



Department of Education and Cultural Affairs

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MAYOR'S OFFICE

December 2, 2002

Mayor of Rapid City
300 6 St
Rapid City SD 57701

Rapid City Historic Preservation Commission
300 6 St
Rapid City SD 57701

Dear Mayor:

In August of 2002, I was contacted by a property owner along Bennett Ditch in Rapid City. This owner is interested in having the Ditch listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The ditch was first recorded in a Deed book in 1905. But the ditch is noted on maps from the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources as early as 1890. The ditch currently feeds off of Canyon Lake in Canyon Lake Park as well as has its control gate in this park. The Lake and the control gate are an integral part of the ditch.

Before proceeding with the National Register nomination for the ditch, all property owners were contacted and asked to voice their support or opposition to the nomination. I have enclosed the letters and emails with their comments. The majority of property owners are in support of the nomination and are proud of the history associated with the ditch.

I am asking for the support of both the Mayor and the Preservation Commission in this nomination. The nomination will include the entire length of the ditch, the control gate and the lake.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 605-773-6056 or Lynda.schwan@state.sd.us.

Sincerely,

Lynda B. Schwan
Historic Preservation Specialist