

MAY 21 1982

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

1. Name

historic Kruger House

and/or common C. B. White's

2. Location

street & number 10292 Donner Pass Road ^{Pa.} not for publication

city, town Truckee n/a vicinity of congressional district 1

state California code 06 county Nevada code 057

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a	<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 Zina K. O'Brien

street & number P.O. Box 396

city, town Truckee 95734 n/a vicinity of state California

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Nevada County Courthouse

street & number Main Street and Church Street

city, town Nevada City 95959 state California

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title OPERATION TRUCKEE: A Community Plan has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date September 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Nevada County Planning Department

city, town 205 Willow Springs Road, Nevada City 95959 state California

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>n/a</u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Balloon construction and top quality materials are used in this two-story, 10-room and basement house built in 1873. The T-shaped gable roof is obvious from all but the rear (northern) facade.¹ Eaves on the original structure are box type with decorative cornice and dentils. The exterior walls are covered with painted wood shingles. The entire building rests on a concrete foundation.

The building's southern facade is 37 feet wide. Two side flights with hand rails atop turned balusters and box pillars rise from ground level to the first floor porch.² The enclosed porch with three arch pattern windows is capped with highly decorative box eaves, cornice, and brackets. The second story is accented by a central balcony backed by two one-over-one, half round windows, set side by side in a single arched sash. A third arched window, within this sash, caps the decorative second story window configuration. To the east of this balcony and window is a small gabled oriel with two small casement windows. The eastern bay on this facade is set back 12 feet. This bay features a one-over-one, double-hung sash window on the first floor and a small half round single pane window, just below the eaves on the second floor.

The western side is 52 feet wide. Three two-over-two, half round, double-hung windows appear on the first floor. Attached at the rear is a late 19th century shed addition containing a one-over-one double-hung window, new doorway, and deck on its western side.³ Deck railing replicates details found on the front steps. The second floor is dominated by a gable containing a window identical to the window behind the balcony on the front of the building.

Parallel roof lines of the shed addition's and the main building's northern exposure dominate the rear. Two one-over-one double-hung windows are noted on the shed addition. A new skylight has been installed in the northern roof line of the main building. Toward the eastern end of this elevation, the shed addition's roof joins an original westerly down-sloping roof line. Where this shift in roof line occurs, there is also a four-foot setback in the vertical face of the side.

The window configuration on the second story eastern elevation duplicates that found on the western side. A doorway is evident on the first floor rear bay. The middle section features two double-hung, two-over-two, half round windows on the first floor. New decking with double-flight stairway, landing, and railing already described also appears on the first floor level of this portion. The eastern wall of the front porch features three arch windows with details already described.

The second structure in the nominated area is a three-car garage built in approximately 1920. A jerkinhead roof terminates the end of each ridge and defines the three garage doors. The foundation is concrete slab, and wall construction duplicates that found on the main house. The southern facade provides entry to the garage and features arched eaves with brackets in the roof detail. Each of the three garage stall entrances are through double side-by-side hinged doors containing four-over-four pane window details. The western facade contains a single one-over-one double-hung window.

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Major alterations include shingling the building exterior approximately 50 years ago, some more recent window changes, deck additions, and the reconfiguration of the entrance stairway. Even with these alterations, the house still conveys a strong architectural character. Appendix A chronologically details all alterations.

FOOTNOTES

1. New (1977) composition shingles replace 70 percent of the original novelty shingles. Yet, cedar shingles have been replaced on both the rear addition and on the sun porch addition.
2. Based on a decision to convert the property to commercial rather than residential use, new front steps were built. In order to assure safe access to the building for patrons and the general public, the new front steps were built with a dual eastern and western orientation. The original steps, which had a single north/south orientation, were determined to be unsafe for this section of town where there are no sidewalks and regular heavy traffic along Donner Pass Road would have presented an access challenge to most people entering the building from the front. Careful attention was paid to maintaining the lattice detail of the original front steps in the new design. Similarly, railing detail of the balcony rail was carefully replicated in the new steps.
3. The new doorway and deck construction provides handicapped access to the building.

