

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUL 10 1979  
DATE ENTERED AUG 30 1979

**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 Stricker store and ~~homesite~~ *farm*

AND/OR COMMON

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

NW quarter of NW quarter, Section 23, T 11S, R 18 E

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Rock Creek

VICINITY OF

Second

STATE

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY

Twin Falls

CODE

083

**CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

**OWNERSHIP**

**STATUS**

**PRESENT USE**

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENC

SITE

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

**ACCESSIBLE**

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER: vacant

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Robert W. Stephan, et al

STREET & NUMBER

Bank and Trust Building  
106 Main Avenue South

CITY, TOWN

Twin Falls

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Twin Falls County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Twin Falls

STATE

Idaho

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1972

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Idaho State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The group of buildings associated with the Stricker store near Rock Creek is located about three miles northwest of that small community; the property on which they stand lies on the north side of the creek itself. There are five significant structures in the group, ranging in date from the 1865 log store to the early 20th century frame barn.

The most important building, historically and architecturally, is the store itself. It is a small rectangular building of hewn log construction with log-lap corners. There are doors front and rear center, and horizontal casement windows in the sidewalls (two on the west and one of the east). Twentieth century frame additions which extended from the original south facade of the structure have been removed in recent years, and a shed-roofed porch added; the original pole-supported sod roof is intact and visible under a modern protective canopy.

Directly north of the store is a double-chambered storage cellar of rubble, pole and sod construction; it has entrances in both end and side. South of the store, a sod-roofed log animal shelter is preserved. And to the east is a substantial frame barn which according to local sources was used as a dance hall in the early part of the century. It is a gable-roofed structure of simple rectangular plan, with a broad sliding door in the south wall and casement window in the gable.

The Stricker farmhouse is the final major structure in the group. It is a one-and-a-half story house set among mature native and introduced evergreen and deciduous trees, with orchard to the south. The core of the house is a log stockade, now invisible under wood siding. The basic plan is an ell, with large gables in the cross wing as well as lateral running gables in the main block. There is a screened porch with shed roof across the facade from the intersection of the ell. Gabled dormers, facing front and back, occur halfway along the main block. The rear elevation presents an interesting example of rural continuous architecture, as early frame and poured concrete additions for space and storage purposes can be seen. The house, like the other structures in the group, is vacant and in disrepair. The only alteration, however, is the boarding up of windows and the removal of the gingerbread trim visible in early photographs.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
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 1865- early 20th Century BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Stricker store and homesite buildings are architecturally significant for the examples they provide of locally-rare types of nineteenth and early twentieth century rural architecture, intact in their original setting and in their original relationship to one another. They are historically significant for their association with the earliest phases of white movement through and settlement of what is now agrarian south central Idaho.

The log store and outbuilding, particularly, are rare types in Twin Falls county, where broad-based settlement came late, after the advent of irrigation in 1905. The ell-type frame farmhouse is similarly notable for its stockade construction; and constructed as it was in 1900 to replace a log home destroyed by fire, it is half a decade earlier in date than most other substantial early dwellings in the county. The house and the frame barn, though visually less striking and unusual building types than the log store, comprise with it an integrated and attractive display of early rural architecture. Although the buildings are somewhat deteriorated, they are certainly restorable. There is substantial local and owner interest in such a restoration.

The complex is also significant as visual evidence of the earliest chapter in the movement of white settlers into Twin Falls county. The site had been passed by the Oregon trail since the 1840s. Travelers along the trail regularly used the area as a place to camp and water their stock, which gives it unusual potential for historic archaeology. After a stone "home station" was built in 1864 (demolished in 1905) to service Ben Holladay's tri-weekly mail **and passenger service** between Salt Lake City, Utah, and Boise, Rock Creek Station became a focus for limited settlement. In 1865 James Bascomb built the log store, which was bought in 1875 by Herman Stricker and which remains standing today. It served as store, post-office, lunch-room, saloon and club for several generations of travellers and residents.

The entire quarter section is still under the ownership of Herman Stricker's descendants. The boundaries have been drawn to include the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter. This includes the buildings, grounds, and those adjacent areas most likely to yield historic archaeological information.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Letter from Carolyn Rhodes-Jones, Idaho Division Director, Community Improvement through Local History; on file at Idaho State Historical Society.

A Folk History of Twin Falls County. Twin Falls, Idaho; Standard Printing Company, Twin Falls, 1962.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 40 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Stricker Butte

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5 minute

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	1	7	2	0	4	6	0
ZONE	EASTING	070		NORTHING	4704240		

B 

1	1	7	2	0	4	7	0
ZONE	EASTING	060		NORTHING	4703830		

C 

1	1	7	2	0	7	0	1
ZONE	EASTING	070		NORTHING	4703830		

D 

1	1	7	2	0	6	0	1
ZONE	EASTING	060		NORTHING	4704230		

E 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This nomination includes the Stricker cabin, storage cellar, log outbuilding, frame barn, and ranch house on the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 23, Township 11 S., Range 18 E.

### LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Patricia Wright, Architectural Historian

26 June 1979

ORGANIZATION

Idaho State Historical Society

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

610 North Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

384-3356

CITY OR TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

# 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

*Merle Wells*

4 July 1979

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*John Paul Shull*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 8-30-79

ATTEST: *W. Ray Luce*  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 8/30/79

# STRICKER STORE AND HOMESITE

VICINITY OF ROCK CREEK, IDAHO  
NOT TO SCALE

JUL 10 1979

