 39FA0277 .....	2-12
2.1.10	SITE 39FA0395/FA00200008.....	2-13
2.1.11	SITE 39FA0446/FA00200009.....	2-14
2.1.12	SITE 39FA0539.....	2-16
2.1.13	SITE 39FA0554/FA00200014.....	2-17
2.1.14	SITE 39FA1032/FA002000042.....	2-18
2.1.15	SITE 39FA1303/FA002000063.....	2-20
2.1.16	SITE 39FA1336/FA002000067.....	2-21
2.1.17	SITE 39FA1337/FA002000068.....	2-23
2.1.18	SITE 39FA1360/FA01800002.....	2-24
2.1.19	SITE 39FA1369/FA002000064.....	2-26
2.1.20	SITE 39FA1413/FA01900001/FA01900002.....	2-27
2.1.21	SITE 39FA1425/FA02000002.....	2-29
2.1.22	SITE 39FA1546.....	2-30
2.1.23	SITE 39FA1637/FA002000066.....	2-31
2.1.24	SITE 39FA2000.....	2-33
2.1.25	SITE 39FA2003.....	2-34
2.1.26	SITE FA000000111.....	2-36
2.1.27	SITE FA000000071.....	2-37
2.1.28	SITE FA000000081/FA000000114.....	2-39
2.1.29	SITE FA000000104.....	2-41

2.1.30	SITE 39PN2003 .....	2-42
2.1.31	SITE 39PN2007 .....	2-44
2.1.32	SITE PN00000255 .....	2-45
2.1.33	SITE PN00000470 .....	2-46
<b>3.0</b>	<b>WYOMING.....</b>	<b>3-1</b>
3.1	ANALYSIS OF SITES .....	3-1
3.1.1	SITE 48CA211.....	3-1
3.1.2	SITE 48CA1490/48CO726 .....	3-2
3.1.3	SITE 48CA6123.....	3-4
3.1.4	SITE 48CA6704.....	3-5
3.1.5	SITE 48CA0081.....	3-6
3.1.6	SITE 48CA0200.....	3-8
3.1.7	SITE 48CA0272.....	3-10
3.1.8	SITE 48CA0507.....	3-11
3.1.9	SITE 48CA0890.....	3-13
3.1.10	SITE 48CA1307.....	3-15
3.1.11	SITE 48CA1414.....	3-16
3.1.12	SITE 48CA1415.....	3-18
3.1.13	SITE 48CA1497.....	3-20
3.1.14	SITE 48CA1667.....	3-21
3.1.15	SITE 48CA1686.....	3-23
3.1.16	SITE 48CA1707.....	3-24
3.1.17	SITE 48CA1711.....	3-26
3.1.18	SITE 48CA1728.....	3-28
3.1.19	SITE 48CA1781.....	3-29
3.1.20	SITE 48CA1812/48CA0353 .....	3-31
3.1.21	SITE 48CA2020.....	3-33
3.1.22	SITE 48CA2095.....	3-35
3.1.23	SITE 48CA2428.....	3-36
3.1.24	SITE 48CA2657.....	3-38
3.1.25	SITE 48CA2810.....	3-39
3.1.26	SITE 48CA2824.....	3-41
3.1.27	SITE 48CA3076.....	3-42
3.1.28	SITE 48CA3589.....	3-43
3.1.29	SITE 48CA3768.....	3-45

3.1.30	SITE 48CA6115.....	3-46
3.1.31	SITE 48CA6116.....	3-48
3.1.32	SITE 48CA6117.....	3-49
3.1.33	SITE 48CO0646.....	3-51
3.1.34	SITE 48NO0293 .....	3-53
3.1.35	SITE 48WE0259 .....	3-55
3.1.36	SITE 48WE0308 .....	3-56
3.1.37	SITE 48WE0316 .....	3-58
3.1.38	SITE 48WE0366 .....	3-60
3.1.39	SITE 48CA6216.....	3-61
	SITE DESCRIPTION.....	3-61
<b>4.0</b>	<b>SUMMARY OF LINE OF SITE ANALYSIS .....</b>	<b>4-1</b>
4.1	SOUTH DAKOTA SITES.....	4-1
4.2	WYOMING SITES.....	4-1
<b>5.0</b>	<b>CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>5-1</b>

## FIGURES

Figure 2-1.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39CU2938.....	2-2
Figure 2-2.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39CU2944.....	2-3
Figure 2-4.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39CU2987.....	2-6
Figure 2-5.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39CU3322.....	2-7
Figure 2-6.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39CU3619/CU02500002-04.....	2-9
Figure 2-7.	Viewshed Analysis of Site CU00000050. ....	2-10
Figure 2-8.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0065. ....	2-12
Figure 2-9.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0277. ....	2-13
Figure 2-10.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0395. ....	2-14
Figure 2-11.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0446/FA00200009.....	2-15
Figure 2-12.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0539.....	2-17
Figure 2-13.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0554/FA00200014.....	2-18
Figure 2-14.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1032/FA00200042.....	2-19
Figure 2-15.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1303/FA002000063.....	2-21
Figure 2-16.	Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1336/ FA00200067 .....	2-22

Figure 2-17. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1337/FA002000068.....	2-24
Figure 2-18. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1360/FA01800002.....	2-25
Figure 2-19. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1369/FA002000064.....	2-27
Figure 2-20. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1413/FA01900001/FA01900002.....	2-28
Figure 2-21. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1425/FA02000002.....	2-30
Figure 2-22. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1546.....	2-31
Figure 2-23. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1637/FA00200066.....	2-32
Figure 2-24. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA2000.....	2-34
Figure 2-25. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA2003.....	2-35
Figure 2-26. Viewshed Analysis of Site FA00000111.....	2-37
Figure 2-27. Viewshed Analysis of Site FA00000071.....	2-39
Figure 2-28. Viewshed Analysis of Site FA00000081/FA00000114.....	2-40
Figure 2-29. Viewshed Analysis of Site FA00000104.....	2-42
Figure 2-30. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39PN2003.....	2-43
Figure 2-31. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39PN2007.....	2-45
Figure 2-32. Viewshed Analysis of Site PN00000255.....	2-46
Figure 2-33. Viewshed Analysis of Site PN00000470.....	2-48
Figure 3-1. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA211.....	3-2
Figure 3-2. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA1490/48CO726.....	3-3
Figure 3-3. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA6123.....	3-5
Figure 3-4. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA6704.....	3-6
Figure 3-5. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA81.....	3-8
Figure 3-6. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA200.....	3-10
Figure 3-7. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA272.....	3-11
Figure 3-8. Viewshed Analysis for Site 48CA507.....	3-13
Figure 3-9. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA0890.....	3-14
Figure 3-10. Viewshed Analysis for Site 48CA1307.....	3-16
Figure 3-11. Viewshed Analysis for Site 48CA1414.....	3-18
Figure 3-12. Viewshed Analysis for Site 48CA1415.....	3-19
Figure 3-13. Viewshed Analysis for Site 48CA1497.....	3-21

Figure 3-14. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA1667.....	3-22
Figure 3-15. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA1686.....	3-24
Figure 3-16. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA1707.....	3-26
Figure 3-17. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA1711.....	3-27
Figure 3-18. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA1728.....	3-29
Figure 3-19. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA1781.....	3-31
Figure 3-20. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA1812/48CA0353.....	3-32
Figure 3-21. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA2020.....	3-34
Figure 3-22. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA2095.....	3-36
Figure 3-23. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA2428.....	3-37
Figure 3-24. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA2657.....	3-39
Figure 3-25. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA2810.....	3-40
Figure 3-26. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA2824.....	3-42
Figure 3-27. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA3076.....	3-43
Figure 3-28. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA3589.....	3-44
Figure 3-29. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA3768.....	3-46
Figure 3-30. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA6115.....	3-48
Figure 3-31. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA6116.....	3-49
Figure 3-32. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA6117.....	3-51
Figure 3-33. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CO0646.....	3-52
Figure 3-34. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48NO0293.....	3-54
Figure 3-35. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48WE0259.....	3-56
Figure 3-36. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48WE0308.....	3-58
Figure 3-37. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CWE0316.....	3-59
Figure 3-38. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48WE0366.....	3-61
Figure 3-39. Viewshed Analysis of 48CA6216 .....	3-62

## **TABLES**

Table 1-1: Visual Impact Categories to Cultural Resource Sites from the PRB Expansion Project ROW.....	1-2
Table 4-1: South Dakota Cultural Resource Sites Analyzed for Visual Effects .....	4-3
Table 4-2: Wyoming Cultural Resource Sites Analyzed for Visual Effects.....	4-5



## ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS AND SHORT FORMS

<b>CFR</b>	Code of Federal Regulations
<b>cm</b>	Centimeter(s)
<b>cmbs</b>	Centimeter(s) Below the Surface
<b>DM&amp;E</b>	Dakota, Minnesota and Eastern Railway Corporation
<b>GIS</b>	Global Information System
<b>ID Plan</b>	The Identification Plan for the Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation's Proposed Powder River Basin Expansion Project (Attachment A of the Programmatic Agreement)
<b>LOS</b>	Line of Site analysis
<b>m</b>	Meter(s)
<b>NHPA</b>	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966
<b>NRHP</b>	National Register of Historic Places
<b>PA</b>	Programmatic Agreement Regarding the Project, STB Finance Docket No. 33407
<b>PRB</b>	Powder River Basin (Wyoming)
<b>PRB Expansion Project</b>	(DM&E) Powder River Basin Expansion Project
<b>ROW</b>	(DM&E) Right-of-Way
<b>Section 106</b>	Section 106 – 36 CFR Part 800, <i>Protection of Historic Properties</i>
<b>f<sup>2</sup></b>	Square-feet
<b>m<sup>2</sup></b>	Square-meters
<b>SHPO</b>	State Historic Preservation Office
<b>STB</b>	(U.S.) Surface Transportation Board
<b>THPO</b>	Tribal Historic Preservation Office
<b>USFS</b>	U.S. Forest Service

**APPENDICES**

- A      Procedural Clarification for Assessing the Project's Impacts on Historic Properties
- B      South Dakota LOS Site Forms
- C      Wyoming LOS Site Forms

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Dakota, Minnesota, and Eastern Railroad (DM&E) conducted an assessment of the visual effects of the New Build Segment of the proposed Powder River Basin (PRB) Expansion Project (PRB Expansion Project) on previously identified historic properties. Historic Property is defined at 36 CFR Part 800.16(l)(1) as:

...any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. This term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization and that meet the National Register criteria.

This assessment was conducted in partial fulfillment of the terms of the Programmatic Agreement (PA) (April 2003, extended May 2008) for the PRB Expansion Project executed for purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

## 1.1 BACKGROUND

The assessment of visual effects to historic properties in the New Build Segment of the PRB Expansion Project was conducted pursuant to Section 3.4 of the Identification Plan (ID Plan) specified in the PA.

Specifically, Section 3.4 states:

Any areas not originally identified within the APE but potentially affected by the undertaking must be identified by the SHPO, THPO/cultural resource representative designated by the tribes, DM&E, other consulting parties, and Federal agencies. The Surface Transportation Board (STB) will consult with the SHPO, THPO/cultural resource representative designated by the tribes, DM&E, other identified consulting parties (as defined in 36 CFR 800.2(c)), and Federal agencies to address their concerns.

Discussions were held among the consulting parties throughout 2007 and 2008 to reach consensus on the extent to which the visual effect of the New Build Segment of the PRB Expansion Project would be taken into account. The Surface Transportation Board (STB) and the DM&E jointly developed a “*Procedural Clarification for Assessing the Project’s Direct and Indirect Impacts on Historic Properties*” (**Appendix A**) which included procedures to accommodate requests from the South Dakota and Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs) to account for visual or audible adverse effects to historic properties outside the right-of-way (ROW). STB shared this procedural clarification with the consulting tribes. It was also presented to the SHPOs and other cooperating agencies during a meeting held December 2, 2008. The attendees were asked whether the procedural clarification satisfied all concerns about accounting for visual and audible effects outside the ROW. No objections were raised and the STB adopted the procedural clarification.

## 1.2 PURPOSE FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF VISUAL EFFECTS

In accordance with the Procedural Clarification, the assessment of the visual effects of the proposed New Build Segment of the PRB Expansion Project on historic properties situated outside the ROW is intended to provide a reliable measurement of the nature and degree of impact the Project will have on the integrity of setting of properties eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) where integrity of setting may be among the characteristics that contribute to their significance.

## 1.3 Methodology

To evaluate the potential for impacts on the integrity of setting of sites outside the DM&E ROW, the DM&E developed a graded system intended to relate increasing distance from the Project ROW with decreasing levels of effect. This graded system relating distance with effect findings is combined with a GIS-based Line of Sight (LOS) Analysis which accommodates variations in the terrain in a manner that provides an elevation-based assessment of the viewshed from each targeted site in relation to the PRB Expansion Project ROW. Although the LOS Analysis uses ground elevations and does not account for obscured viewsheds from tree stands or built obstructions, the elevational measurements provide a quantitative means of assessing where the Project ROW may be visible from the vantage point of the site.

Combined, the distance/effect gradations and the LOS Analysis provide the categories identified in **Table 1**, Visual Impact Categories Applied to Cultural Resource Sites Outside the PRB Expansion Project ROW, for assessing visual effects, with the caveat that where the LOS Analysis demonstrates that variations in terrain obstruct the site's viewshed from various distances and directions, the actual effect finding for any given targeted site may be reduced from 'Adverse' to 'Not Adverse' to 'No Effect', depending on the distance and scope of visibility of the PRB Project rail corridor. This information is also provided on individual site figures throughout the document.

**Table 1-1: Visual Impact Categories Applied to Cultural Resource Sites Outside the PRB Expansion Project ROW**

Viewshed Description	Distance from ROW	Map Color Code	Effect Recommendation
Foreground	0- ¼ mile	Red (denotes site boundary where scale allows) and Yellow	Adverse Effect
Middle ground	¼ mile – 3 miles	Purple	No Adverse Effect
Background	3 miles and greater	Blue	No Effect

Based on requests from the Wyoming and South Dakota SHPOs, file searches of each state's site file systems were conducted for all eligible and listed historic properties within a distance of three miles on either side of the PRB Expansion Project ROW.

For South Dakota, the State Archaeological Research Center (SARC) provided site files that identified 33 historic properties that merited visual assessments and effect findings. SARC also provided copies of the site forms. The list received from the Wyoming SHPO exceeded 390 properties, many of which fell within coal mine boundaries. Consequently, further discussions with the Wyoming SHPO were conducted to ascertain which of these might be discarded due to previous disturbance and other factors. The Wyoming SHPO provided a revised list of 39 previously identified historic properties within three miles of the ROW that merited visual assessments and effect findings.

Of the 72 historic properties in South Dakota and Wyoming that merited visual assessments and effect findings, most had been determined eligible under National Register criterion D. Integrity of setting as a contributing characteristic was generally not considered by the recorders or evident in the information provided by the SHPOs. Consequently, due to incomplete prior evaluations, the Line of Sight analysis was conducted for all 72 historic properties under the presumption that integrity of setting may be relevant. Eleven of the 72 properties identified by the South Dakota and Wyoming sources for this exercise were situated within the ROW. These properties are noted in the following sections and included in the line of site analysis to ensure consistency with SHPO-supplied lists. Direct effects to these properties will be addressed in the relevant cultural resource survey reports for the construction area of potential effects, currently under review.

## **2.0 SOUTH DAKOTA**

A total of 33 historic properties were analyzed in South Dakota. The analysis for each historic property is described in the following sections. Copies of site forms for each site analyzed in South Dakota are provided in **Appendix B**.

### **2.1 ANALYSIS OF SITES**

The following text provides site description, previous disturbance, National Register significance, integrity of setting, and figures for each site analyzed in South Dakota. A summary table listing each of the analyzed properties in South Dakota is provided in **Section 4.0** of this analysis.

#### **2.1.1 SITE 39CU2938**

##### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39CU2938, the Freeman Homestead, was identified by Sam Lowry on October 27, 2001 as part of the Indian Creek Land Exchange. The site consists of the remains of a spring development and breached dam for a stock pond, depression, and various scatters of artifacts associated with homesteading activities.

##### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

None noted, but there's no mention of any standing structures.

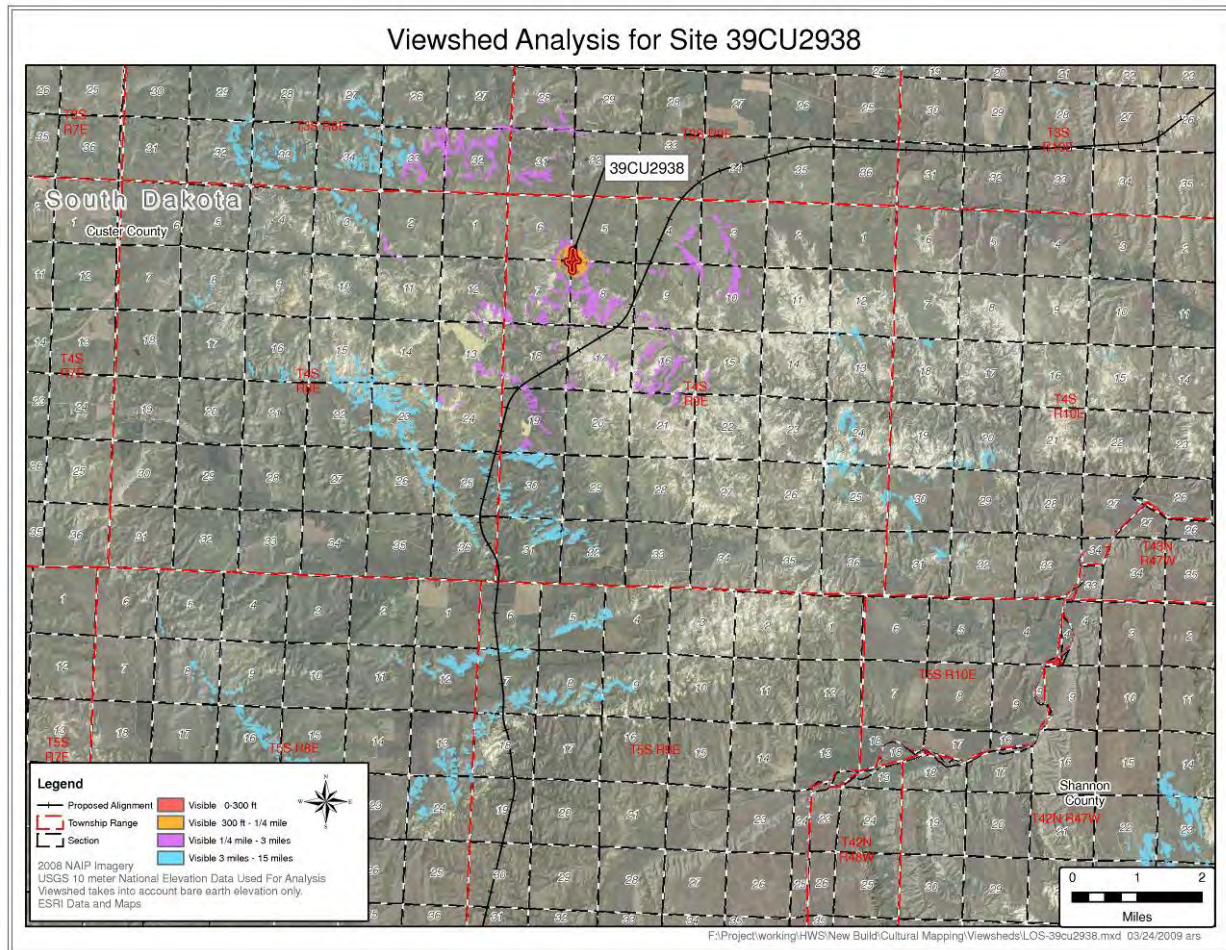
##### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The site was recommended as eligible, but the site form does not indicate which National Register criteria apply. Judging from the site description, it is most likely recommended as eligible under Criterion D for its potential to inform about early homesteading.

##### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

Based on the absence of any standing structures at this historic homestead, the integrity of setting probably does not apply. The line of sight map shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor approaches the site within about 1¼ mile east of the site, and is visible approximately more than 2 miles south-southeast (**Figure 2-1**). Even if integrity of setting contributes to the significance of the property, less than ¼ mile of the PRB Expansion Project rail corridor would be visible more than 2 miles distant, and would not adversely affect the site.





**Figure 2-1. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39CU2938.**

## 2.1.2 SITE 39CU2944

### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 39CU2944 is a historic dam recorded on October 27, 2001 by Sam Lowry for the Triple 7 Land Exchange on U.S. Forest Service (USFS)-administered lands. The recorder noted that the site was built of large limestone blocks, which may have provided only a facing for the structure, and functioned to provide a stock watering pond.

### PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

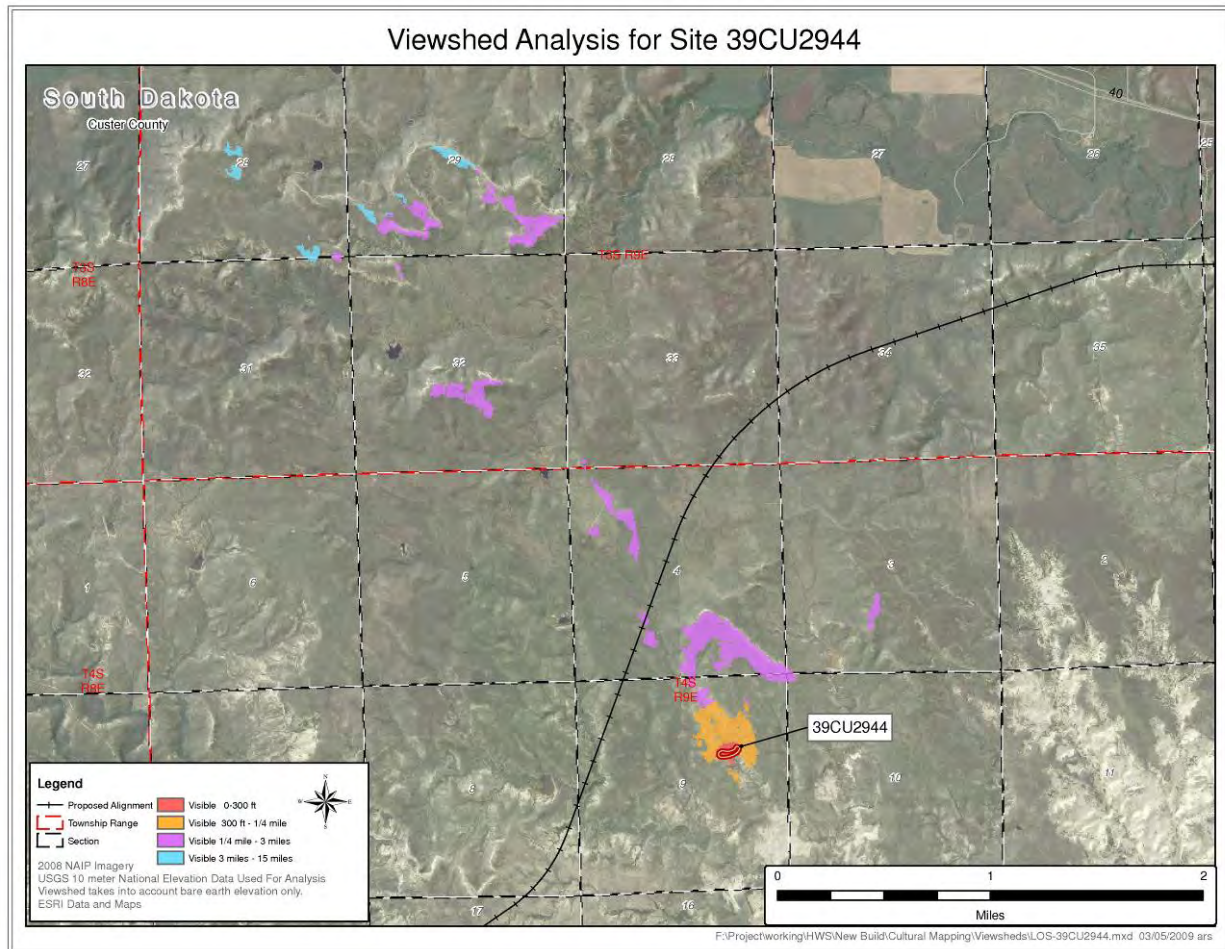
None noted.

### NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The recorder designated the site as unevaluated.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

The site is situated more than a ½ mile from the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor. A small stretch of the corridor, less than 1/8 mile in length, may be visible approximately ¾ mile from the site (**Figure 2-2**). If integrity of setting is a contributing quality to the site's significance, the minimal intrusion of the rail corridor in the middle ground of its viewshed is not considered to be adverse.



**Figure 2-2. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39CU2944.**

### 2.1.3 SITE 39CU2986

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 39CU2986 is described as a lithic scatter with moderate to high artifact density. It was recorded on USFS-administered land by Marshall and Davis on September 27, 2001 as part of the Triple 7 Land Exchange Project.



## PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

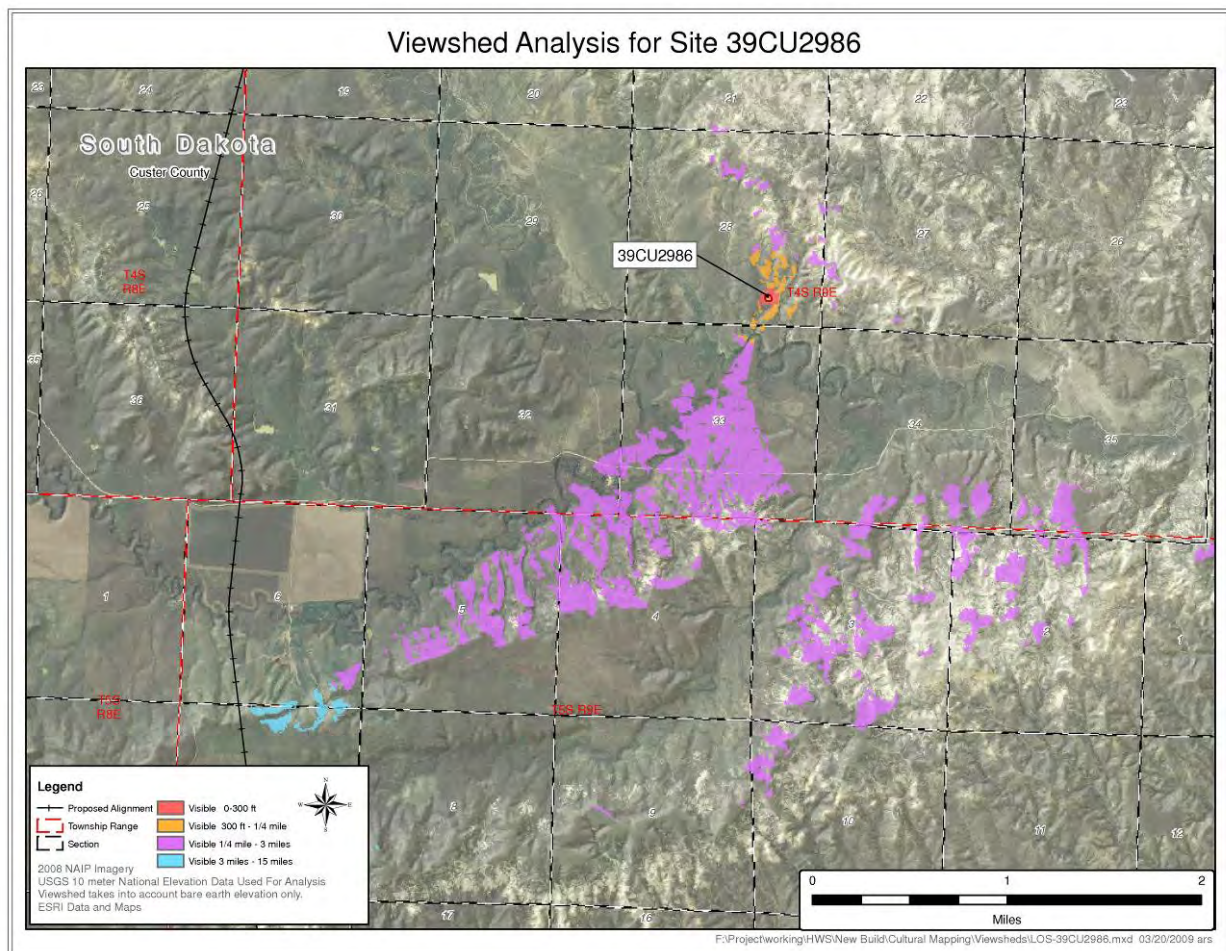
None noted.

## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The site form does not address the eligibility of the property, but presumably it is considered eligible under Criterion D.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

Integrity of setting is unlikely to be a contributing characteristic of the property. The proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is approximately 3 miles from the site and is not within the site's viewshed (**Figure 2-3**). The proposed PRB Project will not affect the site.



**Figure 2-3. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39CU2986.**

#### **2.1.4 SITE 39CU2987**

##### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39CU2987 is described as a lithic scatter with moderate to high artifact density on USFS-administered land. It was recorded by Tim Marshall on September 26-27, 2001 as part of the Triple 7 Land Exchange Project.

##### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

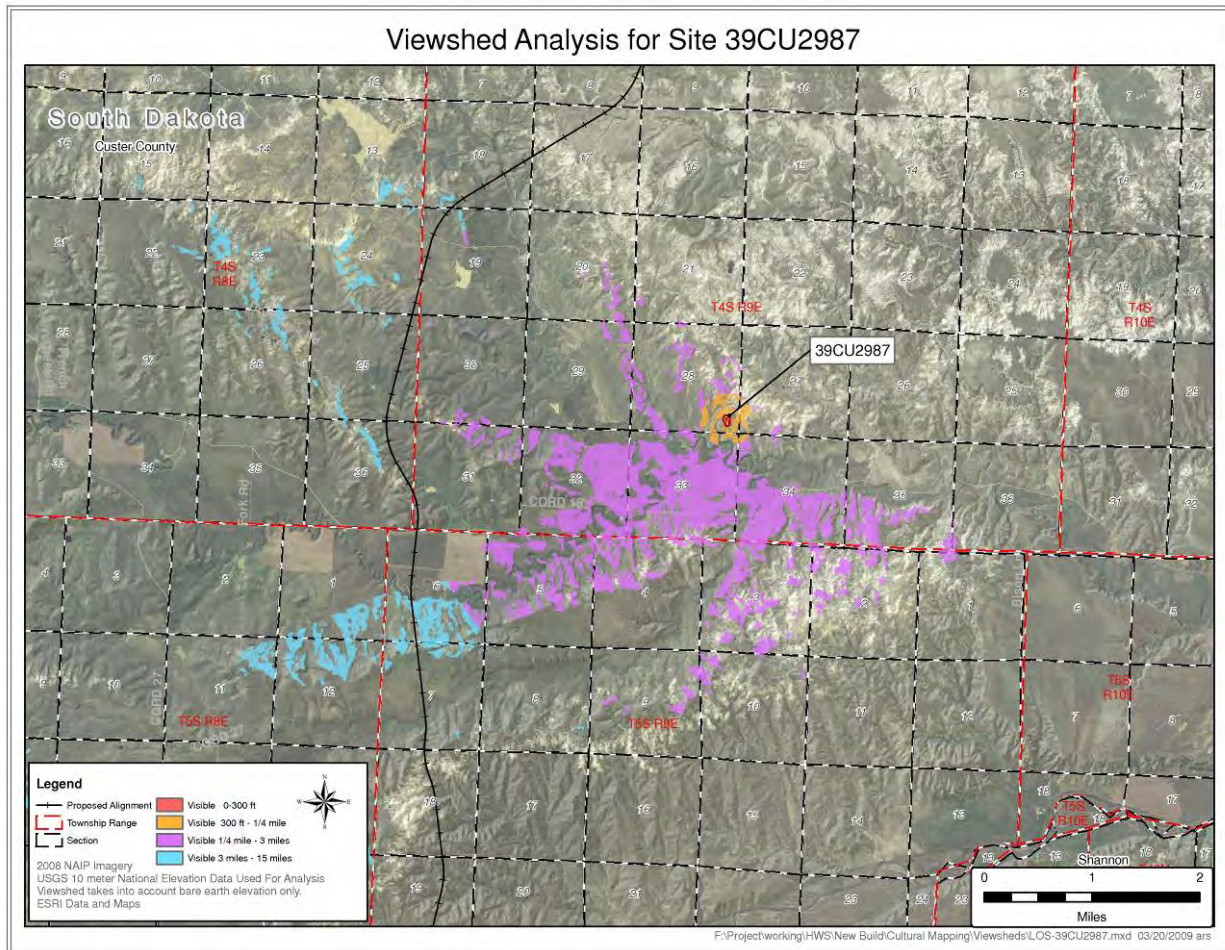
None noted.

##### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The site form does not address the eligibility of the property, but presumably it is considered eligible under Criterion D.

##### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

Integrity of setting is unlikely to be a contributing characteristic of the property. The proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is visible more than 3 miles from the site (**Figure 2-4**). The proposed PRB Project will not affect the site.



**Figure 2-4. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39CU2987.**

### 2.1.5 SITE 39CU3322

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39CU3322, the Clark Homestead, was identified by Pry and Novotony as part of the Indian Creek Land Exchange, probably in 2004. The site consists of a dugout, a depression, a few standing fence posts, and various historic artifacts.

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

None noted.

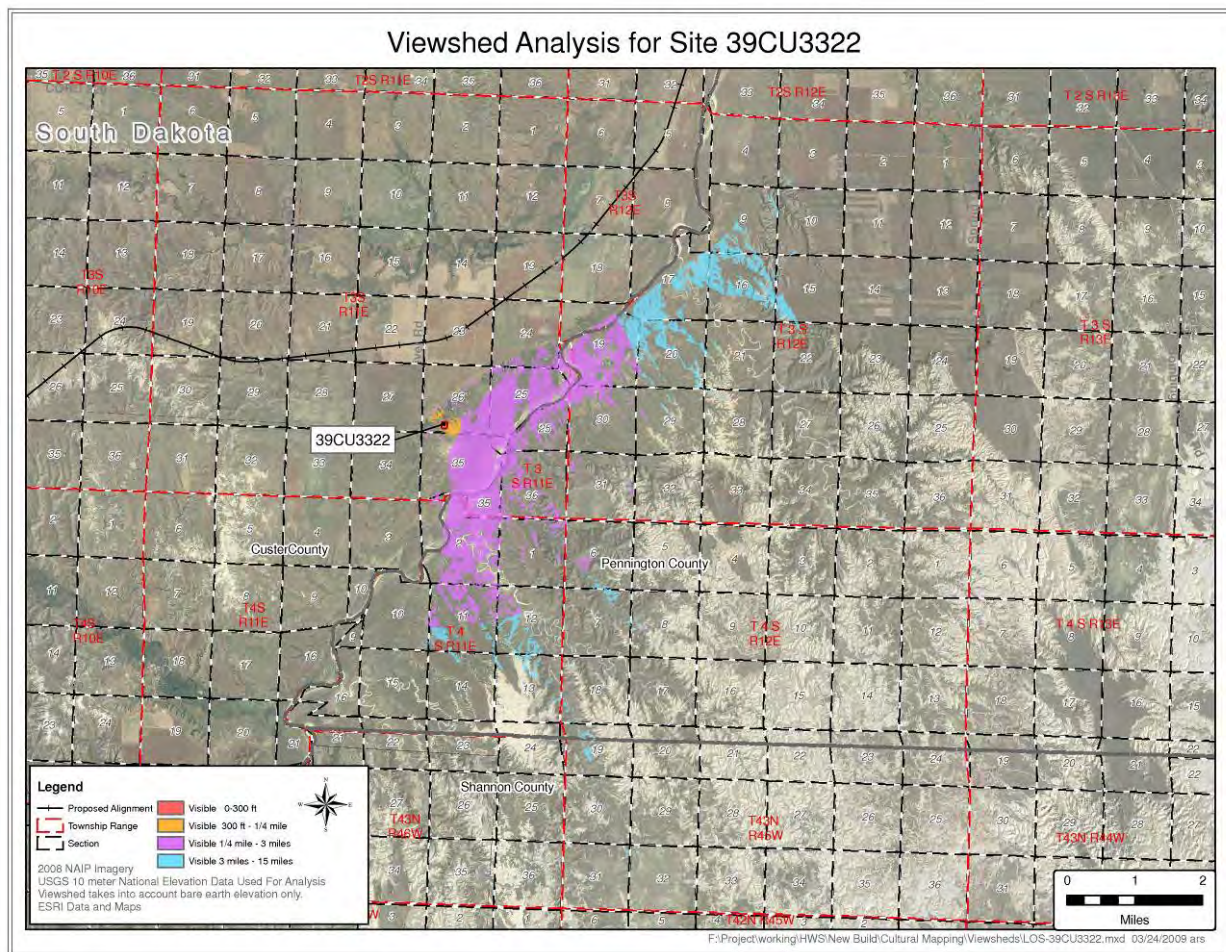


## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The site was recommended as eligible, but the site form fails to note which criteria apply. Judging from the site description, it is most likely recommended eligible under Criterion D for its potential to inform about early homesteading.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

Based on the absence of any standing structures at this historic homestead, the integrity of setting probably does not apply. The proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated more than 1 mile to the north of the site, and is not within its viewshed (**Figure 2-5**). Consequently, the proposed PRB Project will not affect the site.



**Figure 2-5. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39CU3322.**

## **2.1.6 SITE 39CU3619/CU02500002-04**

### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39CU3619/CU02500002, CU02500003, and CU02500004 is an abandoned building associated with a farmstead recorded on July 26, 2007 by Augustana College. The building is described as last used as a workshop in the 1970's, and is constructed of railroad ties covered with stucco, with a large double door, no windows and low gabled roof, and its structural system is labeled "garage."

### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

Not noted.

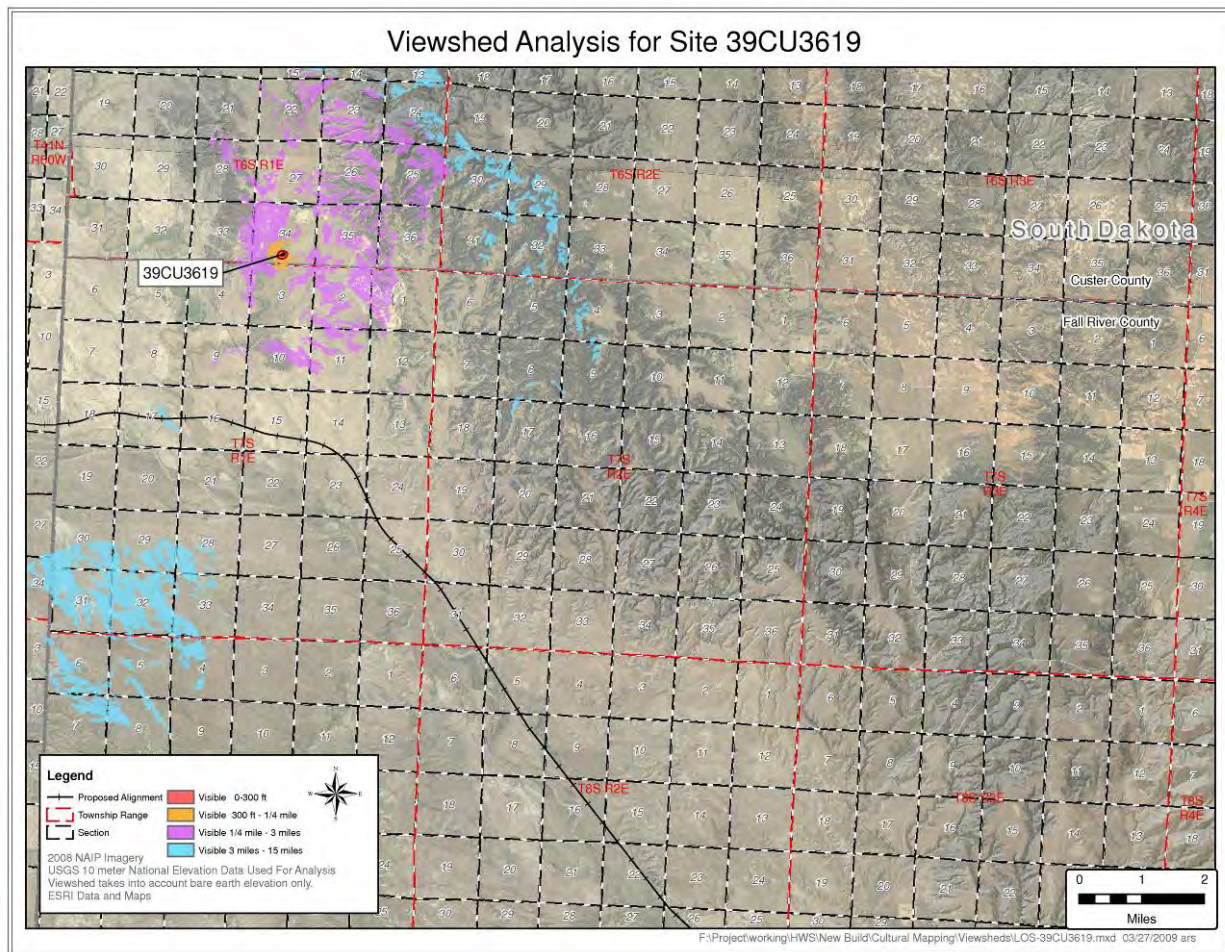
### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The site is recommended as eligible for its architectural merits. It is described as "...a well-preserved example of the rr tie/stucco covered construction."

### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

Integrity of setting is unlikely a contributing characteristic of the architectural merits of this property. The analysis shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated approximately 3 miles south of the building (**Figure 2-6**). A small segment of the rail corridor may be visible more than 3 miles to the southwest in the background of the building's viewshed. The proposed PRB Expansion Project will not affect the integrity of the building.





**Figure 2-6. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39CU3619/CU02500002-04.**

### 2.1.7 SITE CU00000050

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site CU00000050, also known as the Young, Edna, and Ernest Ranch, is an example of a legal homestead ranch complex comprised of various ranch buildings and structures. The National Register form for this property was completed by Rebecca Bernstein on January 17, 1990. The site was recorded on June 20, 1988, but the recorder is unknown.

#### PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

Not noted.

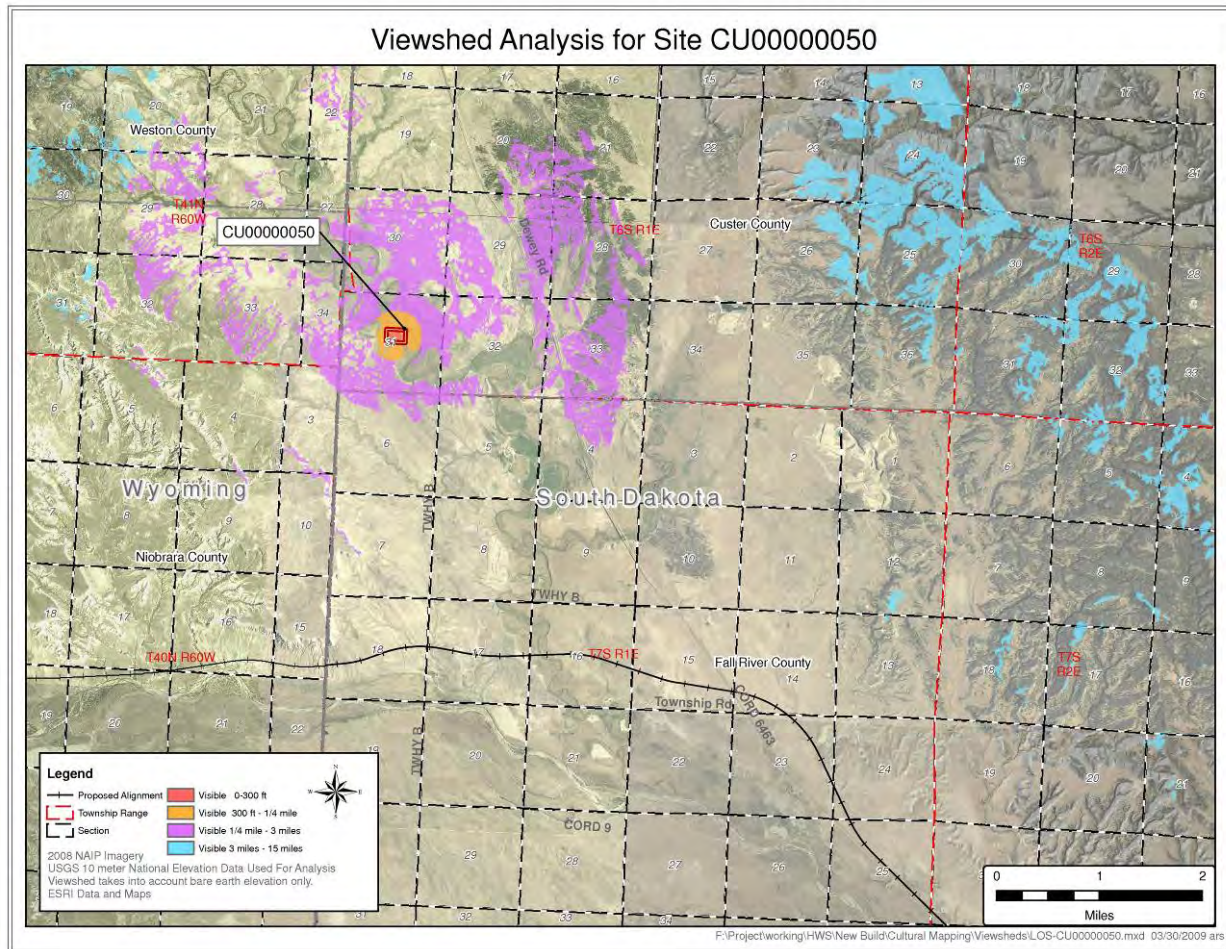
#### NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The site was listed on July 5, 1990 under Criterion A.



## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

The integrity of setting likely contributes to the significance of the property. However, the LOS Analysis shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated 3 miles to the south and no portion of the PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is within the viewshed of the property (**Figure 2-7**). The proposed PRB Project will have no effect on the historic values of the site.



**Figure 2-7. Viewshed Analysis of Site CU00000050.**

### 2.1.8 SITE 39FA0065

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 39FA0065, the Ray Long Site, has been the subject of extensive archaeological investigations since 1948. The site represents a Paleoindian occupation dating to about 10,000 years ago.



## PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

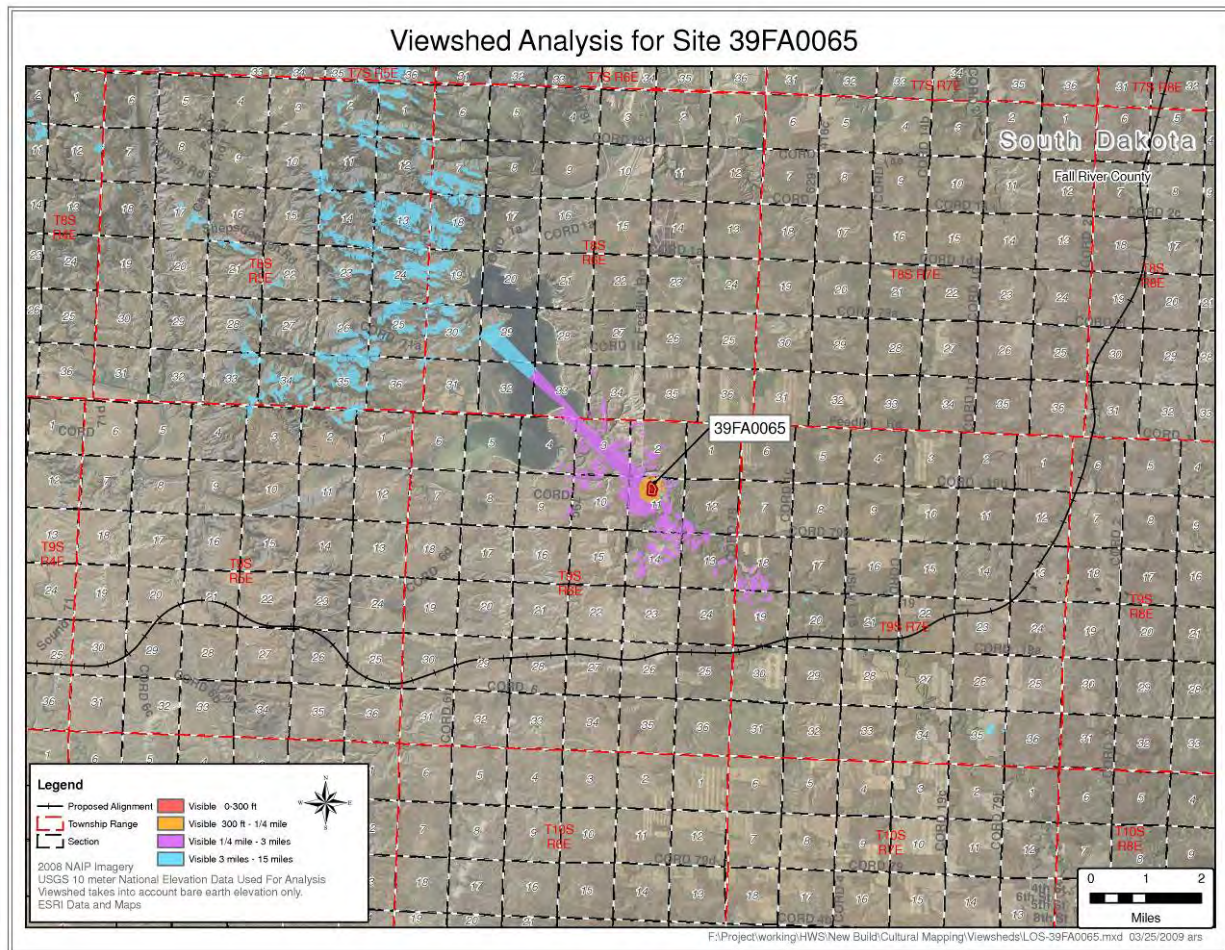
The recorders question whether the site retains sufficient integrity to qualify for nomination to the National Register. However, given the importance of information derived from the site, and for purposes of this study, we presume that it does.

## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The site is eligible for listing under Criterion D because of the important information it has provided to understanding early prehistoric adaptations of the area.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

The site's condition is disturbed and integrity of setting may not be a contributing characteristic. The proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated 3 miles to the south and not visible within the viewshed of the site (**Figure 2-8**). Consequently, the proposed PRB Expansion Project will not affect the site.





**Figure 2-8. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0065.**

#### **2.1.9 SITE 39FA0277**

##### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39FA0277 is a rock art site recorded by Haury and Sundstrom on August 9, 1980. The site is described as several petroglyph panels measuring 2 meters (m) by 20m.

##### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

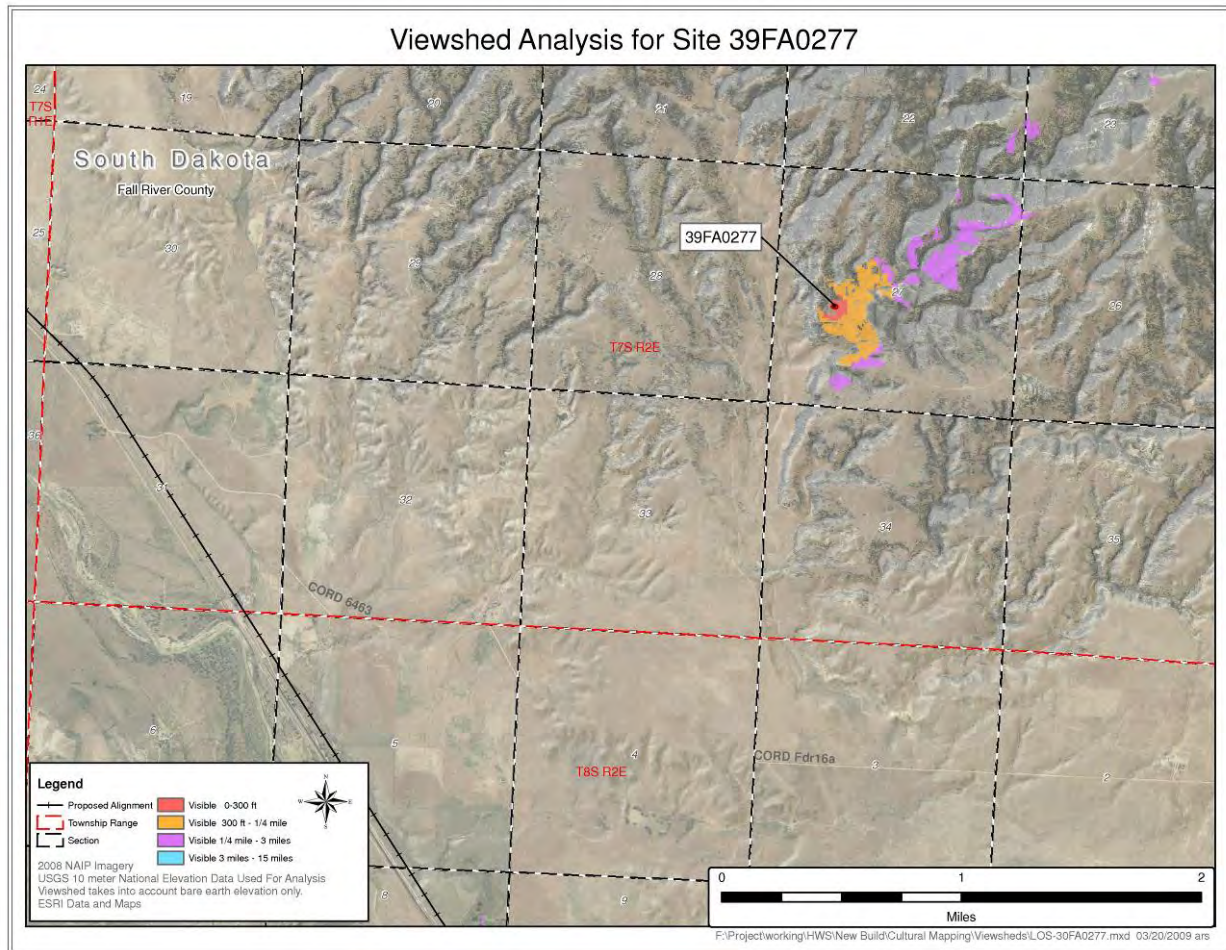
The recorders note the site is undisturbed except for some chalking and vandalism.

##### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

Information provided with the site form suggests the site was listed on the National Register as of 1993. Presumably the site is considered significant under Criteria A and C for their artistic and historic associations.

##### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

Although integrity of setting is a likely contributing characteristic of the site, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is not within its viewshed (**Figure 2-9**). Analysis shows the rail corridor to be situated more than 2 miles away and not visible from the site. The proposed PRB Expansion Project will not affect the site.



**Figure 2-9. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0277.**

### 2.1.10 SITE 39FA0395/FA00200008

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39FA0395/FA00200008 is a 100m long rock art-bearing cliff facing southeastward. Information provided by SHPO did not indicate who recorded the site or when it was recorded.

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

The site form notes sediment displacement of the cliff base and severe cracking of the cliff face. Severe weathering of the panels is also noted indicating that the petroglyphs and grooves are obscured in some sections of the site.

#### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The site was listed on the National Register under Criteria C and D on October 20, 1994.



## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

Integrity of setting is likely a contributing characteristic of this site. The analysis shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated more than 4 miles to the south in the background of the site's viewshed (Figure 2-10). Although as much as 1 mile of the proposed PRB rail corridor may be visible from the site, the visual intrusion will not affect the site.

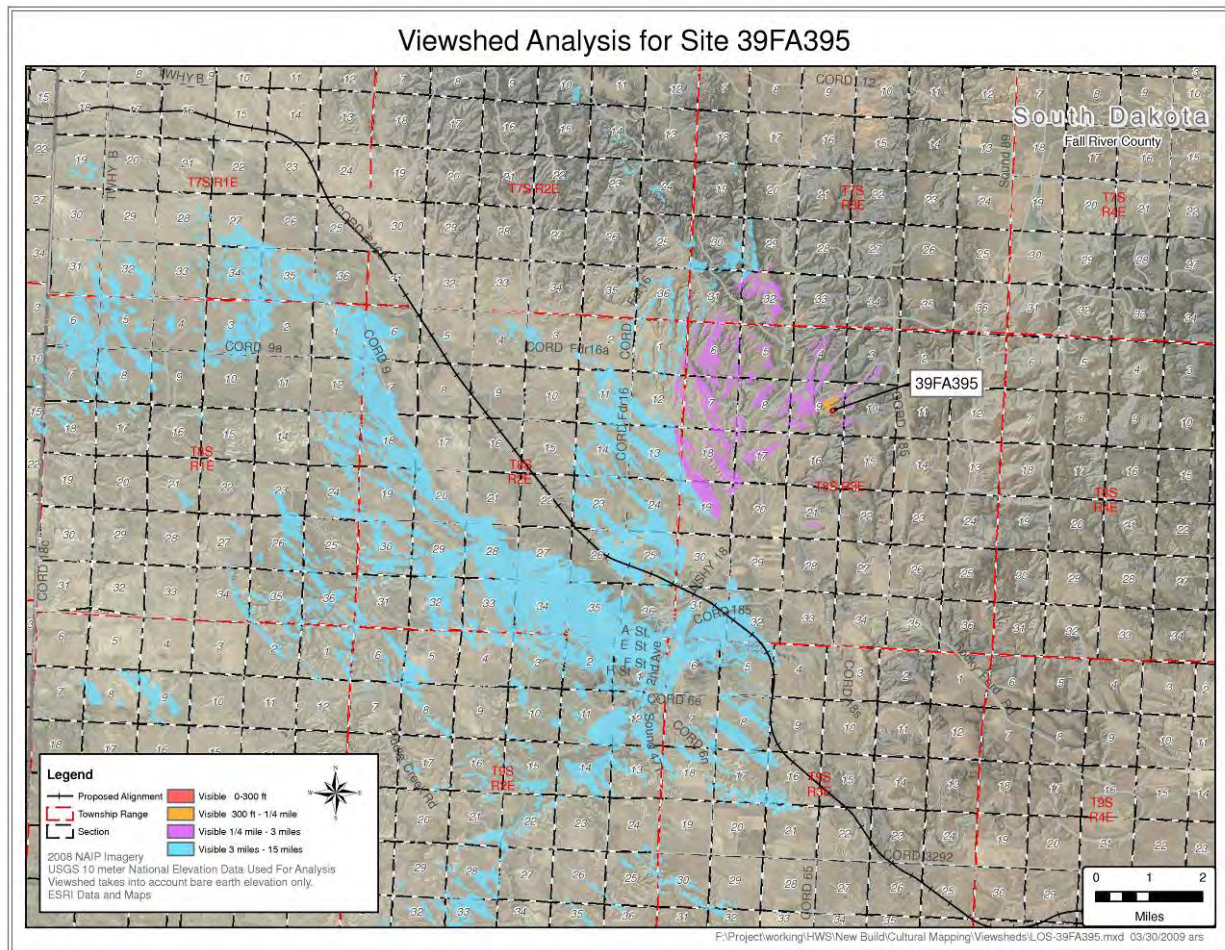


Figure 2-10. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0395.

### 2.1.11 SITE 39FA0446/FA00200009

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 39FA446/FA00200009 is a 2m-long rock art on a cliff face. The site consists of six panels exhibiting petroglyphs of various shapes, forms and styles on USFS-administered land.



## PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

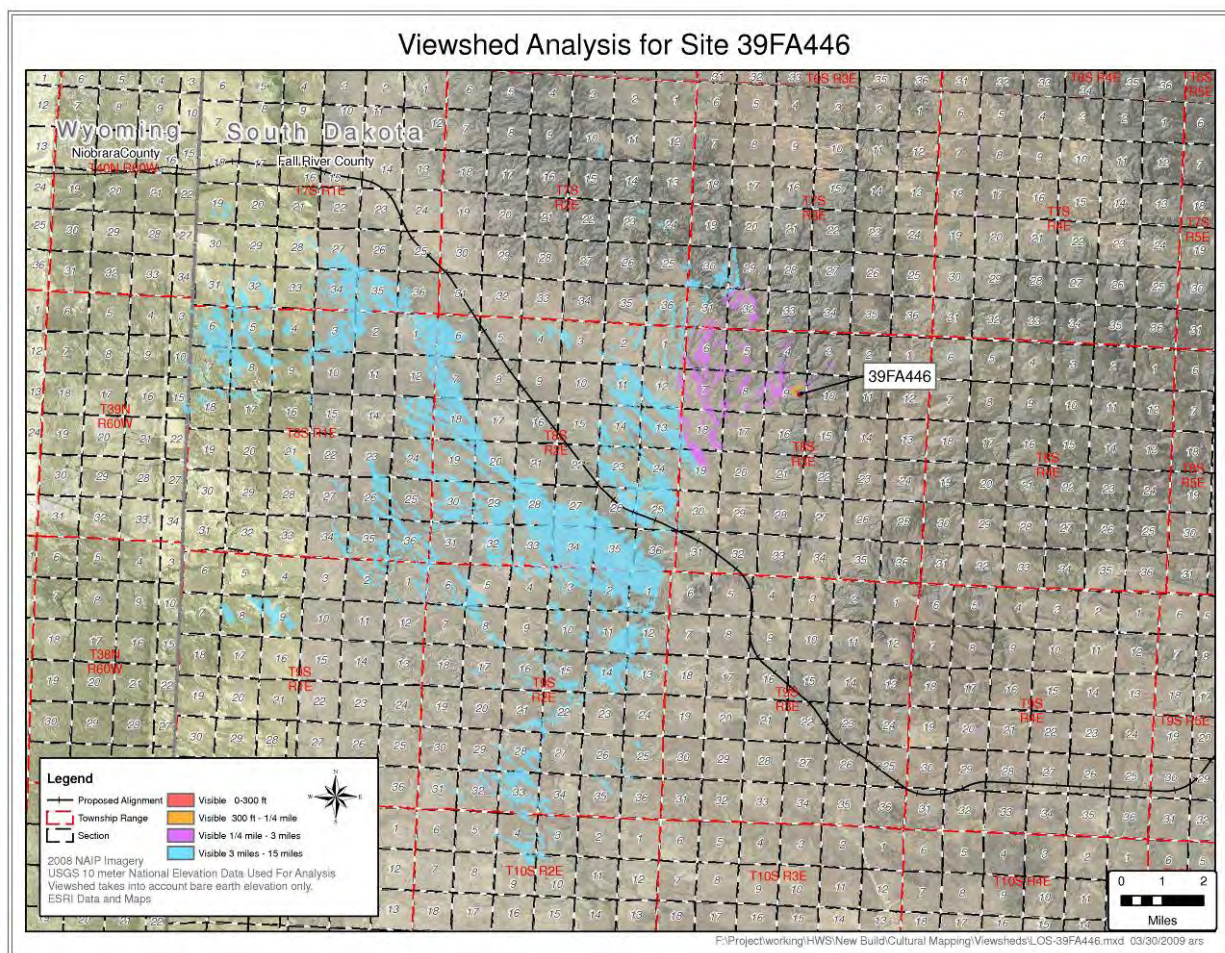
The condition of the panels is described as heavily weathered.

## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The site is part of the Prehistoric Rock Art of South Dakota District and is listed on the National Register under Criteria C and D.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

The integrity of setting of the site is likely a contributing characteristic of its significance. The LOS Analysis shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated more than 4 miles to the southwest in the background of the site's viewshed (**Figure 2-11**). Although the PRB rail corridor may be visible from the site, it will not affect the site's integrity of setting.



**Figure 2-11. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0446/FA00200009.**

### **2.1.12 SITE 39FA0539**

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39FA0539 is a prehistoric quarry recorded by Steve Cassells on July 5, 1989. The site measures about 125m by 75m on USFS-administered land. Artifacts observed at the time of recordation included cobble cores and flakes eroding from an upper level near the surface rim of an isolated knob.

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

None noted.

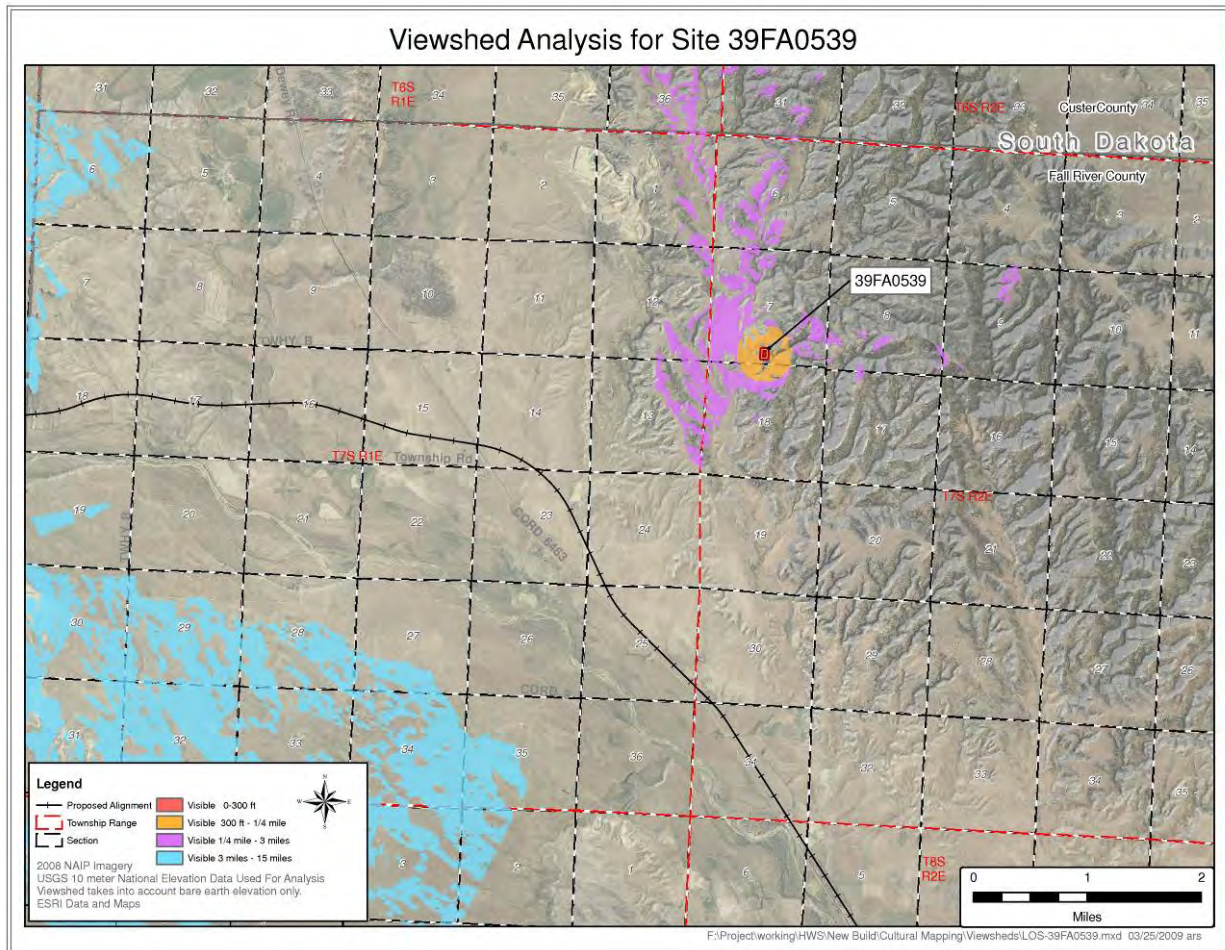
#### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

Apparently, the site is considered eligible for the National Register under Criterion D, although this is not stated explicitly.

#### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

Integrity of setting is unlikely to be a contributing characteristic to the site's significance. Regardless, based on the LOS Analysis, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated approximately 2 miles to the southwest and is not visible from the site (**Figure 2-12**).





**Figure 2-12. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0539.**

### 2.1.13 SITE 39FA0554/FA00200014

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39FA0554/FA00200014 is a rock art site recorded by Kerry Lippincott on May 1, 1980.

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

None noted.

#### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The site may be listed as part of a National Register District, “Rock Art in the Southern Black Hills TR”. Presumably, the site is considered eligible for its artistic merits under Criterion C and perhaps for its historic associations under Criterion A.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

Integrity of setting may be a contributing characteristic of the property. However, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is not within the viewshed of the site (**Figure 2-13**). The rail corridor's nearest approach to the site is approximately 2 miles to the southwest and will not be visible. The proposed PRB Expansion Project Project will not affect the site.

