

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

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

received \_\_\_\_\_  
date entered MAY 14 1986

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

**1. Name**

historic Lucken Farm District

and/or common N/A

**2. Location**

street & number North of Portland N/A not for publication

city, town Portland X vicinity of

state North Dakota code 38 county Traill code 097

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Gretchen Lund (see continuation sheet)

street & number 1320 Comstock Avenue

city, town Cumberland N/A vicinity of state Wisconsin 54829

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Traill County Courthouse, Register of Deeds

street & number P O Box 148

city, town Hillsboro state North Dakota 58045

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_ yes  no

date N/A \_\_\_ federal N/A \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" 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 Lucken farm, located two miles north of Portland, North Dakota, is a surviving early farmstead in the Red River Valley of the North. The farm complex is dominated by a wood frame two-story house, and outbuildings which include a granary, two storage sheds, a chicken coop, and a pig barn. The house, built in 1888 exhibits a mixture of styles, roof treatments, and textures. The asymmetrical composition of the farmhouse results from projecting bays and two porches. The exterior of the farmhouse retains much of its original materials and configuration, as does the interior. The granary and storage sheds date from the time of farmhouse construction. The nomination consists of seven contributing buildings (Features 1-7) and one noncontributing building foundation (Feature 8).

The house (Feature 1) possesses a Stick styling with the incorporation of details from the Italianate Style. Built on a stone foundation, the house is clapboard sided. The main body of the house is capped by a truncated hipped roof. A projecting gable-roofed bay is located off-center on the south elevation. Another gable-roofed extension is on the north end of the east facade. This extension further projects with a square-topped, ornate, two-story bay window. A cross-gable intersects the roof on the north and west. On the west is located a truncated hip-roofed building that is attached to the main part of the house under the cross gable. The entire roof's original wood shingles are still in place under asphalt shingles. Two chimneys pierced the flat sections of the roof and originally had corbelled brick caps which have been removed.

Two open porches once sheltered the two entries, one on the east facade and one on the south. The original porches were constructed of decorative turned columns, and short railings once rested on the porch roofs. The porches were enclosed in the 1930s and the columns and railings removed. The structure's exterior exhibits a wide variety of wood detailing. Vertical wood siding emphasizes the height of the two projecting bays. Italianate brackets on the east facade's square bay brace a pent roof with decorative scallop shingles on the first story, and a stepped wood cornice on the second story. Scallop shingles are used in the gable ends of the house's south, east, and north elevations. Windows are tall, narrow, one-over-one wood frame windows. The wood window surrounds are moldings with blocks at the sills and heads that produce a pilaster appearance. These pilasters visually support projecting flat-topped head moldings.

The most significant interior feature of the house is the butternut woodwork. Butternut window and door mouldings capped by corner blocks with black walnut medallions, wide baseboards, corner guards, and ceiling moldings are used throughout the house. Brass door hardware with decorative backplates is still in place on all doors. On the first floor, raised horizontal six-panel doors are used. Flanking the door knobs of these doors are black walnut medallions placed on the door trim. Hardware floors are in all first floor rooms, and the parlor floor has a painted stencil design bordering the room. The parlor is the only first-floor room with a picture rail. On the second floor, the doors are constructed of four vertical panels. The flooring upstairs consists of wide plans, and the flooring in some bedrooms has been painted.

## 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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** 1888-1924 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Lucken farm is significant for its association with its builder, Halleck E. Lucken, as an example of early homesteading and farming in the Red River Valley of the North, and for the main house's architectural qualities. Lucken made a unique contribution to Traill county through his support and interest in the educational system, his participation in local politics, his work in the lumber business, and his involvement with the agricultural community.

Lucken was the son of Norwegian immigrants who settled in Wisconsin. His family moved to Iowa where Lucken met and married Ingeborg (Belle) Anderson, whose family also came from Norway. Lucken attended Breckenridge College in Iowa and was a school teacher by training and his wife was an expert seamstress. The couple moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where Lucken taught school for one term. Deciding to homestead in the Dakota Territory, they relocated in Moorhead, Minnesota, and Mrs. Lucken took in sewing while her husband searched out the land on which he wished to file. He walked sixty-five miles from Moorhead to an area north of present-day Portland, North Dakota to examine the land and take soil samples.

In 1878, Halleck Lucken filed a claim near the Goose River in Traill County. His claim was probably the first in the area not to be located directly on the Goose River. Lumber was hauled from Fargo, North Dakota to construct a plain shack. Three of Lucken's daughters were born in the shack, one even before the roof was constructed. In 1888, Lucken built a large farm house for his farmstead. The shack was razed for the lumber.

The Lucken family grew to include four daughters. Lucken was a firm believer in education and purchased a house in nearby Mayville to use in the winter so that his daughters could attend school. All four daughters attended Mayville Normal School and became schoolteachers.