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A Chronology of Alterations

- 1873 Original house built.
- 1874 Sun porch on front added.
- ?- Rear addition built (presently houses men's room and portion of kitchen).
- ?- Rear addition built (presently houses rear entry room and portion of kitchen).
- 1906-1920 Three-car garage built (east of original structure).
- 1925 Partition in upstairs hall built.
- ca. 1930 Exterior shingled.
- 1974 Exterior partly restored and painted; porch window replaced; exterior trim restored.
- 1975 Chimney replaced.
- 1976 Partition in upstairs hall removed.
- 1977 July Living room and downstairs parlor painted and wallpapered; front steps replaced; kitchen sheet-rocked; original structure re-roofed with composition shingles.
- 1977 Oct Sun porch re-roofed with cedar shingles.
- 1978 Mar Northwest bedroom painted and wallpapered.
- 1978 May Northwest bedroom carpeted; dining room painted and wallpapered.
- 1978 July Porch built on east side; porch and rear entry built on west side.
- 1978 Sept Rear addition re-roofed with cedar shingles.
- 1978 Dec Foundation piers replaced with concrete foundation under rear third of house.
- 1979 Feb Ladies room, men's room, and upstairs bathroom received parquet flooring and new wainscotting; skylight installed in upstairs bathroom.
- 1979 Mar Lead plumbing replaced with copper, iron, and PVC tubing.

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A Chronology (Continued)

- 1979 Apr Fuel oil tank in basement removed; new fuel oil tank buried on west side of house; ladies room, men's room, and upstairs bathroom sheet-rocked and wallpapered.
- 1979 May Southwest bedroom sheet-rocked, painted, and wallpapered; sun porch received parquet flooring.
- 1979 June Rock wall on east side of house constructed; commercial fan and duct system installed in kitchen.
- 1979 July Upstairs parlor sheet-rocked, painted, and wallpapered.
- 1979 Aug Extensive landscaping; trees planted, bulkheads constructed.
- 1979 Sept Upstairs hall painted and wallpapered; walk-in refrigerator installed in kitchen; furnace replaced.
- 1979 Oct Kitchen re-floored with linoleum; basement ceiling plastered; fire door installed in basement; downstairs hall painted and wallpapered; burglary alarm system installed.
- 1979 Nov Exterior painted; window glass replaced; front door replaced.
- 1979 Dec Upstairs parlor received parquet flooring.
- 1980 Jan Kitchen painted and wallpapered.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1873 **Builder/Architect** W. H. Kruger

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

The Kruger House is a striking example of the earlier architecture of Truckee. The house dates from the earliest years of the town's settlement and distinguishes itself as the home of an important family through its design and use of high quality materials. W. H. Kruger, a local lumberman and entrepreneur, built this home in 1873. Kruger contributed significantly to the 19th century community development of Truckee as one of the town's leading commercial pioneers. Today, the Kruger home stands as a historic architectural landmark in a town which, for over a century, has represented an important gateway to California.

In 1863, the Central Pacific Railroad Company began work on a railroad pass through the Sierra which, six years later, would help provide a transportation link between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. With the coming of the railroad, many new towns developed along the proposed rail route. W. H. Kruger and his partner, Mr. Brickle, with as many as thirteen other lumber entrepreneurs, responded to the railroad's demand for lumber. By 1868, these lumbermen had established companies in the new railroad town of Truckee.

The Krugers' business success, by 1873, permitted the family to build an elegant home on the north side of the Truckee River. This house was erected in a section of Truckee referred to, in those days, as Brickletown -- named after Kruger's partner. The house was a substantial contribution to the architecture of the new town. The form of the house is an L-shaped volume with medium gable roofs, and classically-based detailing evident in the boxed cornice, frieze, and endboards. It incorporated a number of stylistic details associated with the more formal Italianate villas of the preceding decade, including the Tuscan windows in the east, west, and south gables, the segmental arch windows on the first floor, a small, almost formal, balcony above the main entrance, and the bracketing and rhythmic arcade-like quality of the sun porch. The result is an eclectic, eye-catching building with sufficient stylistic pretension to distinguish it as the home of a family of importance.

In 1904, the house was sold to C. B. White, a local businessman and banker. From that day on, the house has been known as the "White House". However, the historical and architectural significance of the "White House" rests primarily with the Kruger family's contributions to the settlement of Truckee and over 120 years of community perseverance in maintaining the town's vitality as an important railroad settlement in California's and our nation's history.

9. Major Bibliographical References

OPERATION TRUCKEE: A Community Plan, Lord, P., 1979, Tahoe Instant Press, Truckee.
 ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED
 Truckee, Meshery, J., Rocking Stone Press, Truckee.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 0.2 acres
 Quadrangle name Truckee Quadrangle scale 7.5'

UMT References

A	1,0	7,4,2,3,5,8	4,3,5,6,5,7,0	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet.