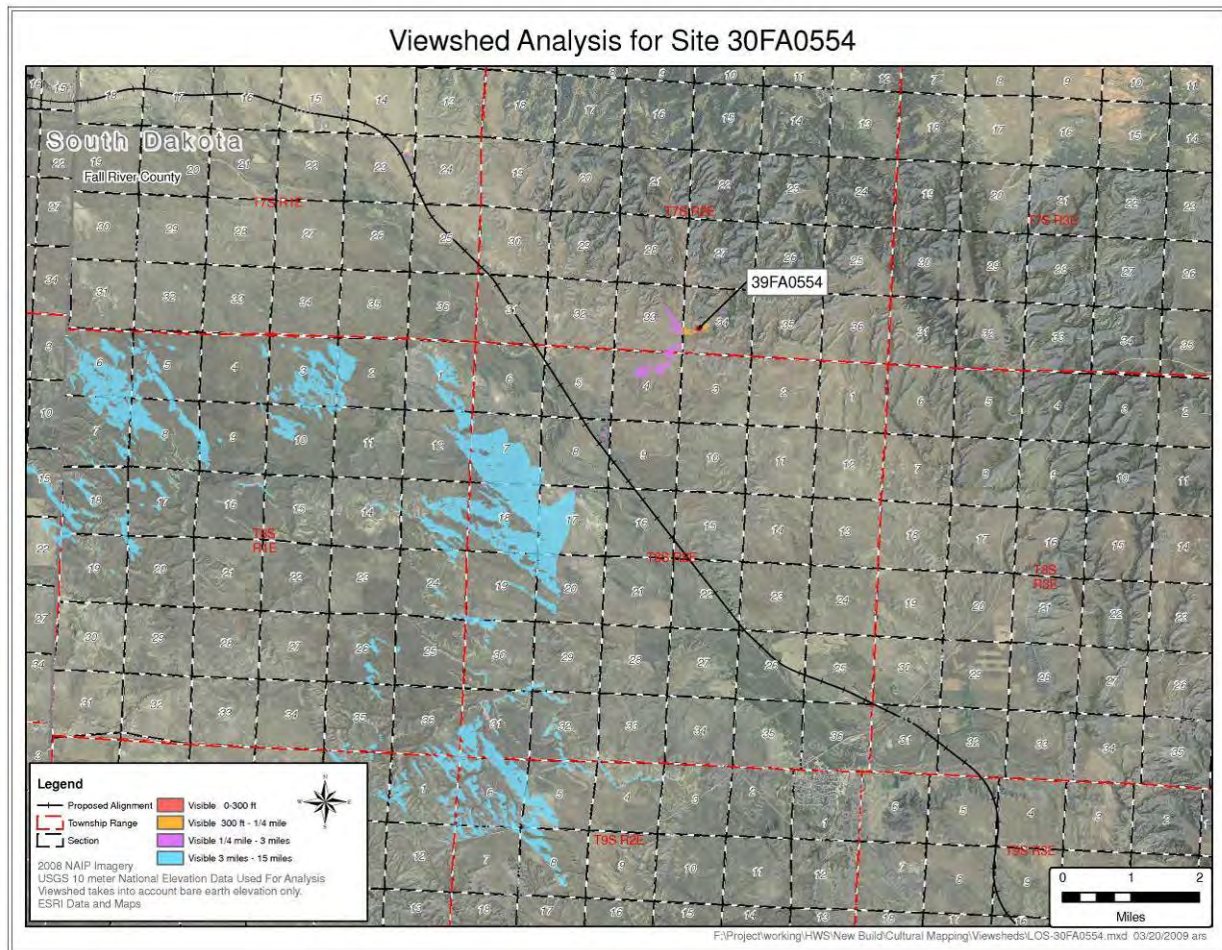


Figure 2-13. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA0554/FA00200014.

### 2.1.14 SITE 39FA1032/FA002000042

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 39FA1032/FA002000042 is comprised of three prehistoric rock art panels and stone tool manufacturing debris. The site form does not identify the recorder or date when it was recorded, but indicates it may have been listed on the National Register as part of a thematic district on August 6, 1993.



## PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

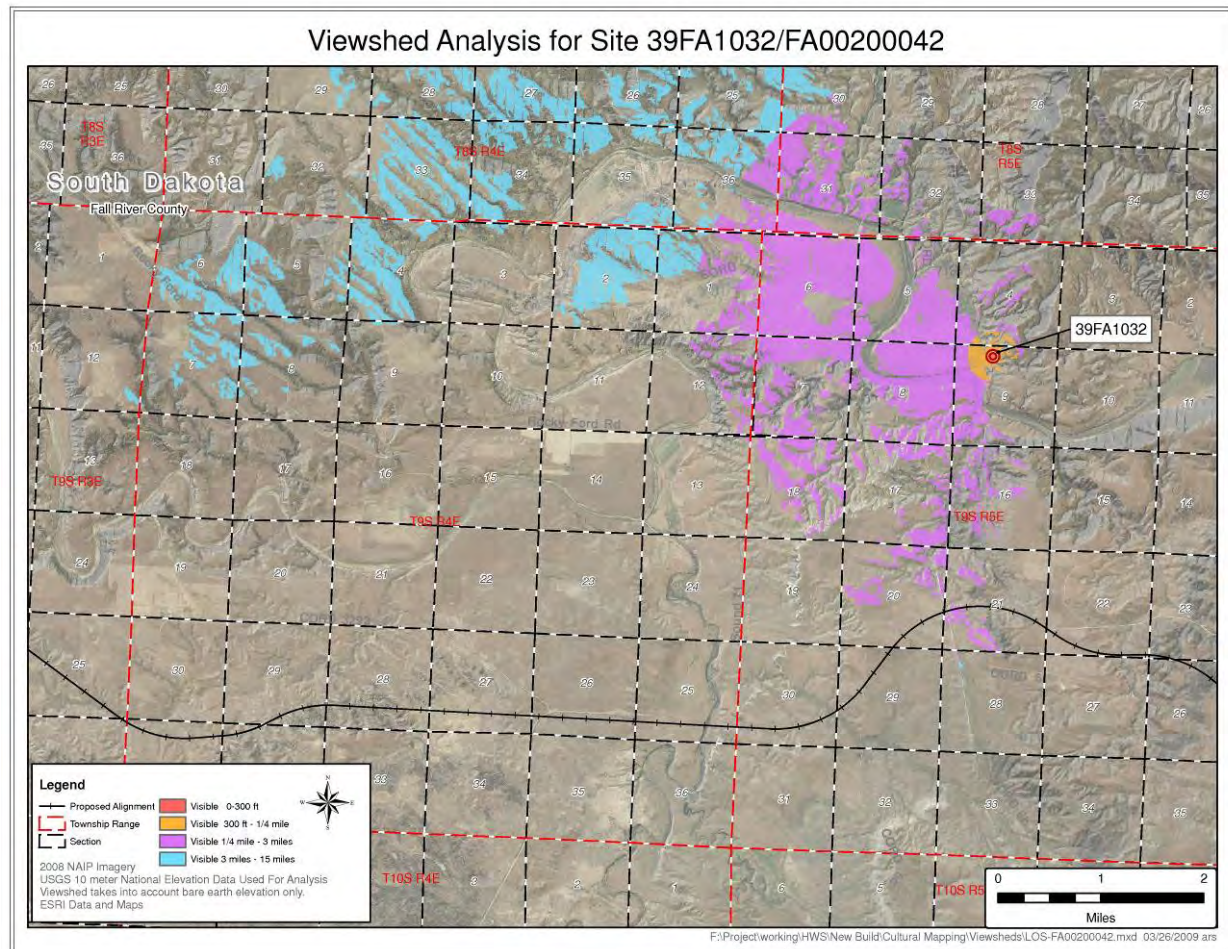
The site form indicates it is undisturbed, but notes that erosion has compromised its integrity.

## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The site is eligible for the National Register under Criteria C and D for its association with traditional cultural values and information potential.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

Integrity of setting is likely among the qualities that contribute to its significance. However, the LOS Analysis shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project railroad corridor is situated 2½ miles from the site, and is not within the viewshed except for a very short distance less than ¼ mile, at 2½ miles to the south (**Figure 2-14**). The effect of the PRB Expansion Project railroad corridor on the site is considered to be not adverse.



**Figure 2-14. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1032/FA00200042.**



### **2.1.15 SITE 39FA1303/FA002000063**

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39FA1303/FA002000063 consists of two boulders; one with incised lines, and the other with abraded grooves. The site was recorded by Dan Byrne on December 12, 1994, and later visited by Linea Sundstrom on August 8, 2003.

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

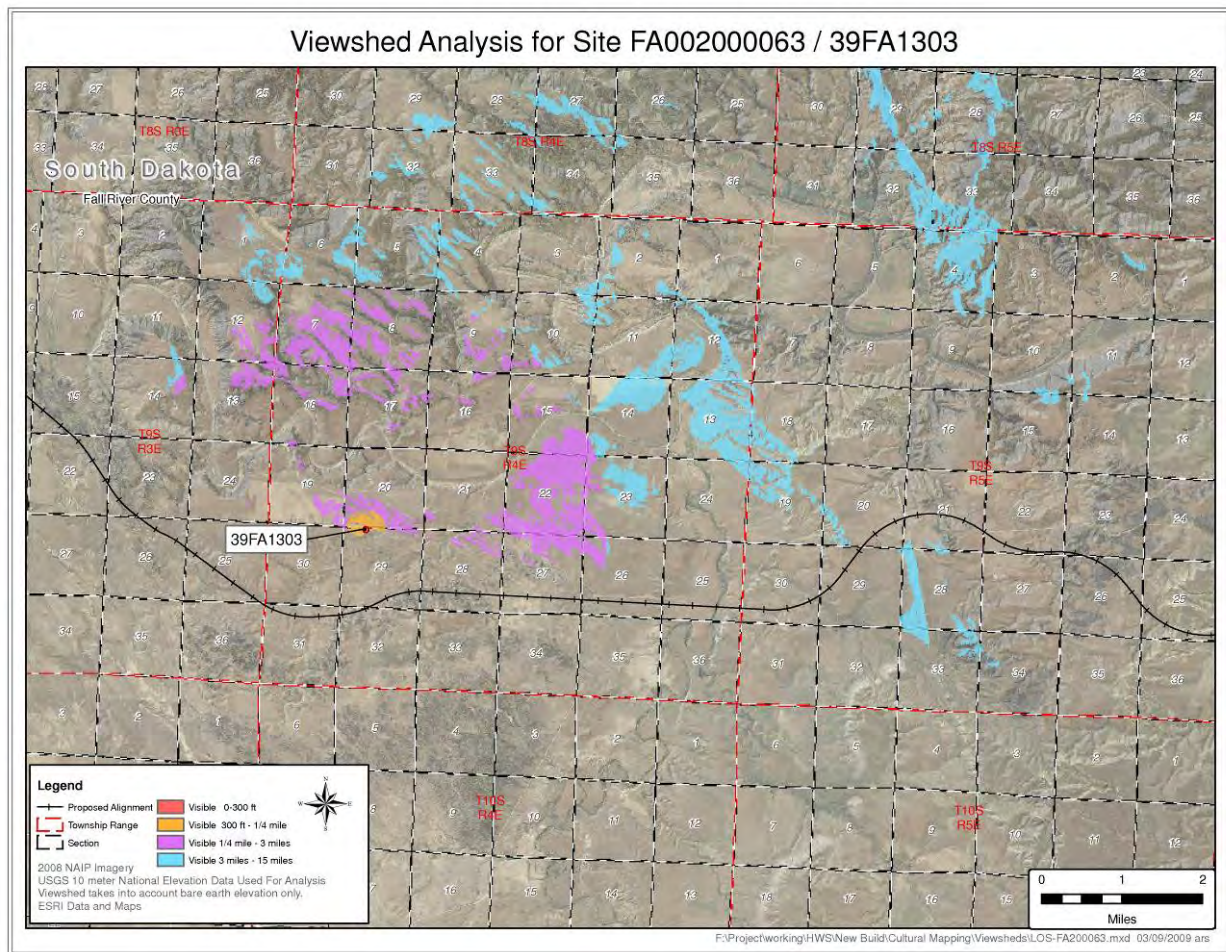
None noted.

#### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

Uncertain. The site forms suggest the SHPO may have determined the site to be eligible, but no date or criteria under which it qualifies is provided.

#### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

Regardless of the eligibility of the property, the analysis shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is approximately 1 mile to the south (**Figure 2-15**). However, no portion of the PRB Expansion Project rail corridor will be visible within the viewshed of the site. The proposed project will have no effect on the site.



**Figure 2-15. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1303/FA002000063.**

### 2.1.16 SITE 39FA1336/FA00200067

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 39FA1336/FA00200067 is a rock art site recorded by Linea Sundstrom on September 10, 2004. Limited information provided for this site indicates that it "...contains numerous panels of rock art, including pecked and incised types."

#### PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

None noted.

#### NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

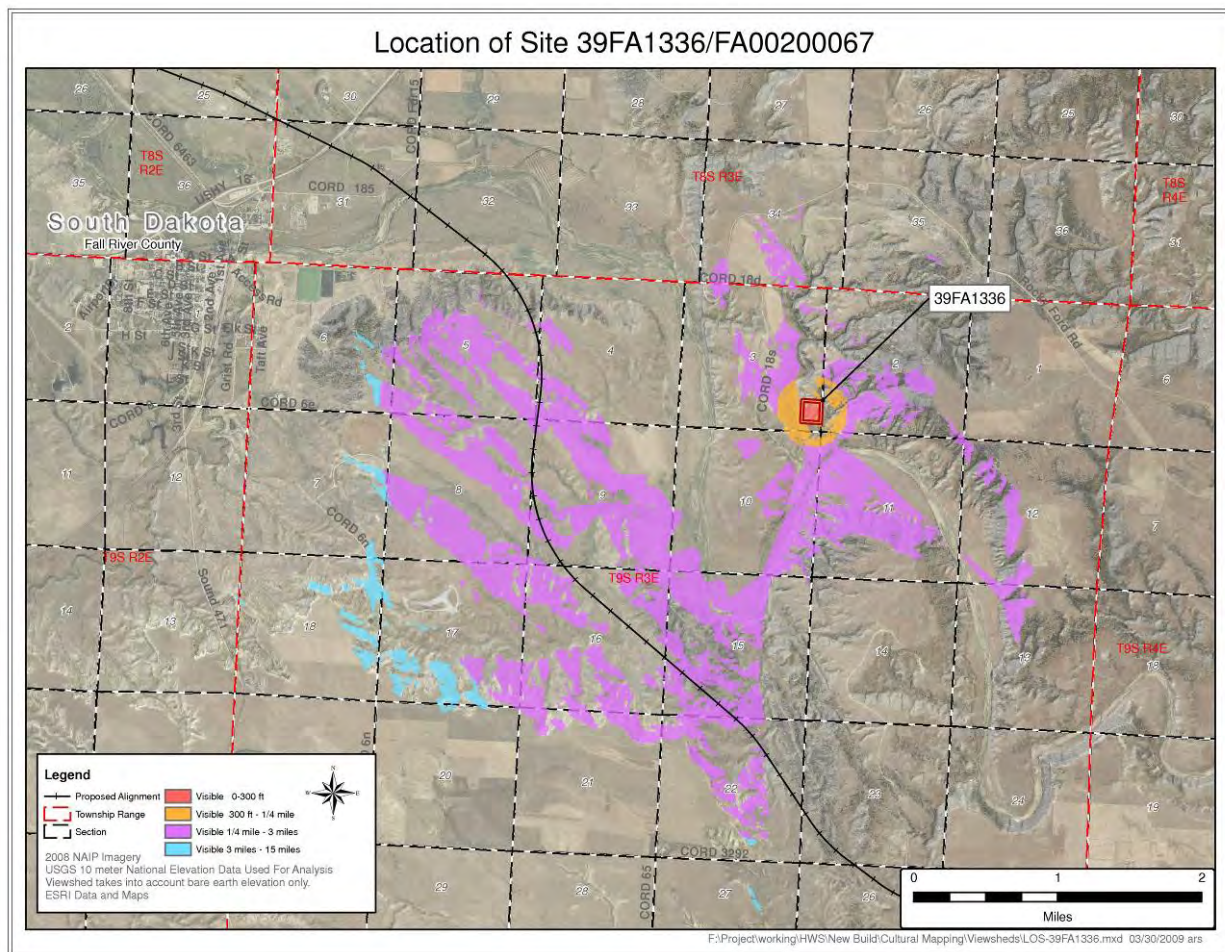
The site was listed on the National Register under Criterion D on July 14, 2005.



## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

Normally integrity of setting is not a contributing characteristic for properties that are determined to be significant only for their information values under Criterion D. However, the integrity of setting of rock art, which often qualifies for the National Register under Criterion C for its artistic merits, normally does contribute to the properties historic significance.

If integrity of setting is a contributing characteristic of this property, the line of site analysis shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated approximately 2 miles from the site at its closest approach within the middle ground of the site's viewshed (Figure 2-16). Given the distance interval, the visual intrusion will not adversely affect the site.



**Figure 2-16. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1336/ FA00200067**

### **2.1.17 SITE 39FA1337/FA002000068**

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39FA1337/FA002000068, also named the Lord's Ranch Rockshelter, was recorded by Linea Sundstrom on July 26, 1998. The site consists of several rock art panels depicting hoofed tracks pecked and ground into the panel surface.

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

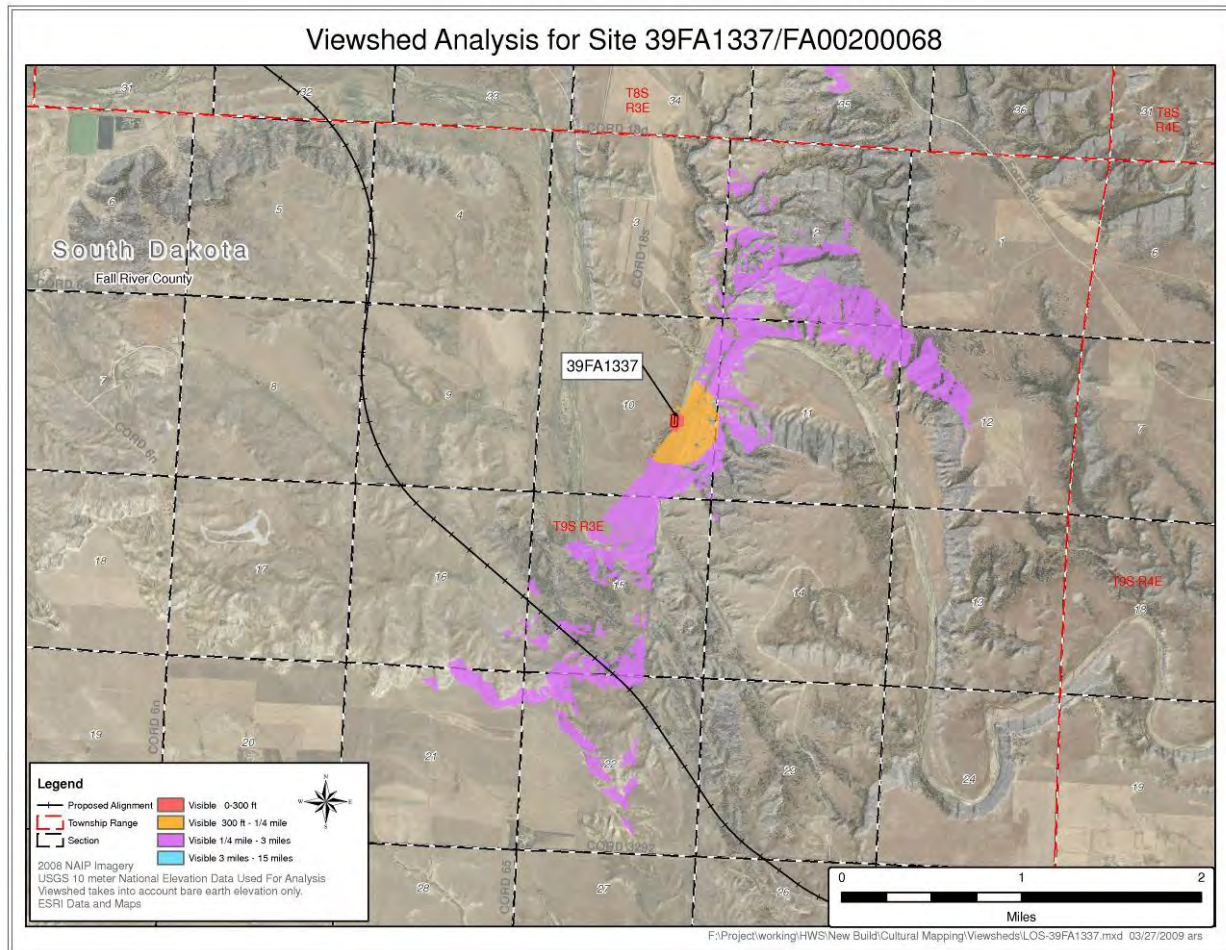
The site form indicates that the rock shelter was "semi-professionally excavated" at some time in the past.

#### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The site form indicates that the site was determined eligible on September 10, 2004 and listed as part of the Prehistoric Rock Art of South Dakota nomination on July 14, 2005.

#### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

Although not addressed on the site form, integrity of setting may be a contributing characteristic of the site. The LOS Analysis shows that the proposed PRB rail corridor is situated more than a mile to the southwest of the site (**Figure 2-17**). A short segment, approximately ¼ mile of the PRB rail corridor, may be visible about 1½ miles south of the site in the middle ground of the site's viewshed. The limited intrusion of the proposed PRB rail corridor at this distance will not pose an adverse effect to the site.



**Figure 2-17. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1337/FA00200068.**

### 2.1.18 SITE 39FA1360/FA01800002

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 39FA1360FA01800002 is a multi-component site consisting of a prehistoric artifact scatter and historic farmstead. The site was recorded by USD Arch Lab on March 20, 1999, April 27, 1999, and October 7, 1999, for the DM&E PRB Expansion Project. The site extends 310m N-S by 342m E-W and includes lithic artifacts associated with the prehistoric component and various farming-related artifacts and features associated with the extant gable and wing farm house, and various deteriorated farm structures.

#### PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

The recorders mention the presence of the BNSF railroad line along the southwest edge of the site, as well as a parallel improved service road and irrigation ditch.

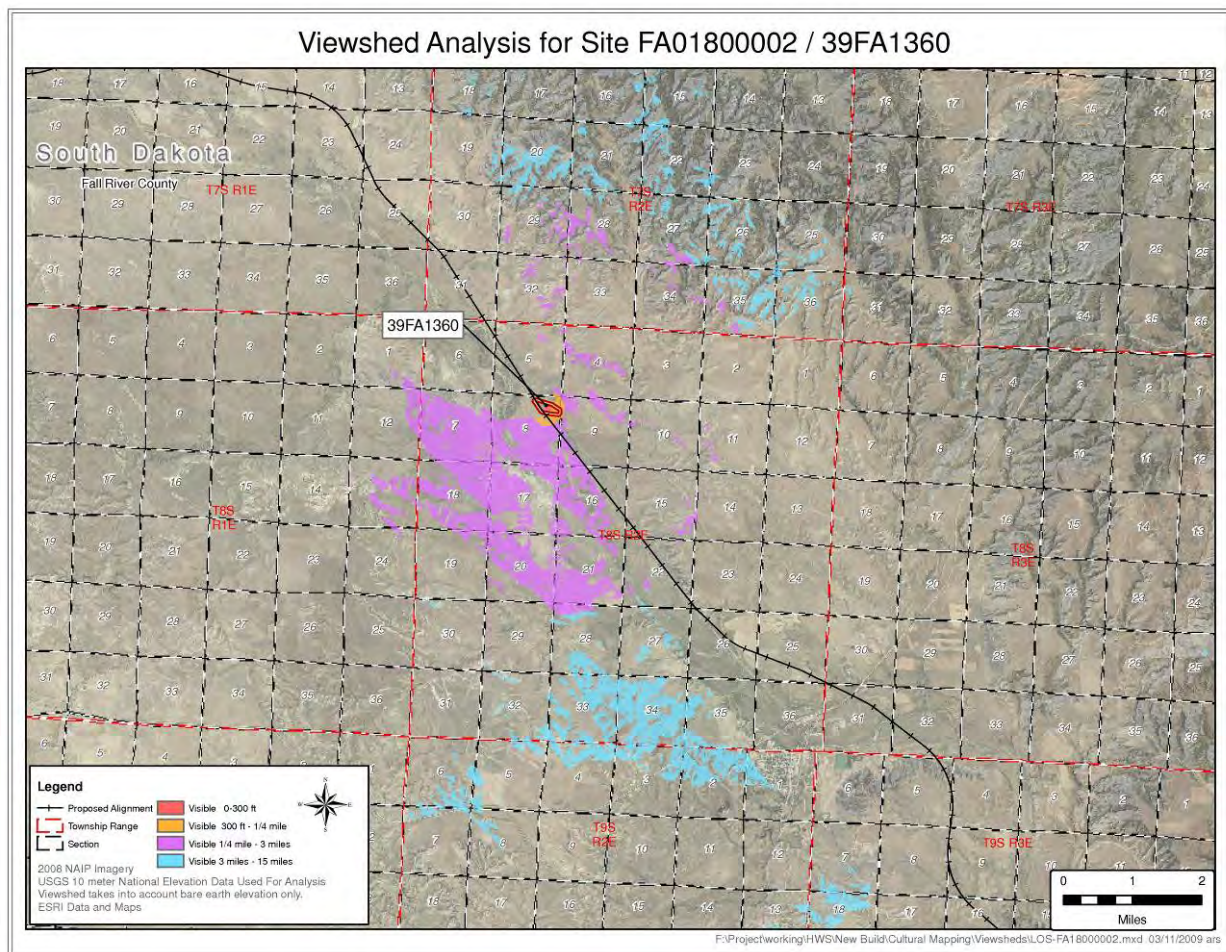


## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

Nine archaeological test units were excavated at the site. They produced indications of a shallowly buried component, and a deeper component extending to approximately 80cm below surface. The site was recommended as eligible under Criterion D for the information that may be derived from both the prehistoric components and the historic farmstead component.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

The site is situated within the proposed PRB Expansion Project railroad corridor ROW and will be considered based on the information provided in the appropriate project inventory report (Retter et.al (2007). (**Figure 2-18**).