Lucken expressed his belief in education by conducting classes in English for his predominately Norwegian-immigrant neighbors. He was also a teacher at an early school which held classes in a neighbor's farmhouse. Active in local politics, Lucken was clerk of Roseville Township, and was elected to one term as Traill County Commissioner. He was once approached to run for governor of North Dakota, but declined.

As well as a farmer, politician, and educator, Lucken was a businessman. He became manager of a cooperative lumber company in Portland, North Dakota, two miles from his farm. Primarily a grain farmer, Lucken also conducted experiments in pig and chicken farming. Although an ambitious man, Lucken refused to acquire more acreage for farming because he believed everyone should have an equal opportunity to own land. He deplored the large-scale "Bonanza" farms of the Red River Valley as being immoral enterprises that destroyed this opportunity.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 5.92 acres.

Quadrangle name Mayville North, N. Dak.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	4	6	2	2	7	6	5	5	2	6	4	6	6	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification E 1/2 NE 1/4 NE 1/4 Section 26, T.147N; R.53W, Traill County. The nominated property includes the farm residence and the land surrounding the house and significant out buildings as described on continuation sheet, p. 3.

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mrs. Gretchen Lund  
Marty Perry, Architectural Historian

organization N/A  
State Historical Society of North Dakota

date January 16, 1986

street & number 1320 Comstock Avenue  
North Dakota Heritage Center

telephone (715)822-2157  
(701)224-2672

city or town Cumberland  
Bismarck

state Wisconsin  
North Dakota

# 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.

James E. Sperry  
State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota)

date 4/3/86

### For NPS use only

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

for William B. Bushroy  
Keeper of the National Register

date 5/14/86

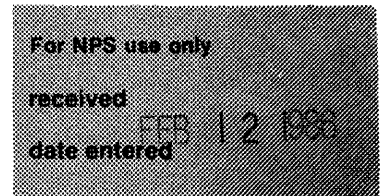
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet

Item number 4

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Jean Whiting  
2812 Kings Way  
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Margaret Swank  
One Bratenahl Place  
Lake Shore Blvd.  
Cleveland, OH 44108

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Continuation sheet

Item number 7

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The main entrance to the house is on the east through a wood panel door with a multipaned stained glass window panel. The entrance opens into the living room, which is the largest room in the house. Through double doors to the west of the living room is a small library. The north wall of the living room consists of double doors to the dining room, a door that opens onto a narrow stairway to the second floor, and double doors to the parlor.

The kitchen is located west of the dining room and has an exterior door to the porch on the south. The kitchen has a stairway to the basement and provides the only access to the two second floor bedrooms above the kitchen. These bedrooms have plain finishes and served as quarters for the hired hands. Two pantries north of the kitchen provide storage, and a small bathroom is tucked between the kitchen and library. This bathroom has been modernized in the last few years.

Located on the second story of the main part of the house are four bedrooms that open off a central north-south hall. An ornately carved newel post terminates the hall railing that is constructed of delicately turned spindles. Above the stairwell is a brass and etched-glass gas light fixture which has been wired for electricity. The master bedroom, in the northeast corner of the second floor, features intricate floor stencilling around the perimeter of the room, as well as a picture rail.

The wall and ceiling finishes throughout the house are plain plaster with paint. Almost all of the woodwork has a natural wood finish, with the exception of two bedrooms. The heat registers, some on the floors and some in the walls, are covered with decorative metal grills. Metal pulls operate the floor registers on the first story.

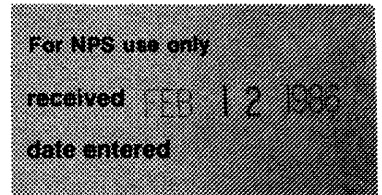
Few changes have occurred on the interior of the house. A small closet was built in the upstairs hall, but otherwise the second floor remains unaltered. One section of the kitchen cabinets was slightly remodeled, and a door opening changed into a small "pass-through" between the kitchen and the dining room; both changes were probably done in the 1930s. In addition to good architectural integrity, many pieces of original black walnut furniture are stored in the house.

The oldest building on the farm is the granary (Feature 2), which was built circa 1880, and is southwest of the present house. A square gable-roofed structure, the building has wood shiplap siding and large sliding doors on the north and south elevations. A shed lean-to is attached to the granary's west wall. The original International Harvester engine rests on a concrete platform within the granary. The farm's original pump house (Feature 3) stands north of the granary. Its wood-frame lap-sided walls are covered by a hipped roof. On the East side of Feature 3 some of the pumping mechanism is visible.

Two rectangular machine sheds (Features 4 and 5) dating from the 1880s are northwest of the house. The sheds have gable roofs, wood siding, sliding doors on the east, and dirt floors. A chicken coop and a pig barn (Features 6 and 7), both long, low, rectangular structures, are south of the house. These buildings date from later in the

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period of significance than the house, and are in fair condition. The foundation from a circa 1880 barn (Feature 8), which was destroyed by fire in 1976, remains west of the house.