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

state	n/a	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul A. Lord, Jr./Truckee Planning Consultant
 organization Operation Truckee date OHP Staff Revision: 4/81
15 December 1980
 street & number 266 Jayne Avenue telephone (415) 763-7192
 city or town Oakland 94610 state California

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *K. M. Ellan*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date May 12, 1982

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

Alma Byron
 Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
 National Register

date 6/17/82

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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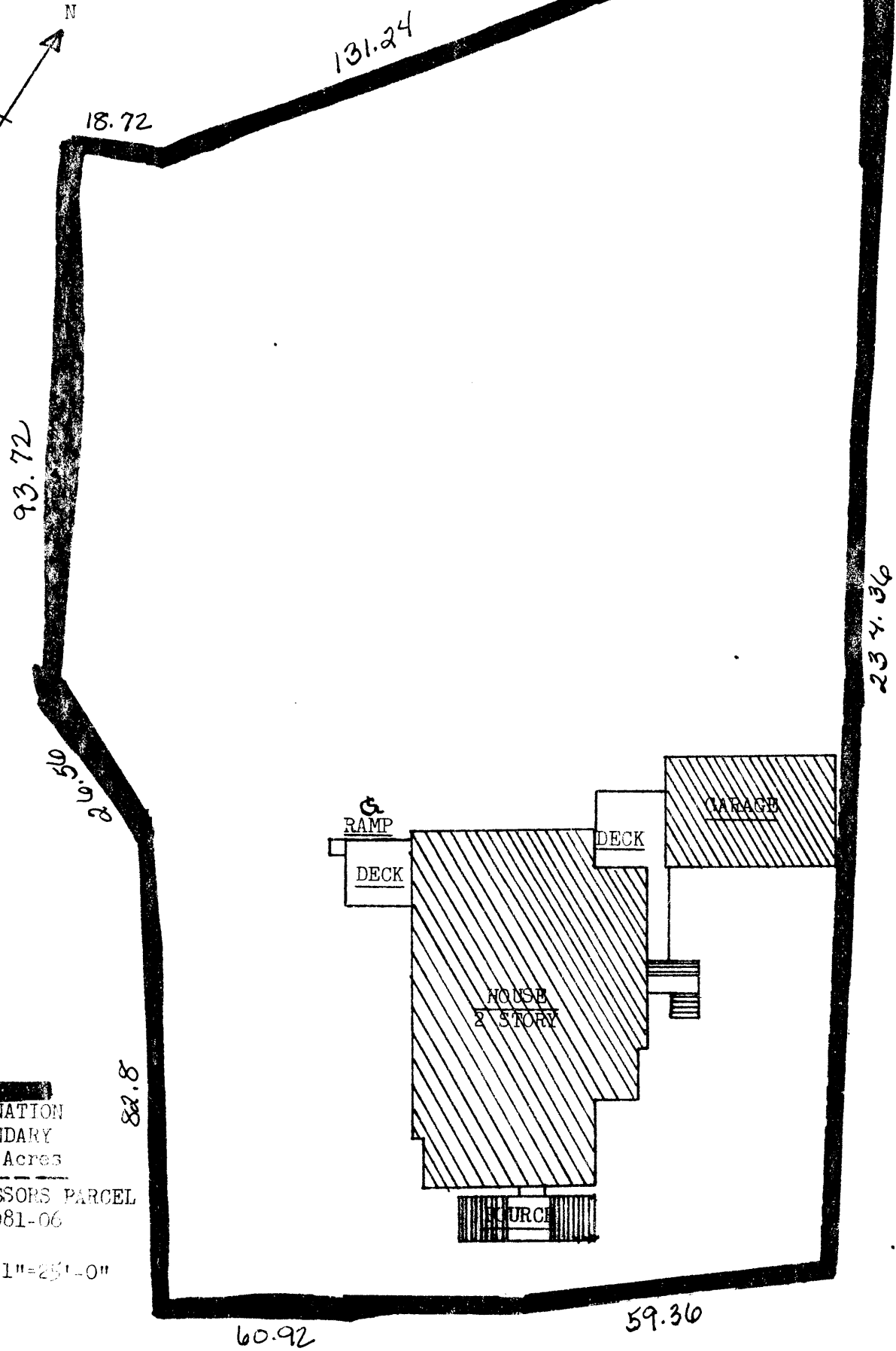
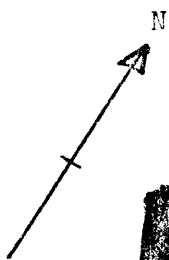
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Beginning at the northernmost point of the property, proceed 234.36 feet southeasterly, 59.36 feet southwesterly, 60.92 feet at a more western southwesterly direction, 82.8 feet northwesterly, 26.56 feet westerly, 93.72 feet northwesterly, 18.72 feet easterly, and 131.24 feet northeasterly to the point of origin.

Kroger (C.B. White's) House, Truckee
Accessors Parcel and Nomination Boundaries



NOMINATION
BOUNDARY
0.2 Acres
ACCESSORS PARCEL
#19-081-06

SCALE: 1"=25'-0"

← DONNER PASS ROAD (OLD HIGHWAY 10) →