**Figure 2-18. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1360/FA01800002.**

### **2.1.19 SITE 39FA1369/FA002000064**

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39FA1369/FA002000064 is a small historic artifact scatter recorded by the USD Arch Lab on March 24, 1999, for the DM&E PRB Expansion Project on private land. The site consists of three pieces of millstone.

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

Unknown. The lack of association of the fragments of millstone with a mill suggests they were discarded away from the original location of use.

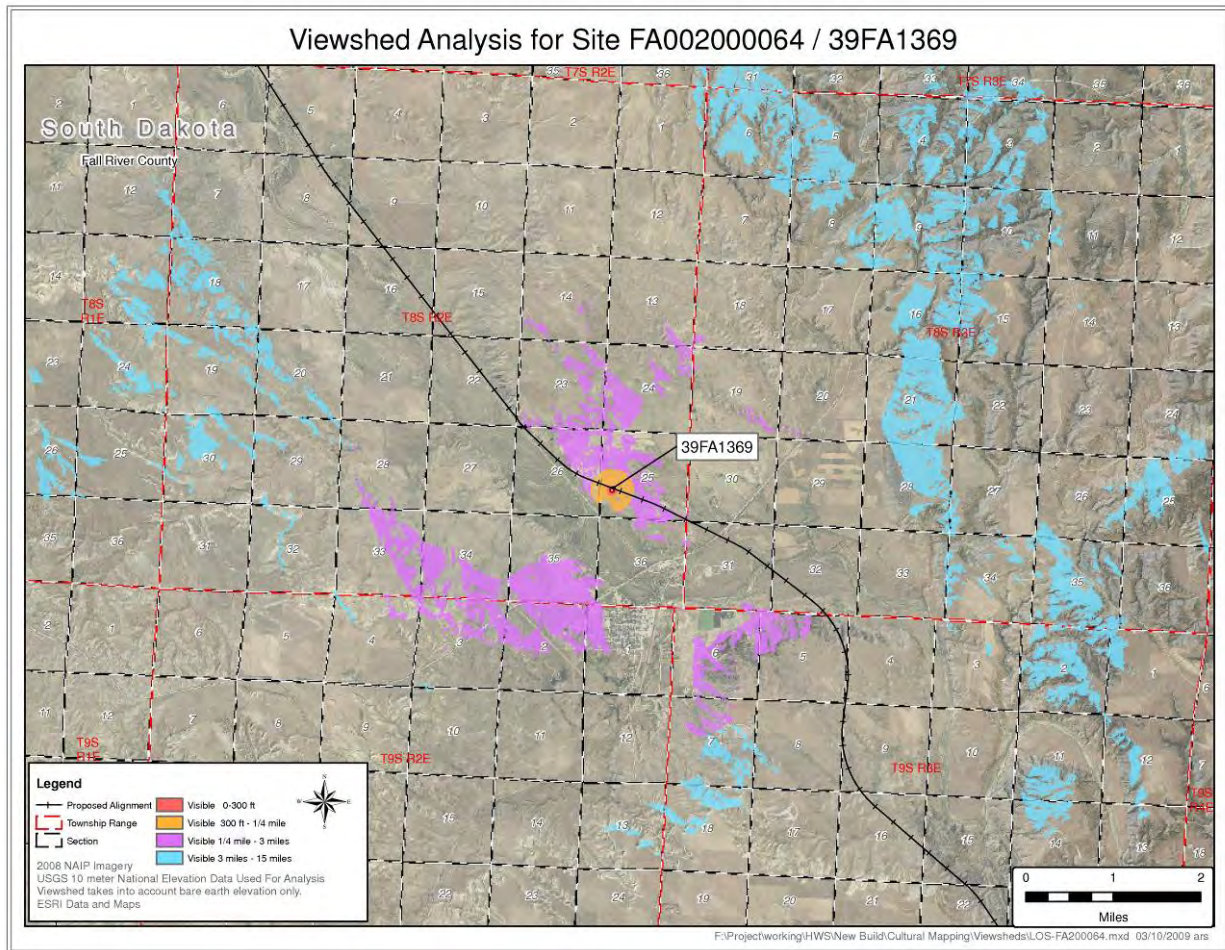
#### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The recorder considered the site to be “unevaluated.”

#### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

The site is situated within the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor ROW. Integrity of setting is not a quality that would contribute to the site’s significance. The evaluation and finding of effect will be addressed in the appropriate project inventory report (Retter et.al 2007). (**Figure 2-19**).





**Figure 2-19. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1369/FA002000064**

## **2.1.20 SITE 39FA1413/FA01900001/FA01900002**

### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39FA1413/FA01900001 and FA01900002, the Heppner Post Office, was recorded on April 12, 1999, by the USD Arch Lab for the PRB Expansion Project. The site consists of the remnants of a farmstead dating to the Max Romney homestead patent in 1909, and later in 1914 established as the Heppner Post Office.

### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

The site has deteriorated, and of the 13 features, only a garage and the gable and wing house remained standing in 1999. The remainder of the site consists of various foundations and artifacts.

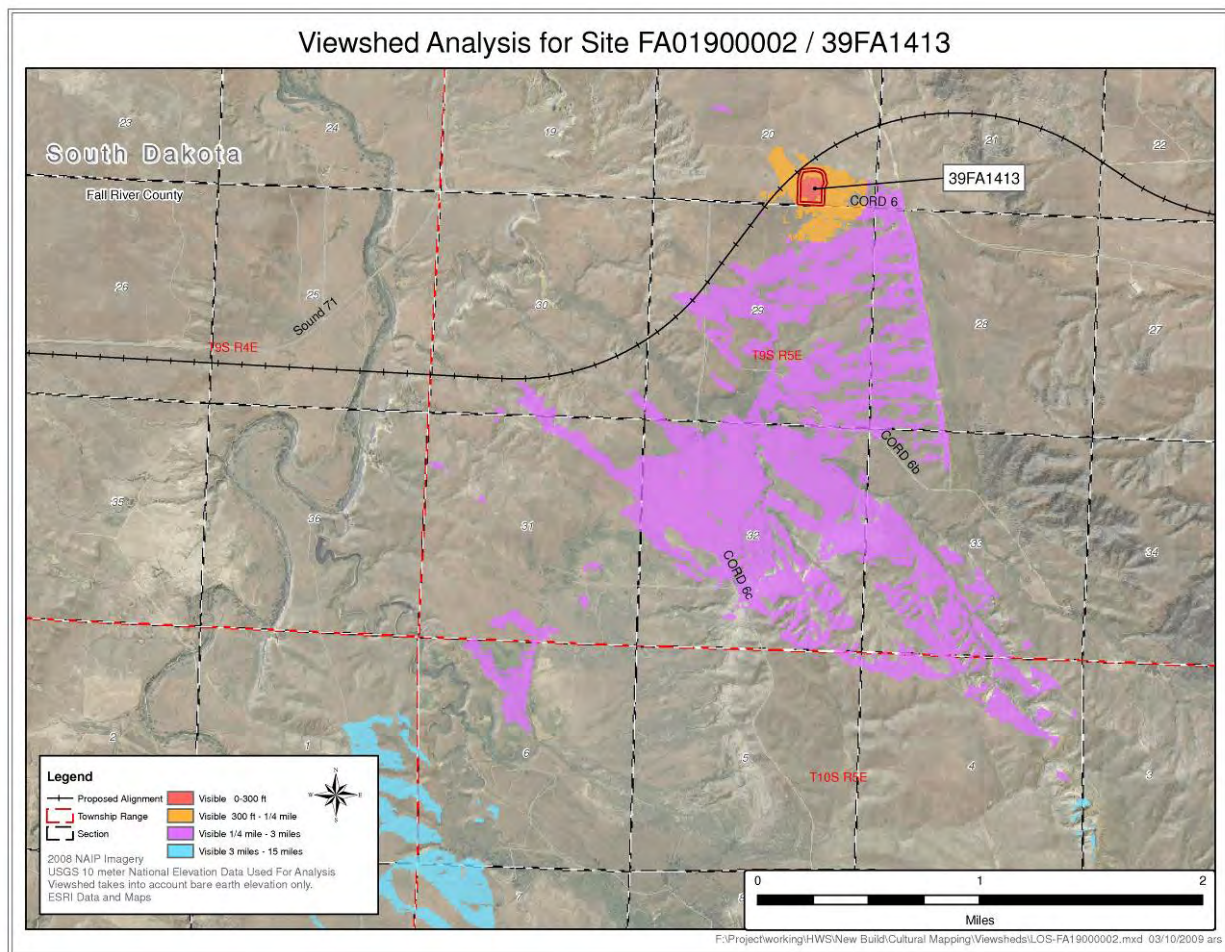


## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The investigators suggested that it qualified for the National Register under Criteria A and D, but the deterioration and removal of the structures may no longer illustrate its historic values under Criterion A.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

The proposed PRB Project rail corridor is within the immediate viewshed of the site. Although integrity of setting is not likely a contributing quality of the site's significance, it is situated within the proposed PRB Project corridor ROW. The National Register significance and effects will be addressed in the review of the appropriate inventory report (Retter et.al 2007). (**Figure 2-20**).



**Figure 2-20. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1413/FA01900001/FA01900002**

**2.1.21 SITE 39FA1425/FA02000002****SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39FA1425FA02000002 is a historic dump recorded by USD on April 13, 1999, during their survey for cultural resources within the ROW of the proposed DM&E PRB Expansion Project. The site was recorded within the ROW and will be addressed as appropriate with the review of the appropriate inventory report for the Project (Retter et.al 2007).

**PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

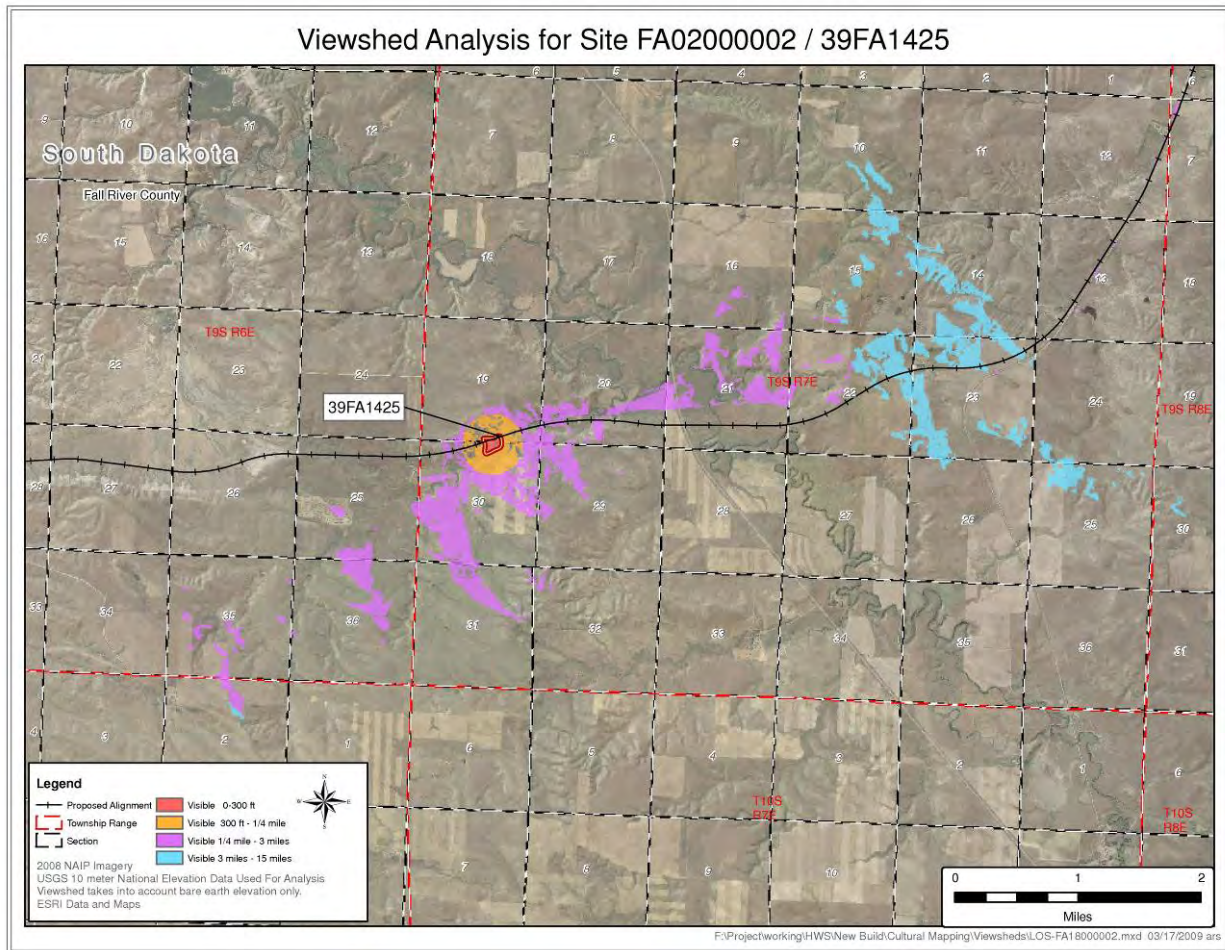
Not applicable.

**NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

Not applicable.

**INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

Not applicable. (**Figure 2-21**)



**Figure 2-21. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1425/FA02000002**

## 2.1.22 SITE 39FA1546

### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 39FA1546 is a small rockshelter and a single panel of rock art recorded by Linea Sundstrom on July 30, 2001.

### PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

None noted.

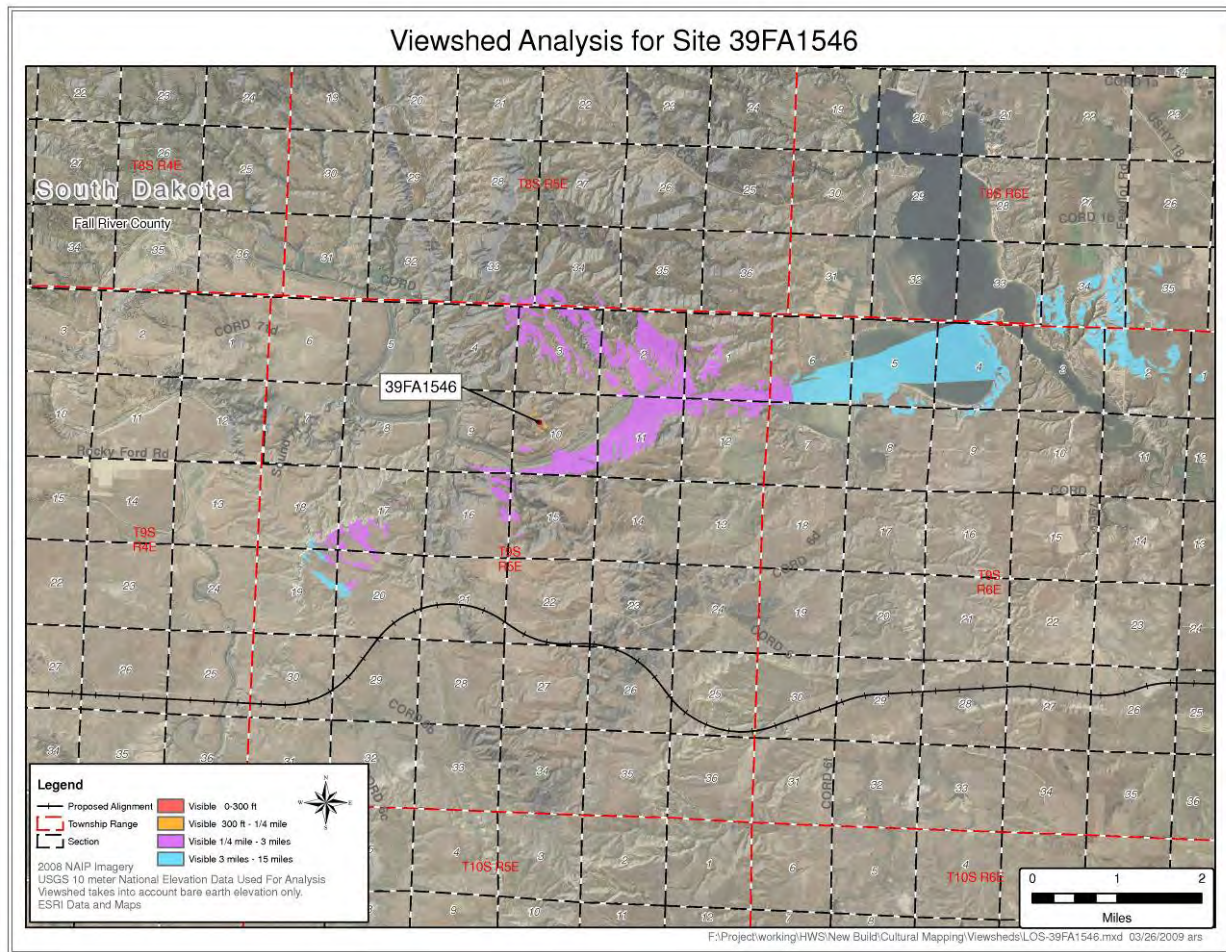
### NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

Not specified on site form.



## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

Not mentioned on site form. However the viewshed analysis shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor situated more than 1½ miles to the south and is not within the viewshed of the site (**Figure 2-22**). Consequently, the proposed PRB Project will have no effect on the site.



**Figure 2-22. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA1546**

### 2.1.23 SITE 39FA1637/FA00200066

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 39FA1637/FA00200066 is a panel of incised rock art on the south side of an isolated sandstone outcrop. The site was recorded by Linea Sundstrom on September 10, 2004.



## PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

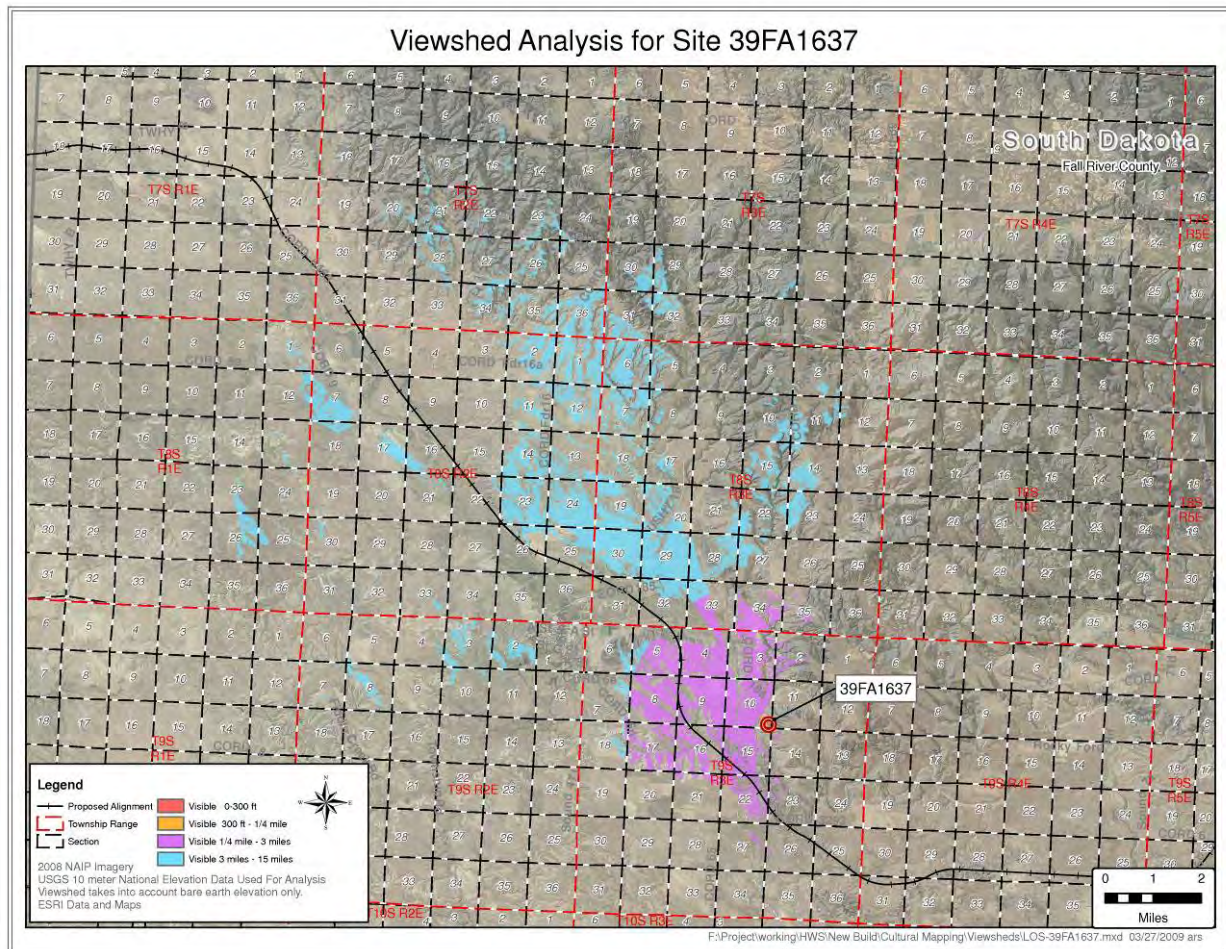
None noted.

## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The site was listed on the National Register under Criterion D on July 14, 2005.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

Integrity of setting is not addressed in the site form, and the only National Register criteria specified is Criterion D. The LOS Analysis shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated approximately 1 mile to the south of the site (**Figure 2-23**). If integrity of setting is a contributing characteristic to the site's significance the effect of the rail corridor in the middle ground of the site's viewshed should be considered not adverse. If integrity of setting does not contribute, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor will have no effect on the site.



#### **2.1.24 SITE 39FA2000**

##### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39FA2000 is a short segment of the historic Burlington Northern rail line that is situated in Section 29, Township 8 South, Range 3 East. The site was recorded by J. Buechler on August 21, 1992.

##### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

Unknown. This segment was part of a railroad abandonment project in 1987.

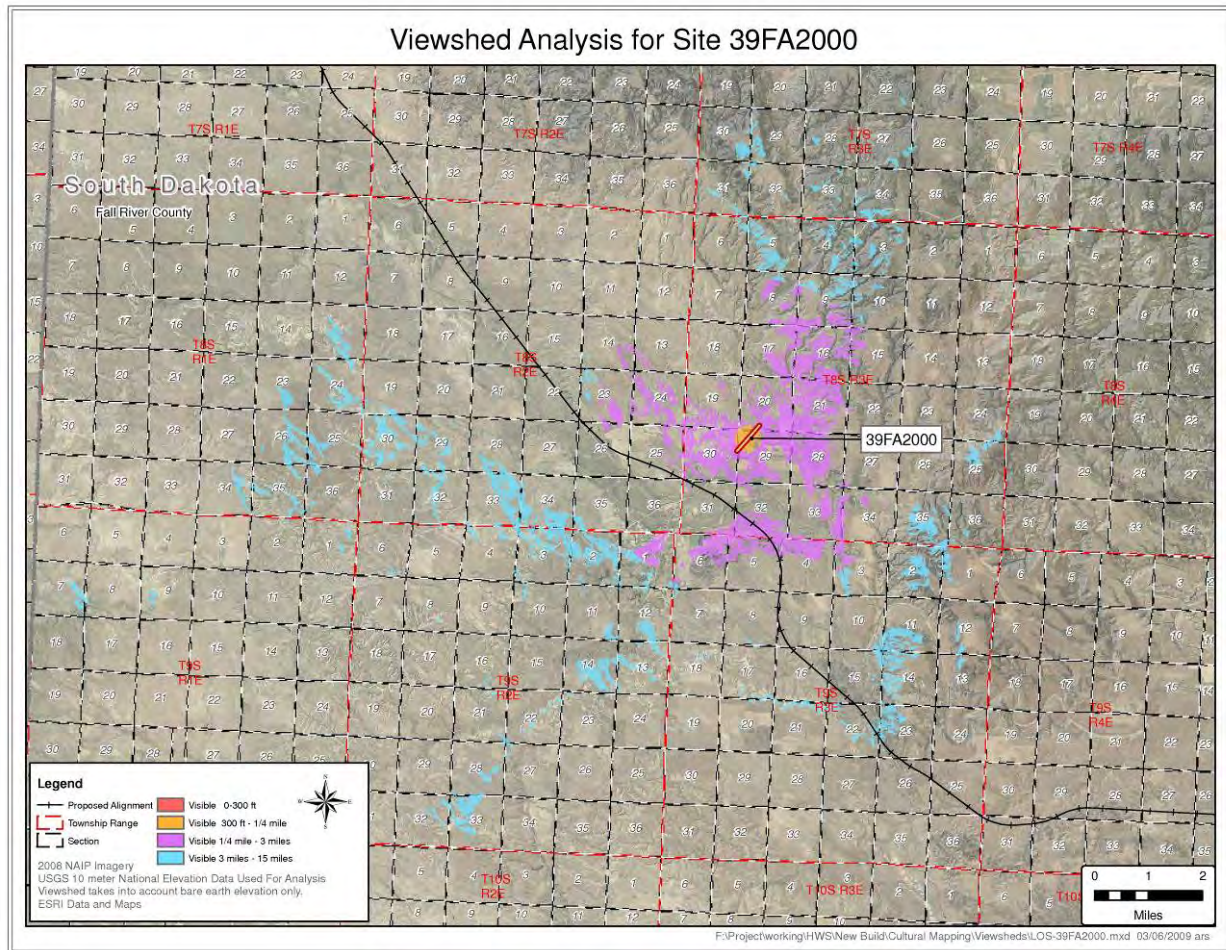
##### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

Unknown. The rail line qualifies under Criterion A for its association with important historic events.

##### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

Unknown. The recorder noted the presence of a highway parallel and commercial and residential development, but the condition of this particular segment is undetermined. The proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is visible more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile south of the segment within its middle ground (**Figure 2-24**). If integrity of setting is a contributing quality of the rail line's significance, the effect of the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor should not be adverse. If integrity of setting does not contribute, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor will have no effect on the site.





**Figure 2-24. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA2000.**

### 2.1.25 SITE 39FA2003

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 39FA2003 refers to a segment of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad that extends through Sections 6, 7, 12, 13, 23 and 24, Township 9 South, Range 7 East within the proposed corridor of the PRB Expansion Project. The segment was recorded by USD Arch Lab for the DM&E PRB Project on October 18, 2000.

#### PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

The recorders note that the railroad bed is 6 to 10 feet in height and the rails and ties are intact along this segment. However, they also note “severe degradation” of the line.



## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The South Dakota SHPO considers all railroad lines to be eligible for the National Register.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

This segment of 39FA2003 was recorded within the proposed corridor of the DM&E PRB Expansion Project by USD Arch Lab, and will be considered pursuant to the review of the appropriate inventory report (Retter et.al 2007). (Figure 2-25).

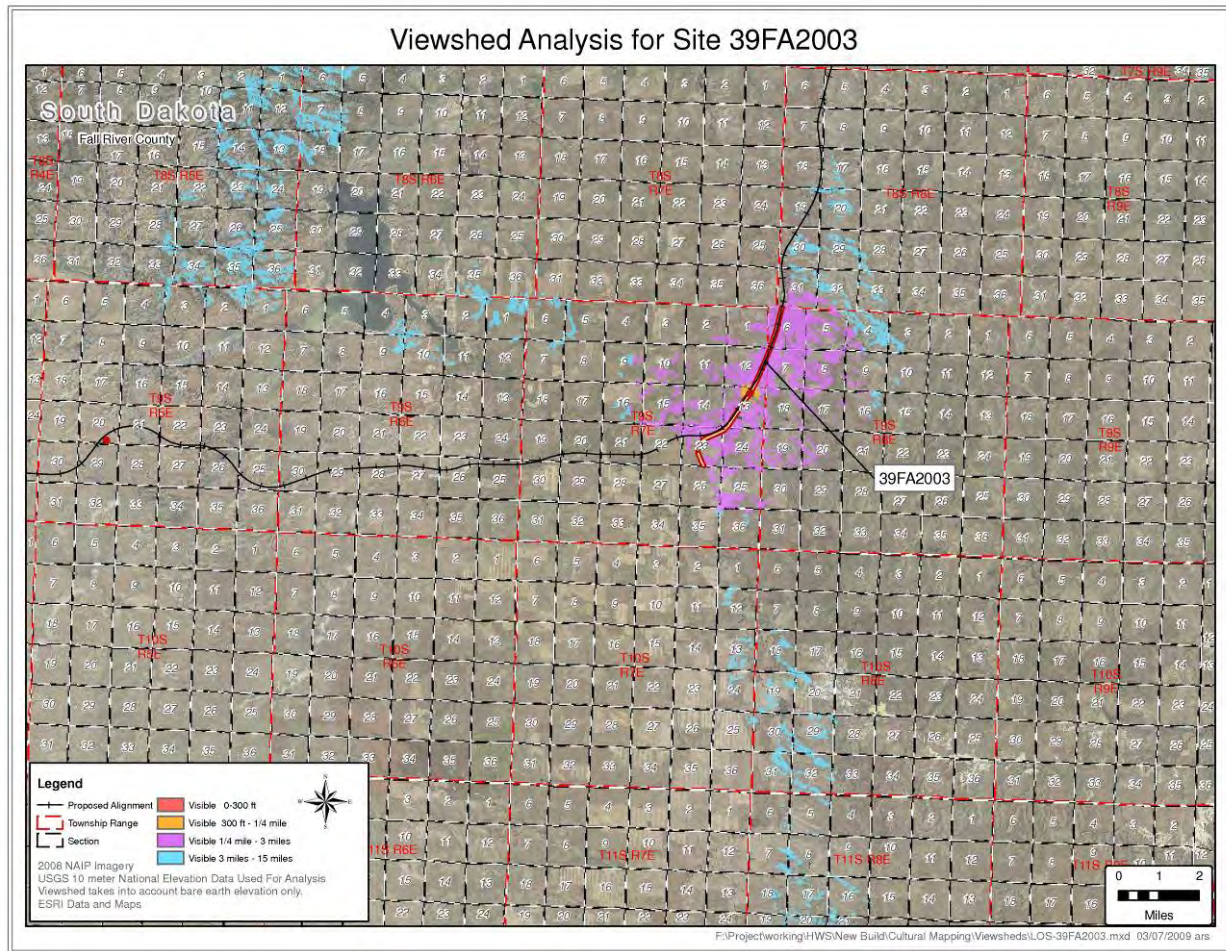


Figure 2-25. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39FA2003.

### **2.1.26 SITE FA00000111**

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Structure FA00000111 is a Pony Truss steel bridge constructed in 1910 and recorded by Mark Hufstetler on September 16, 2006. The bridge measures 132 feet long, and includes three spans, of which two have been replaced and one altered.

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

The recorder notes that alteration of the bridge, including span and abutment replacements, occurred in 1987.

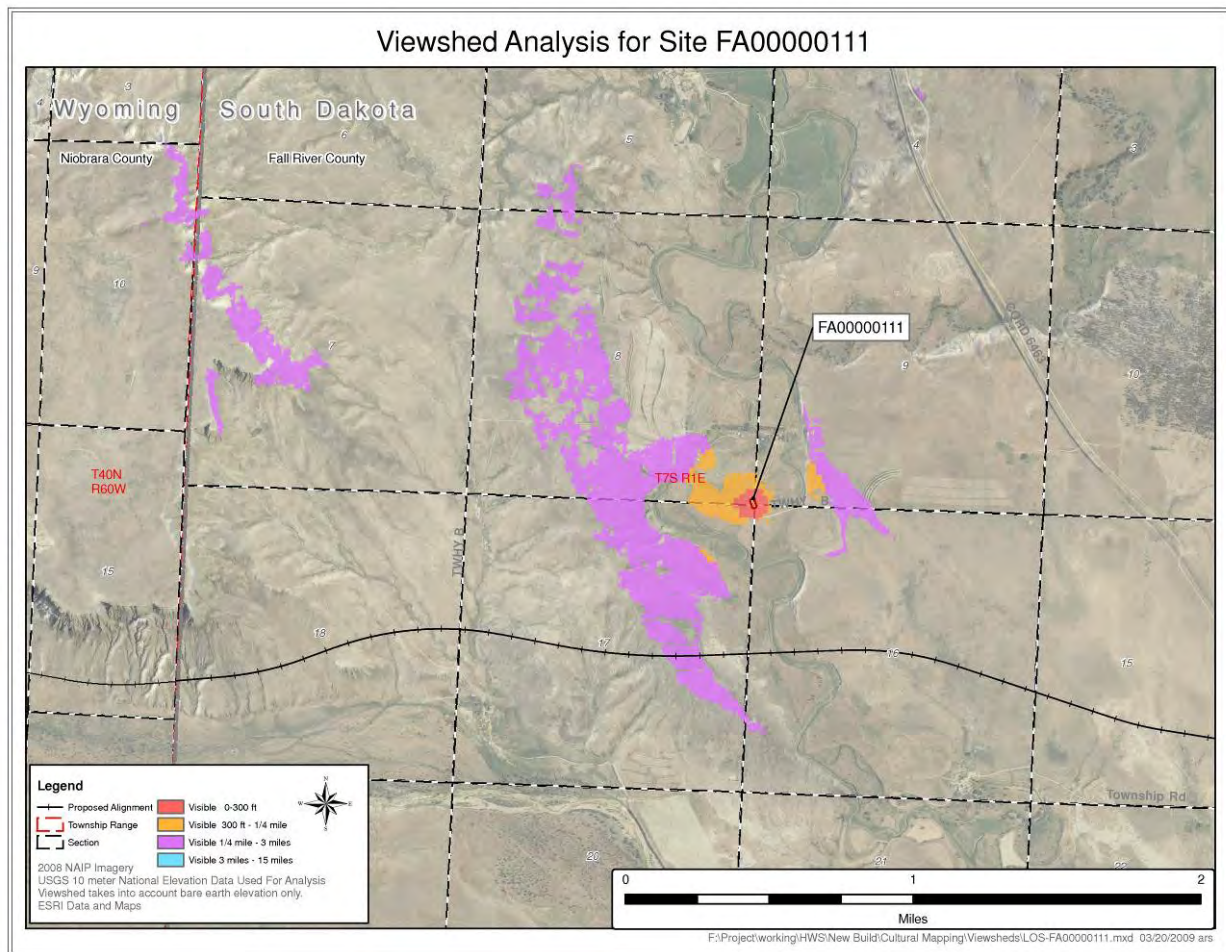
#### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The bridge is considered eligible under Criterion C for its engineering qualities. Integrity of setting is not included as a qualifying characteristic of the property.

#### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

The site is situated approximately ½ mile north of the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor. Approximately 1/8 mile of the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor may be visible from the bridge (**Figure 2-26**). If integrity of setting was considered a contributing characteristic of the property, the proposed PRB rail line would not adversely affect it. If integrity of setting does not contribute, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor will have no effect on the site.





**Figure 2-26. Viewshed Analysis of Site FA00000111.**

## **2.1.27 SITE FA00000071**

### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site FA00000071 is known as “Edgmont Block”. Minimal information was provided for this building. The Survey Structure Form indicates that the property address is 610 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Edgmont, South Dakota. No description of the physical characteristics of the property was provided.

### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

None noted.

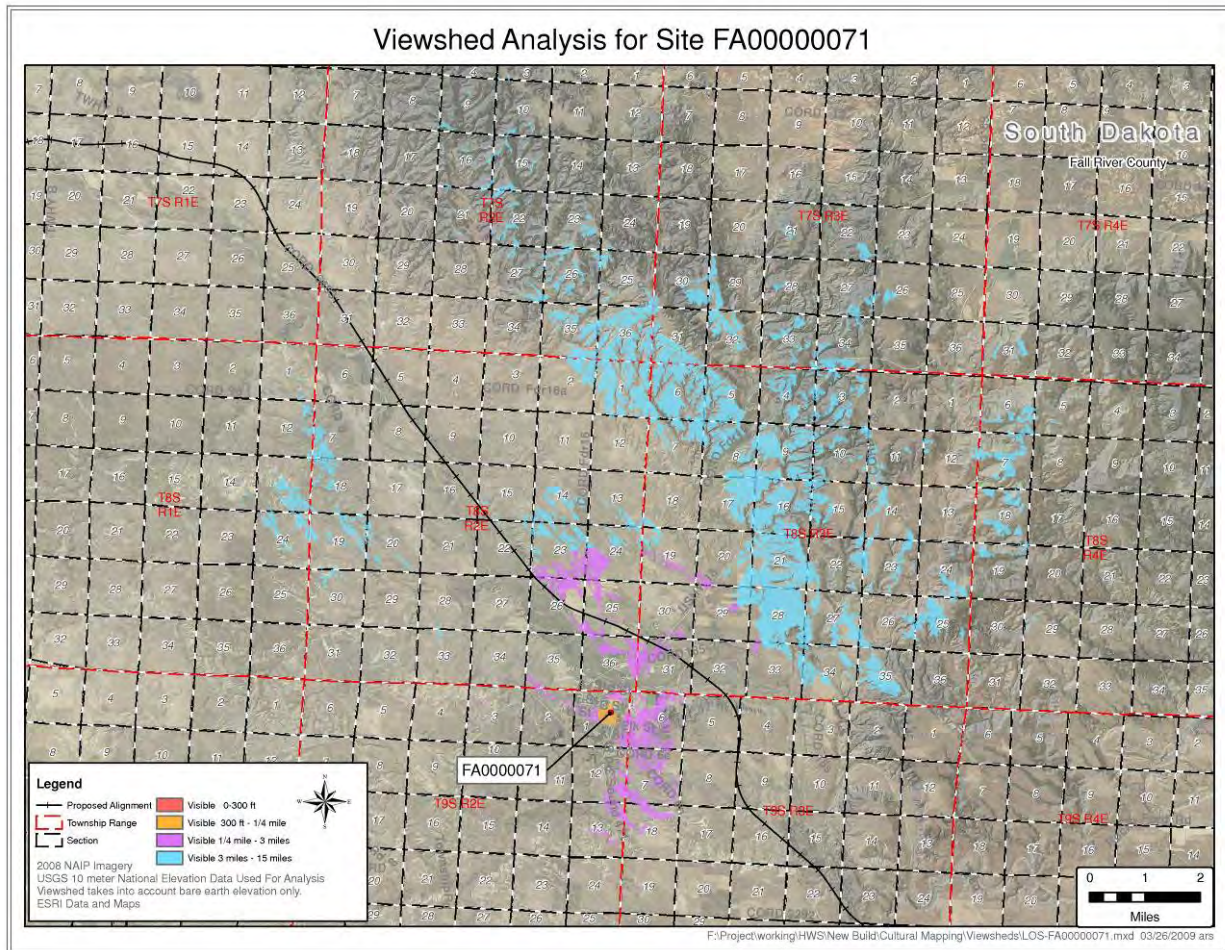
### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The form for this property indicates it is eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C, but removed from Nomination Status on December 23, 2002.



## **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

It is unclear whether this structure continues to exist. If it does, and its integrity of setting contributes to its significance, the line of site analysis indicates that a short segment of the proposed PRB Expansion Project railroad corridor may be visible from the building approximately 1½ miles to the northeast; assuming there are no buildings or structures that may obstruct the view (**Figure 2-27**). If the structure is affected by the visual intrusion of the PRB Expansion Project railroad corridor, the effect should not be considered adverse. If integrity of setting does not contribute, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor will have no effect on the site.



**Figure 2-27. Viewshed Analysis of Site FA00000071.**

## 2.1.28 SITE FA00000081/FA00000114

### SITE DESCRIPTION

Structure FA00000081/FA00000114 is a Timber Stringer bridge constructed in 1943 and recorded by Mark Hufstetler on September 17, 2006. The bridge measures 200 feet long and includes 10 spans.

### PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

The recorder notes that the integrity of the bridge has been compromised by the addition of a guardrail.

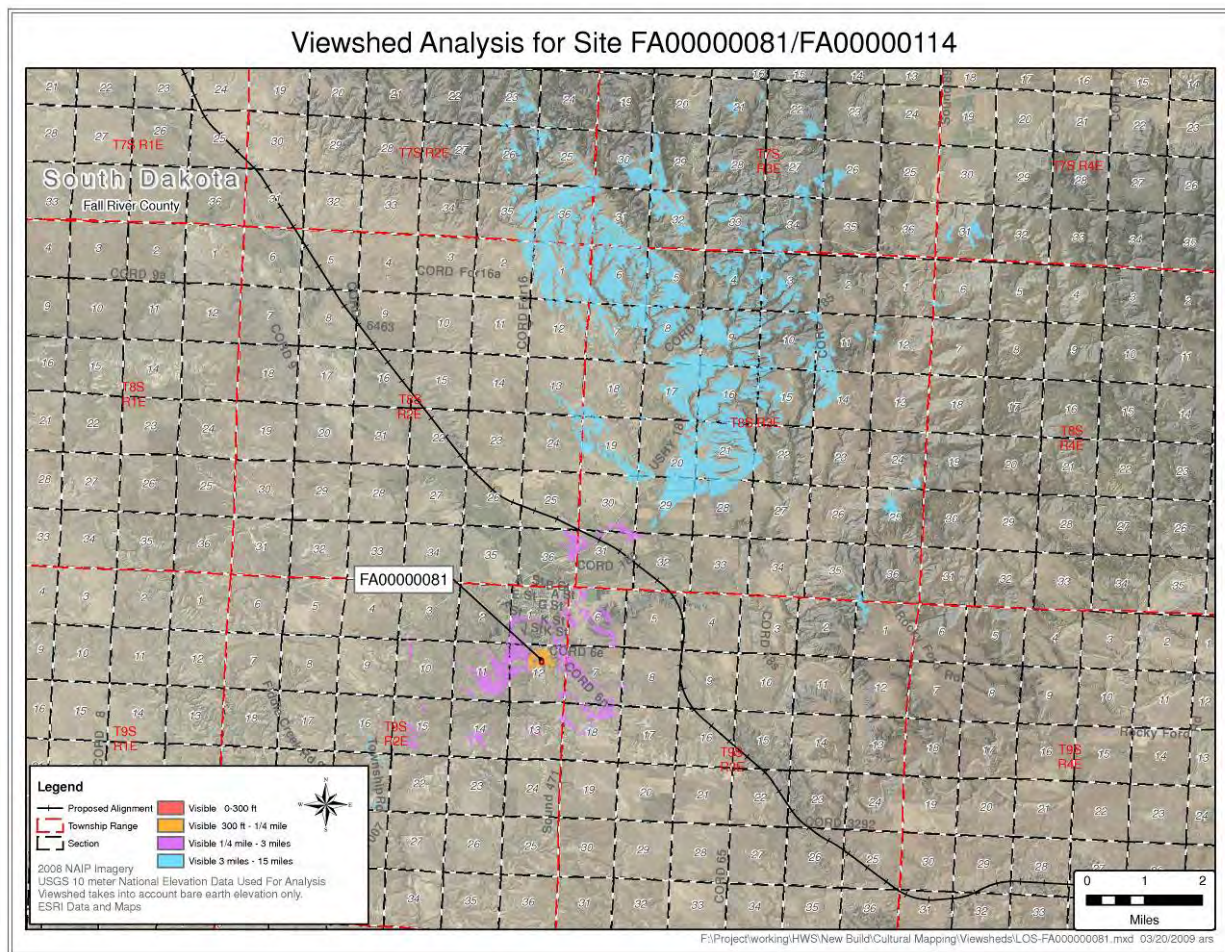


## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The bridge is considered eligible under Criterion A for its association with the Ellsworth igloo ordnance depot, dating to World War II.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

Whether integrity of setting is a contributing characteristic of this property is not known. However, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated 2 miles away at its nearest approach and is not visible from the bridge (**Figure 2-28**). Consequently, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor will not affect the bridge.



**Figure 2-28. Viewshed Analysis of Site FA00000081/FA00000114.**



### **2.1.29 SITE FA00000104**

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Building FA00000104 is the Bartlett-Myers Building located in downtown Edgemoor, South Dakota. The building was recorded by Chris Nelson on January 1, 2006, and subsequently listed on May 31, 2006. This is a two story brick, flat roof commercial building built in 1908.

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

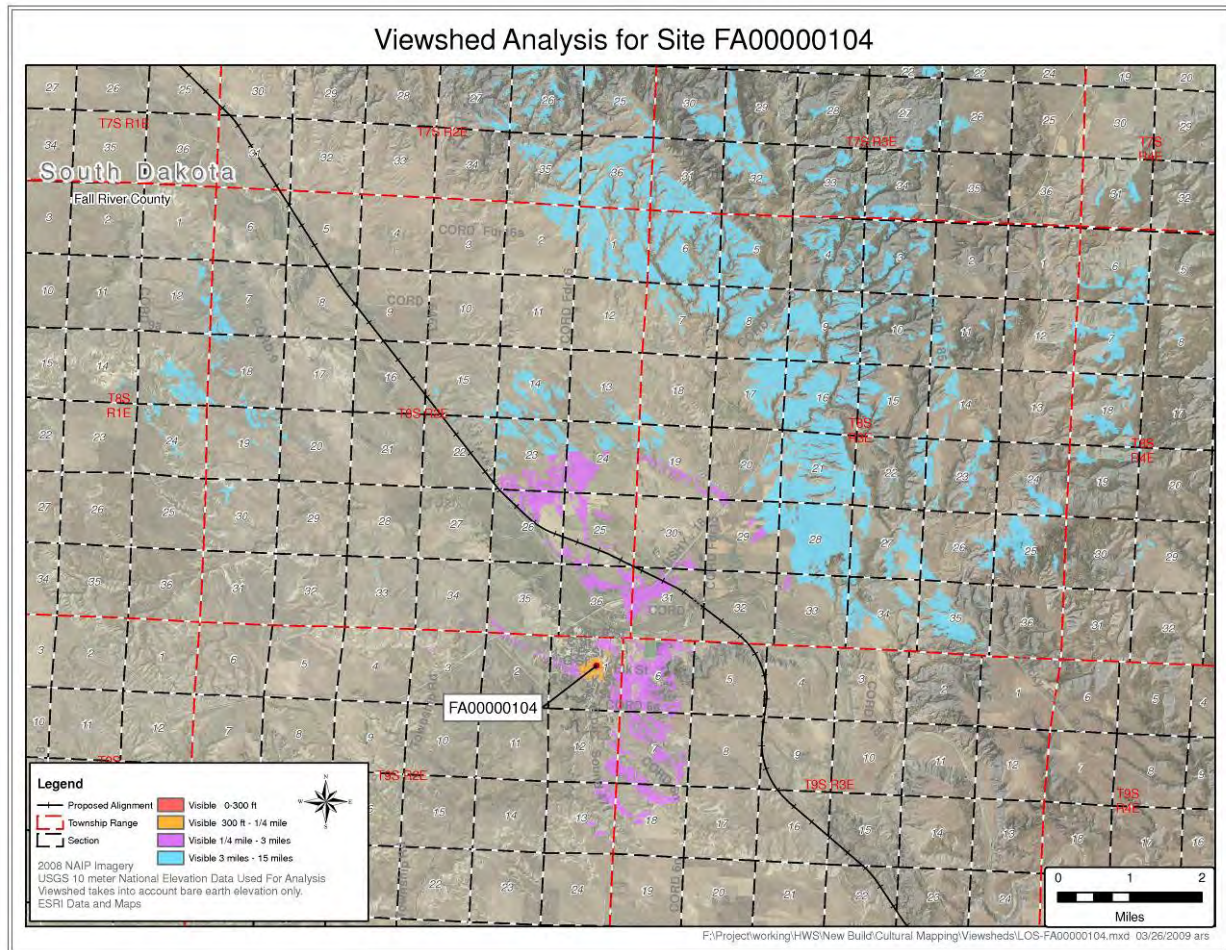
The first story storefront has been altered, and the second story façade remains intact.

#### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The building is listed on the National Register under Criterion C at the local level, as an example of this commercial style.

#### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

Integrity of setting is not addressed on the site form. If integrity of setting contributes to the significance of the building, the LOS Analysis indicates that the proposed PRB Expansion Project railroad corridor is visible approximately 1½ miles to the northwest, assuming there are no intervening buildings or structures that block the view (**Figure 2-29**). Based on available information, if integrity of setting is a contributing quality to the significance of the building, the effect of the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor should be considered not adverse. If integrity of setting does not contribute, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor will have no effect on the building.



**Figure 2-29. Viewshed Analysis of Site FA00000104.**

### 2.1.30 SITE 39PN2003

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 39PN2003 refers to three segments of the Chicago Northwestern Railroad (CNW) situated on the centerline of the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor. The segments have been recorded at various times, and represent CNW's Phillip to Wall segment, now owned by the DM&E. The site consists of standard gauge track, and was originally built in 1907.

#### PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

None noted.



## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The site is considered eligible for the National Register under Criterion A based on its association with transportation development in the state.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

The site is situated along the centerline of the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor ROW and will be directly affected by construction activities. The site is recorded and will be addressed in the appropriate inventory report for the Project (Retter et.al 2007). (Figure 2-30).

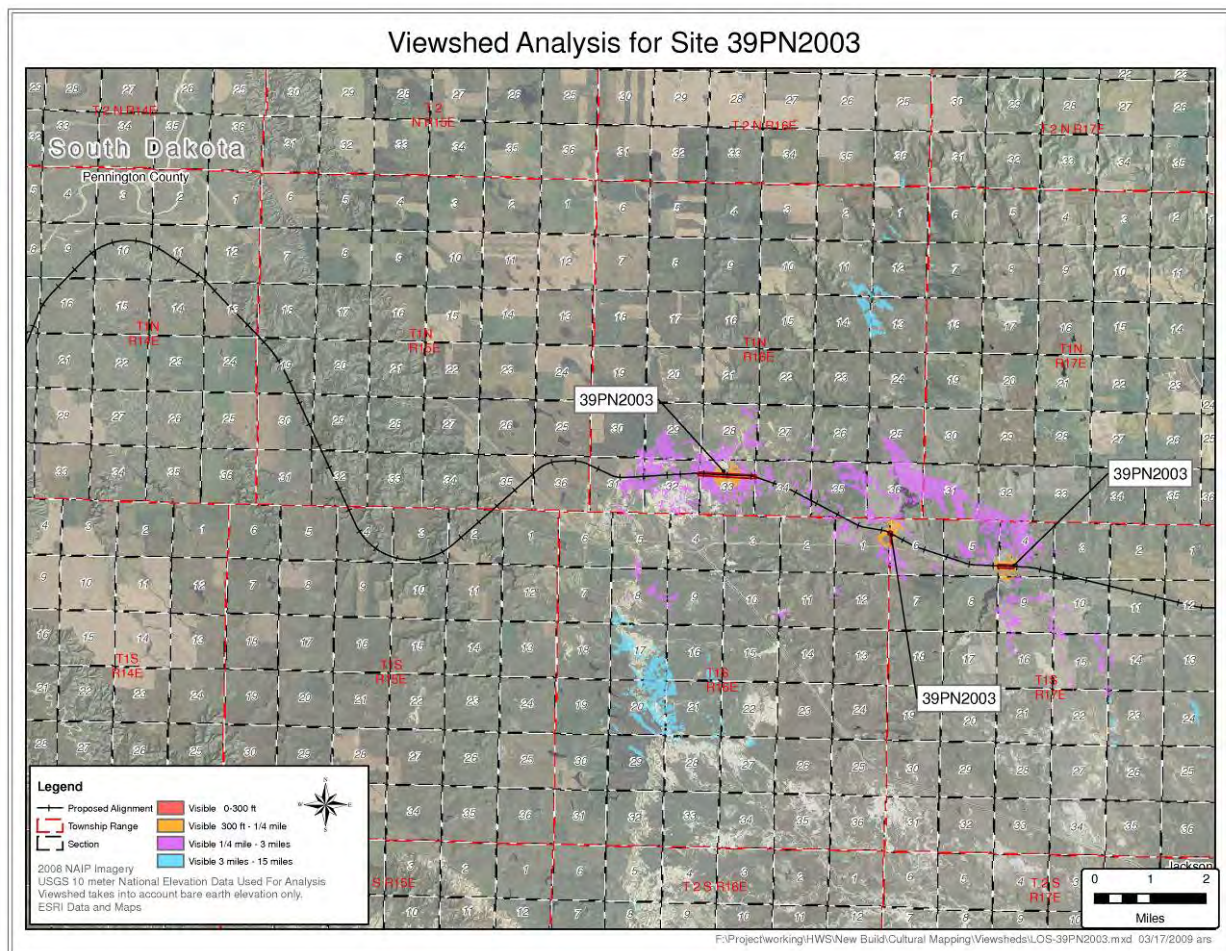


Figure 2-30. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39PN2003.



### **2.1.31 SITE 39PN2007**

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 39PN2007 is a segment of the Chicago-Milwaukee Railroad on USFS-administered land. Portions of this line have been recorded at various times. This particular segment was recorded by USD Arch Lab on June 12, 1999, for the DM&E Railroad as part of their survey efforts for the PRB Expansion Project.

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

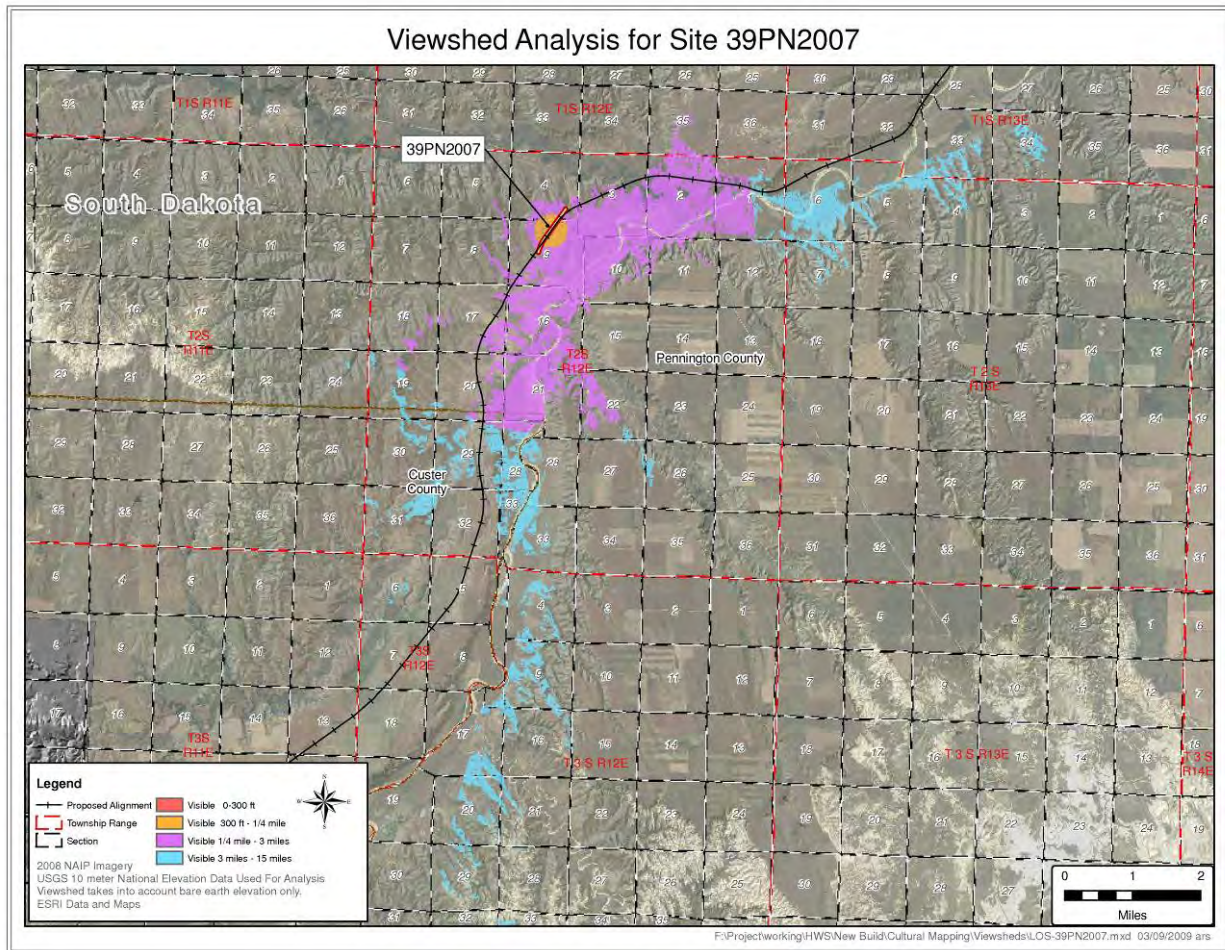
Rails and ties have been removed from the bed

#### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The rail line is considered eligible for the National Register by the South Dakota SHPO, as are all rail lines in South Dakota, but none of the various site forms for this rail line segment specify the criteria under which it qualifies or whether it retains relevant integrity.

#### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

This segment of 39PN2007 is crossed by the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor centerline and is in the immediate viewshed (**Figure 2-31**). Effects to the property will be direct and will be addressed in the appropriate inventory report for the Project (Retter et.al 2007).



**Figure 2-31. Viewshed Analysis of Site 39PN2007.**

### 2.1.32 SITE PN00000255

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Structure PN00000255 is a Warren steel bridge comprised of 10 spans, and extending 977 feet in length across the Cheyenne River on Highway 1416 (Old Wasta Road).

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

None noted.

#### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

Built in 1940, the bridge was listed on the National Register under Criterion C on December 17, 1999.



## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

Integrity of setting is not addressed on the structure form. The line of sight analysis shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated approximately 1½ miles south at its nearest approach (**Figure 2-32**). If integrity of setting is a contributing characteristic of the site's significance, the effect of the PRB Expansion Project rail corridor in the middle ground of the site's viewshed should be considered not adverse. If integrity of setting does not contribute, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor will have no effect on the site.

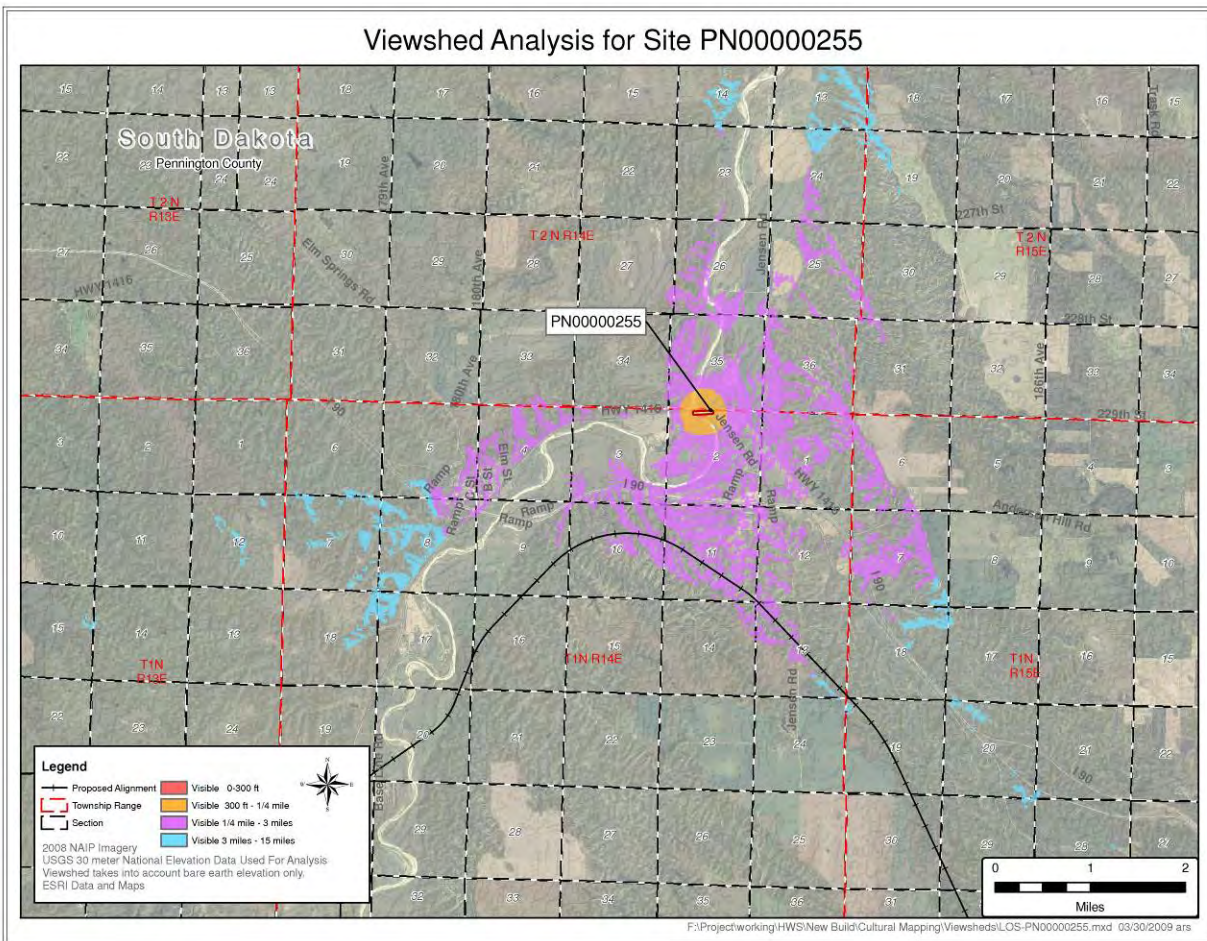


Figure 2-32. Viewshed Analysis of Site PN00000255.

### 2.1.33 SITE PN00000470

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Structure PN00000470 is the Wasta Hotel, also referred to as the Calumet Hotel. Constructed in 1908, the site form describes it as a two story building with a stone foundation, metal walls and flat roof.



## PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

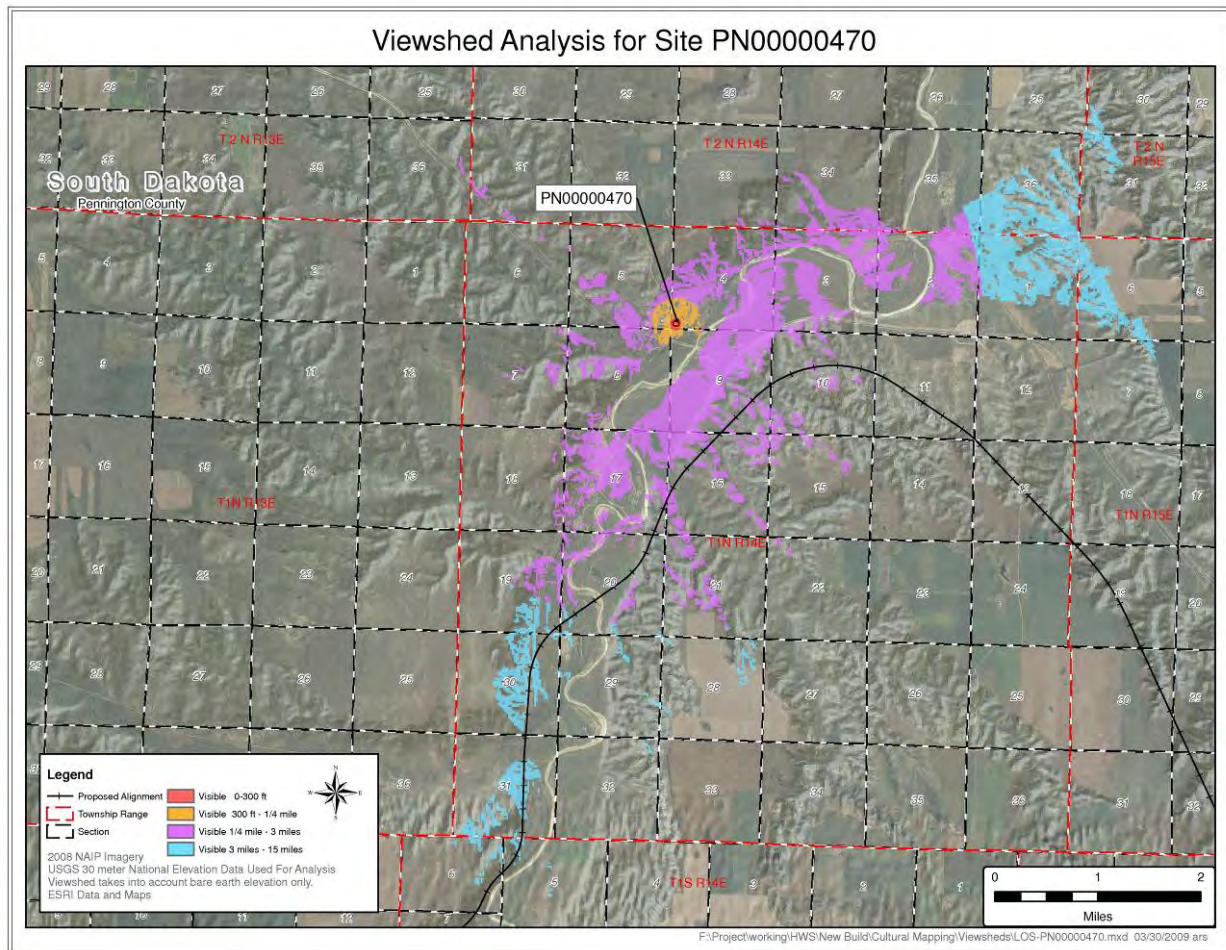
None noted.

## NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The building was listed on the National Register under Criterion C on January 7, 2000.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

Integrity of setting is not addressed on the structure form provided by South Dakota SHPO. The LOS Analysis shows that the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is situated approximately 1 mile to the southeast at its nearest approach (**Figure 2-33**). If integrity of setting is a contributing characteristic of the site's significance, the effect of the PRB Expansion Project rail corridor in the middle ground of the site's viewshed should be considered not adverse. If integrity of setting does not contribute, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor will have no effect on the building.



**Figure 2-33. Viewshed Analysis of Site PN00000470.**

### **3.0 WYOMING**

A total of 39 historic properties were analyzed in Wyoming. The analysis for each historic property is described in the following sections.

#### **3.1 ANALYSIS OF SITES**

A table listing each of the 39 analyzed properties in Wyoming is provided at **Section 4.1** of this analysis. This table includes detailed information pertaining to each site analyzed. The following text provides site descriptions, previous disturbance, National Register significance, integrity of setting and figures for each site showing their locations in relation to the proposed rail corridor. The initial four sites described below are situated within the ROW and will be addressed elsewhere through review of appropriate cultural resources survey reports produced for the PRB Expansion Project.

##### **3.1.1 SITE 48CA211**

###### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 48CA211 was initially recorded by Judy Pinner on September 6, 1978, and subsequently by GCM Services on July 15, 1993. The site includes a prehistoric component and historic shepherd camp consisting of seven stone circles, a cairn alignment, two cairns, a lithic scatter and historic debris associated with the shepherd camp.

###### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

The site is described as in “Fair” condition and exhibits some disturbance from erosion. Shovel testing found no evidence of subsurface cultural remains.

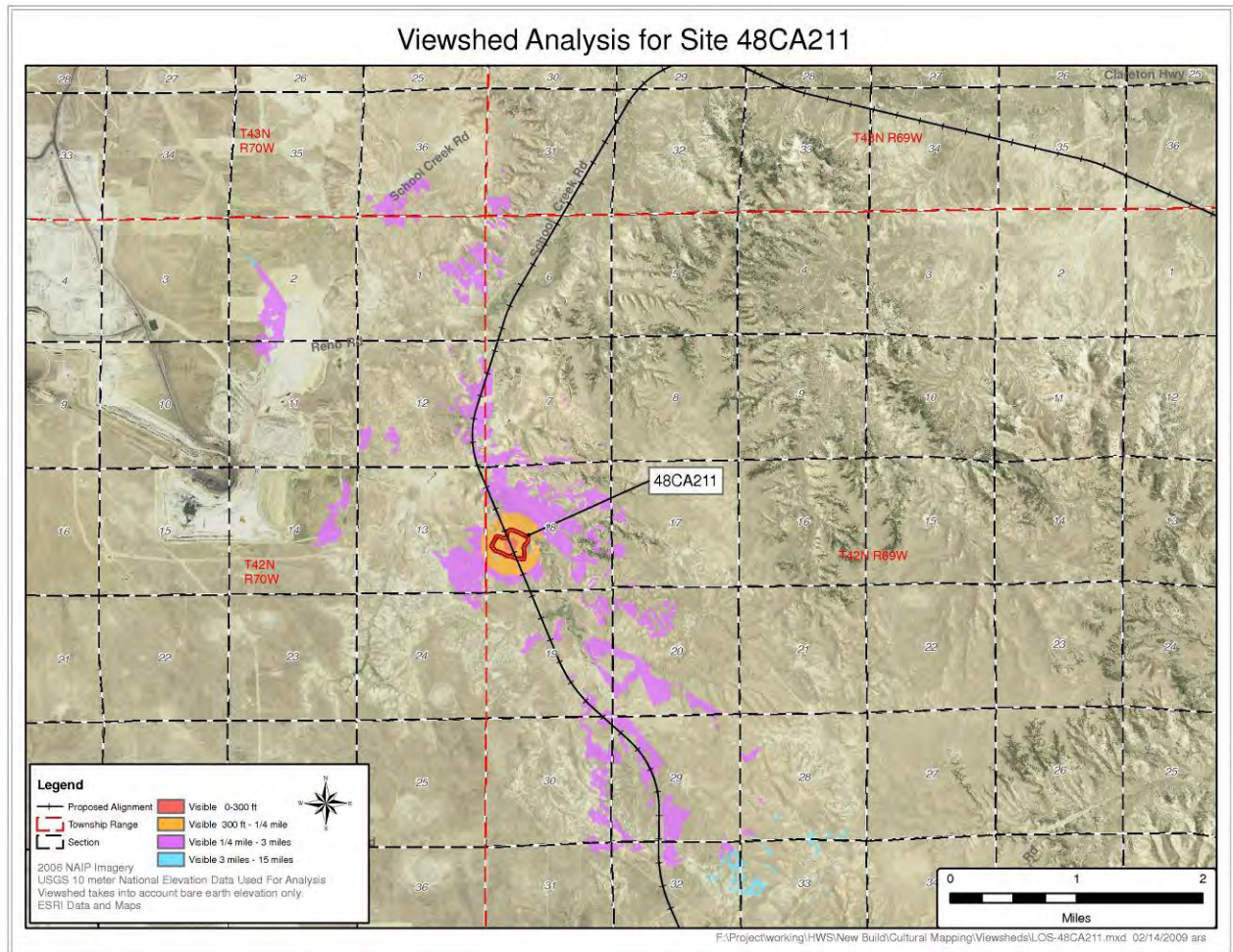
###### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The site is considered eligible under criterion D.

###### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

The site is situated within the project ROW and will be directly affected by construction activities (**Figure 3-1**). These effects will be addressed elsewhere through review of the appropriate cultural resource survey report for the PRB Expansion Project (Tatman et.al 2008).





**Figure 3-1. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA211.**

### 3.1.2 SITE 48CA1490/48CO726

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 48CA1490/48CO726 was initially recorded by WCRM on October 19, 1981, then by ACR on September 19, 2006, and then by SWCA on June 16, 2007. The site is a Middle Archaic to Late Prehistoric habitation, a portion of which was subjected to data recovery and construction monitoring for a well pad and access road in early 1982. This investigation confirmed that the property was occupied on several occasions. The site consists of seven stone circles, eight hearths, one cairn, two stone alignments, and associated lithic artifacts. Historic artifacts are also present at the site.

#### PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE



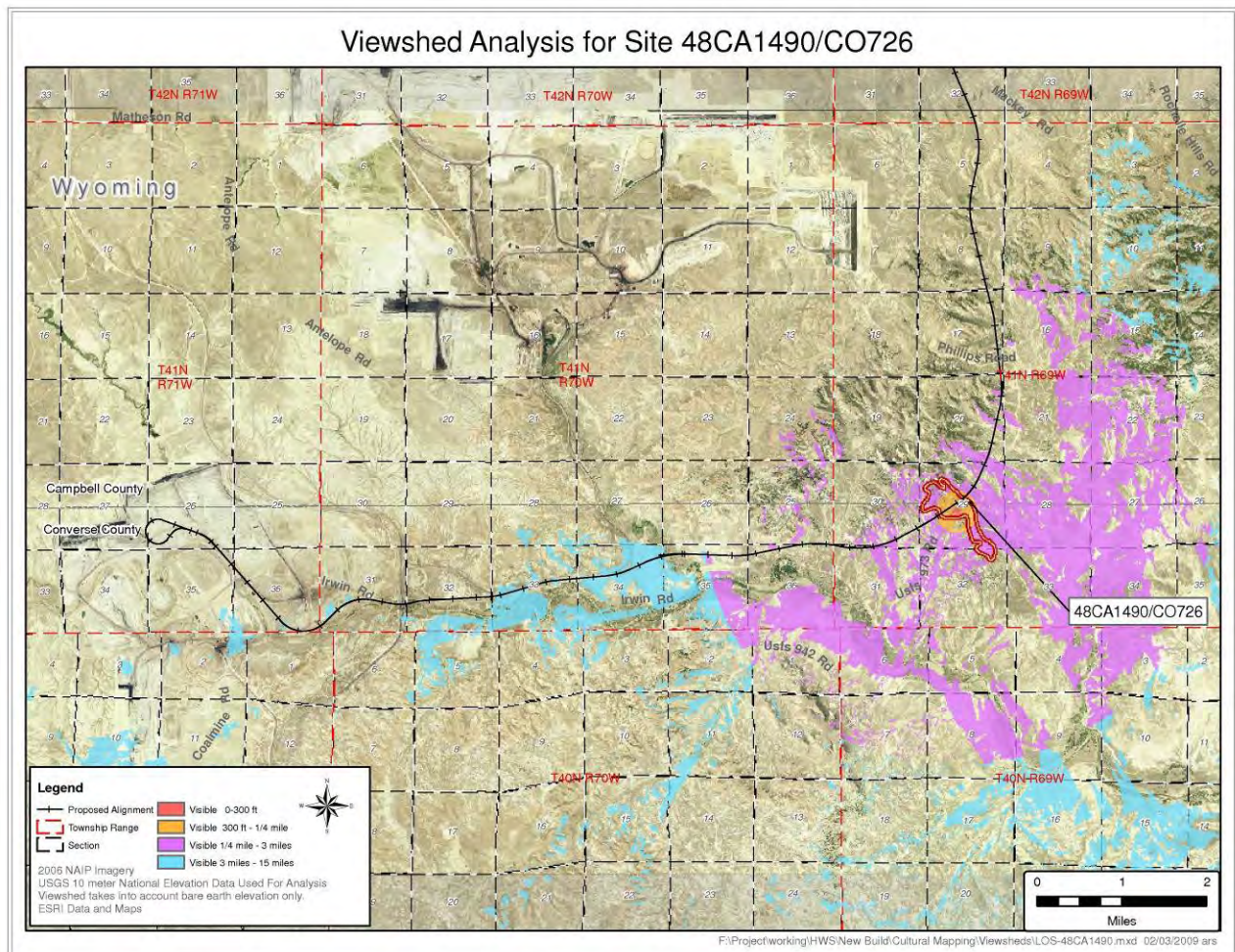
The site has been affected by erosion, collection, manual excavations, vehicle traffic, and construction development.

### NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The site's prehistoric component is recommended as eligible under Criteria C and D. Consultation with tribes was also recommended to resolve its eligibility under Criterion A as a property of traditional religious and cultural importance.

### INTEGRITY OF SETTING

The site is situated within the PRB Expansion Project ROW and will be directly affected by construction activities (**Figure 3-2**). These effects will be addressed elsewhere through review of the appropriate cultural resource survey reports for this project (Tatman et.al 2008).



**Figure 3-2. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA1490/48CO726.**

### **3.1.3 SITE 48CA6123**

#### **SITE DESCRIPTION**

Site 48CA6123 was initially recorded by GCM Services in 2005, then by ACR in September 2006, and then by SWCA in June 2007. The site consists of seven stone circles, associated lithic artifacts and historic debris along a ridgetop and terrace of School Creek. GCM performed a geophysical survey of the site in 2006 and discovered eight anomalies, three of which were tested, resulting in the identification of a hearth and the ends of two metal fence posts. SWCA also tested the site but found no additional subsurface cultural remains.

#### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

None noted other than prior archaeological testing.

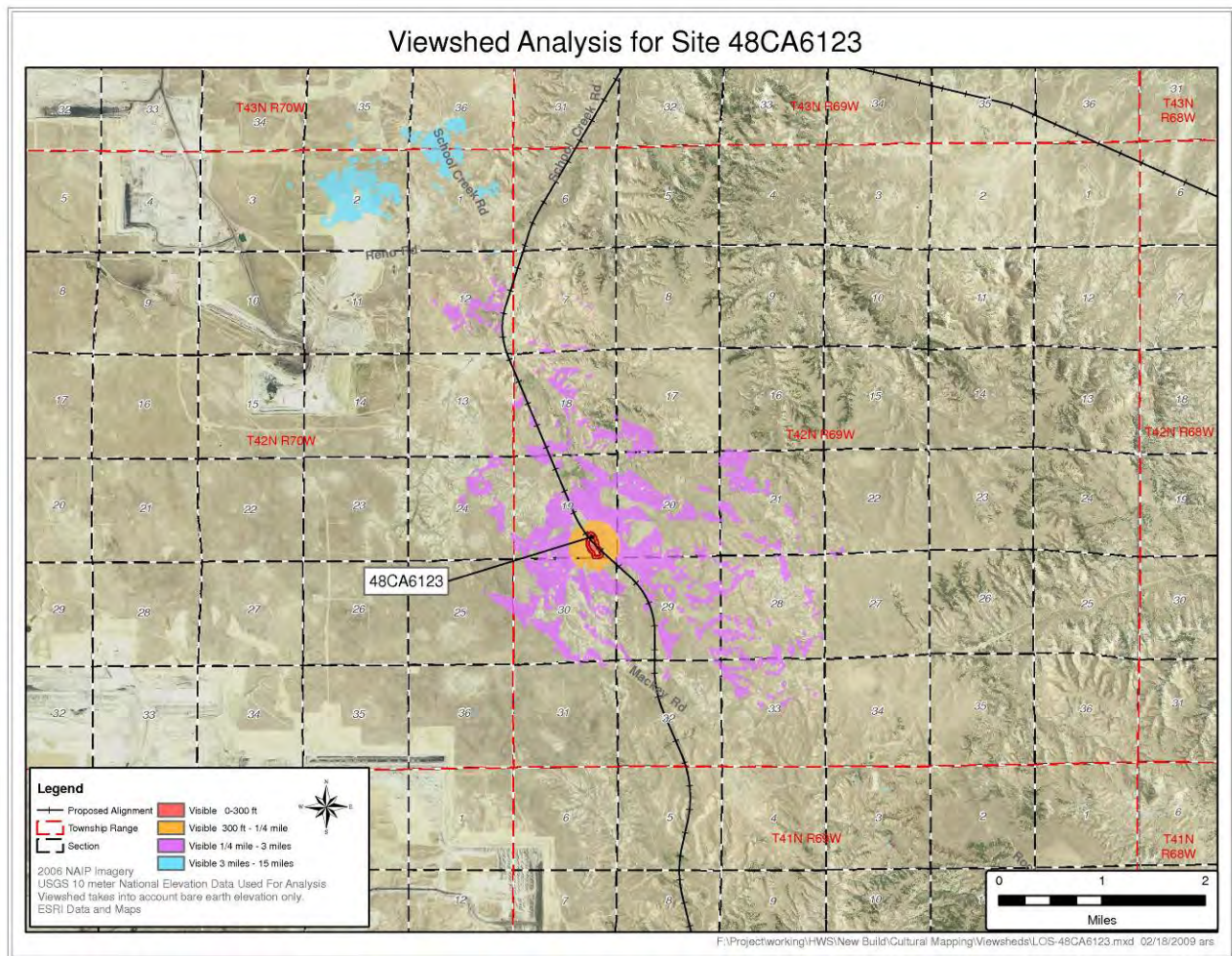
#### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The site is recommended as eligible under criterion D, and tribal consultation is recommended to resolve its eligibility under criterion A as a property of traditional religious and cultural importance.

#### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

The site is situated within the PRB Expansion Project ROW and will be directly affected by construction activities (**Figure 3-3**). These effects will be addressed elsewhere through review of the appropriate cultural resource survey report for this project (Tatman et.al 2008).





**Figure 3-3. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA6123.**

### 3.1.4 SITE 48CA6704

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 48CA6704 was recorded by SWCA on June 2, 2007. The site is situated on a ridge overlooking School Creek to the east and consists of nine stone circles and six cairns with no associated artifacts.

#### PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

None noted.

#### NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE

The recorders noted the site lacks any potential to provide important information under criterion D, does not qualify under criterion C, but is unevaluated under criterion A pending consultation with

tribes to determine whether it retains any significance as a property of traditional religious and cultural importance.

## INTEGRITY OF SETTING

The site is situated within the PRB Expansion Project ROW and will be directly affected by construction activities (**Figure 3-4**). These effects will be addressed elsewhere through review of the appropriate cultural resource survey report for this project (Tatman et.al 2008).

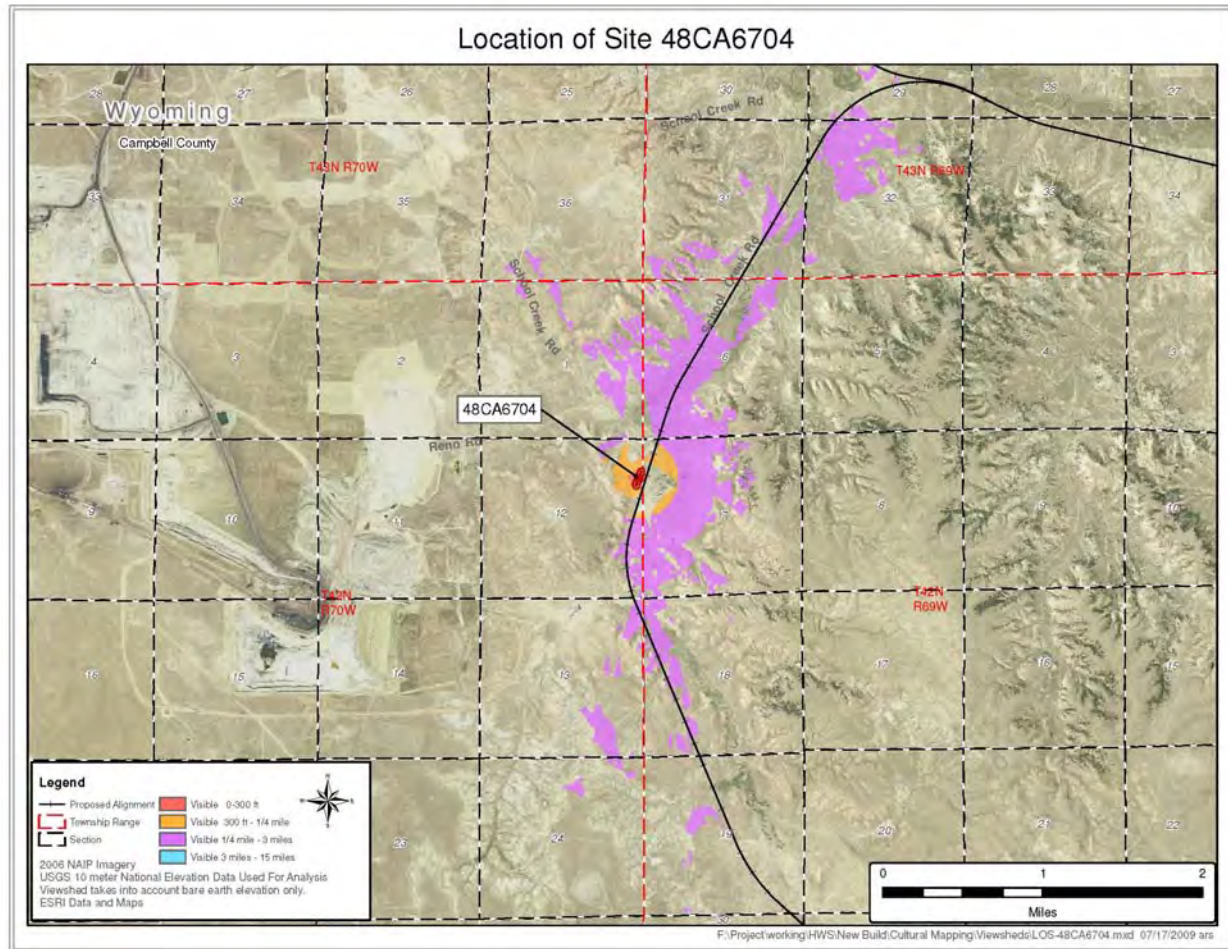


Figure 3-4. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA6704.

### 3.1.5 SITE 48CA0081

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 48CA0081 was recorded by WCRM on October 11, 1981, for a proposed oil well access road. The site is situated on private land and/or the USFS-administered land; the form is unclear on this point. It was previously recorded in 1976, but the more recent site form appears to be the more



reliable. The site consists of artifactual remains and widely distributed features over approximately 40 acres of various landforms. Features include four stone rings/circles, a stone cairn, a dilapidated historic log cabin and a collapsed root cellar. Various lithic artifacts, including Late Archaic and Late Prehistoric projectile points, biface and unifacial tools, bone fragments associated with eroding charcoal, and a few historic artifacts. No subsurface archaeological testing was conducted at the site. Additional testing was recommended.

### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

At the time the site was recorded, previous disturbance was considered “moderate”, and an existing eroded dirt road, wind erosion and water erosion were cited as sources of disturbance.

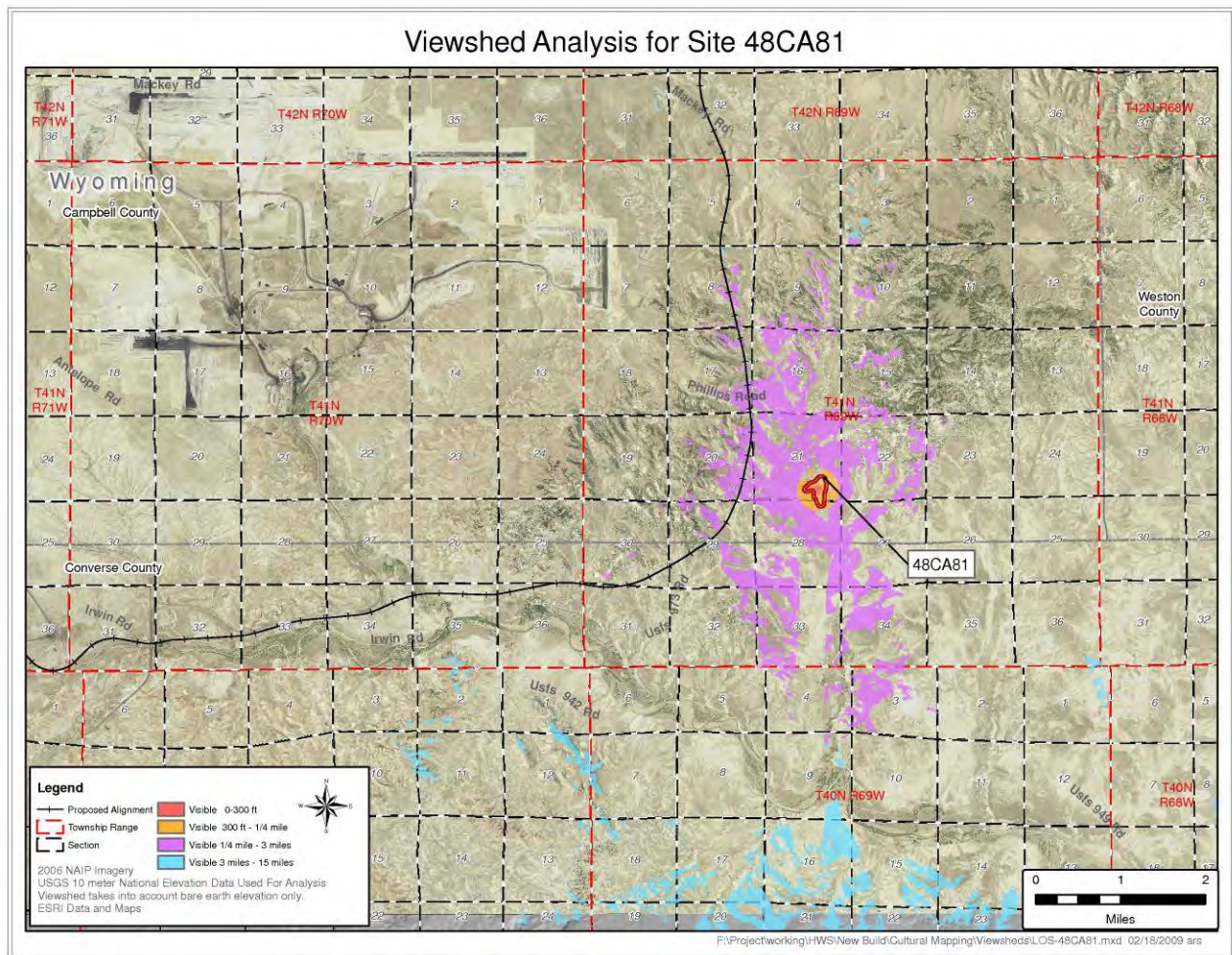
### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The site was recommended as eligible for the National Register, presumably under Criterion D, based on the presence of temporally diagnostic projectile points, observed charcoal, and the assessed potential that the site might retain buried cultural deposits.

### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

The proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor is visible within approximately 1 mile of the site (**Figure 3-5**). If integrity of setting contributes to the historic value of the site, this value will not be adversely affected by the visual intrusion of the proposed PRB Expansion Project.





**Figure 3-5. Viewshed Analysis of Site 48CA81.**

### 3.1.6 SITE 48CA0200

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Site 48CA0200 was recorded September 1, 1978, by Reiss Johnson, and again on May 12, 1997 by GCM Services. The latter, more detailed recording indicates that the site consists of seven stone rings, two rock-bordered hearths, a linear alignment of rocks 4m long, and an associated lithic artifact scatter distributed in two areas separated by an arroyo. No culturally or temporally diagnostic artifacts were located, and no subsurface cultural deposits were identified in ten 40cm by 40cm subsurface test units.

### **PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE**

The recorders noted that the site was in fair condition and showed disturbance from erosion and cattle grazing.

### **NATIONAL REGISTER SIGNIFICANCE**

The site is recommended as eligible for the National Register. The justification provided by the recorders suggests that they considered it eligible under Criterion D for the potential information it may provide regarding three rectangular-shaped stone rings, and the possibility that temporally diagnostic artifacts may exist in the 10cm to 13cm deep soil at the site.

### **INTEGRITY OF SETTING**

Integrity of setting is not considered to be a contributing characteristic of the site. At any rate, the proposed PRB Expansion Project rail corridor situates approximately 2 miles distant from the nearest approach to the site and is not visible from the site (**Figure 3-6**). The PRB Expansion Project will have no effect on the site.