The farm is bounded to the north and west by a tree shelter from the original tree claim. A row of pine trees shield the farm from the county road to the east. An original cedar hedge and portions of the original orchard can be seen south of the complex.

The nominated boundaries have been drawn to include all features which contribute to the significance of the complex and enough area to provide a proper setting to convey the rural architectural character of the site. The boundary of the nominated area is as follows: Commencing at a point 210' south of the northeast corner of Section 26, Township 147 North, Range 53 West, the property boundary travels 600' west, then 430' south, then 600 feet east, then 430' north to the point of beginning.

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Continuation sheet

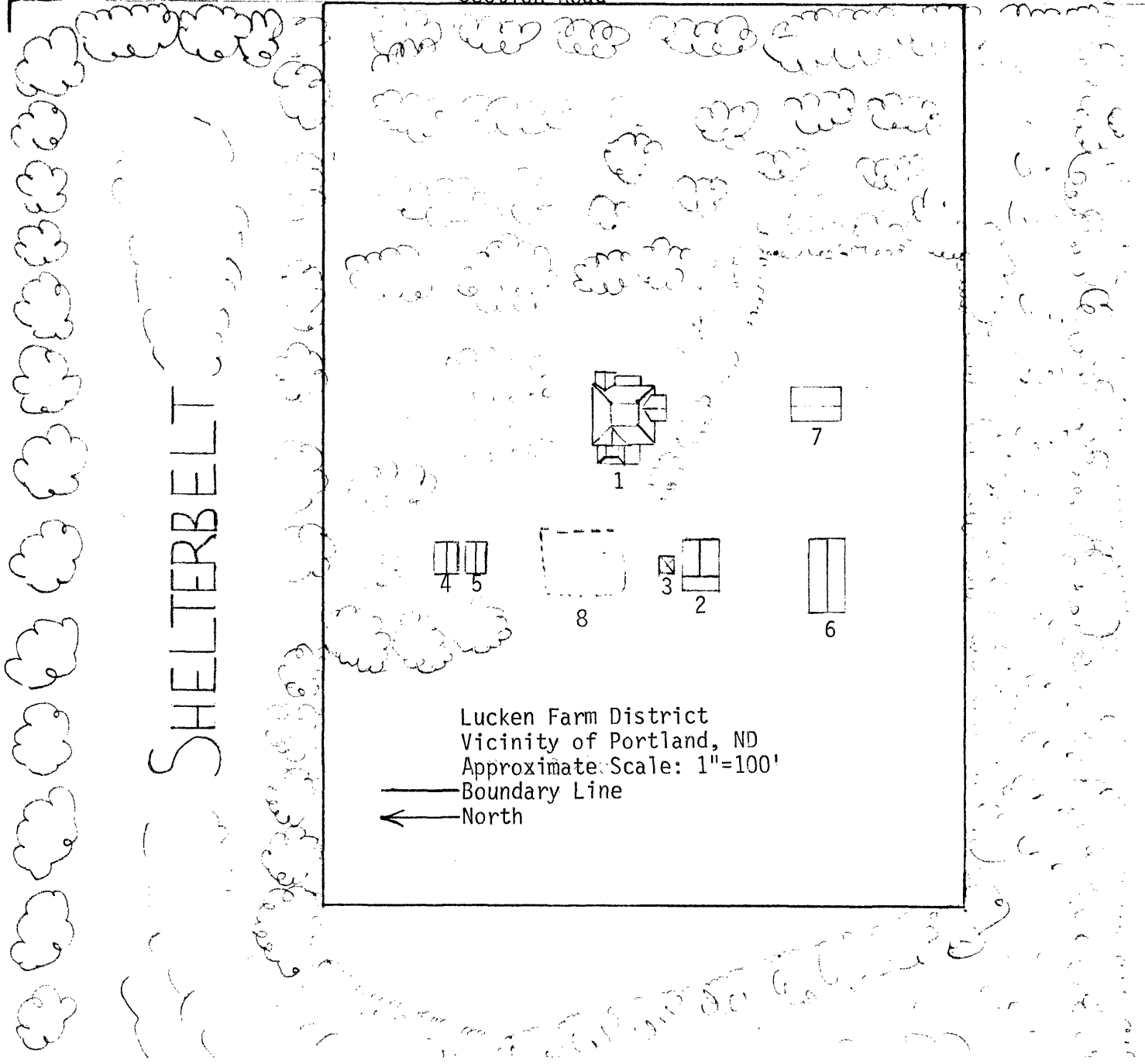
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Section Corner

Burlington Northern Tracks

Section Road



Lucken Farm District  
Vicinity of Portland, ND  
Approximate Scale: 1"=100'

— Boundary Line  
← North



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Continuation sheet

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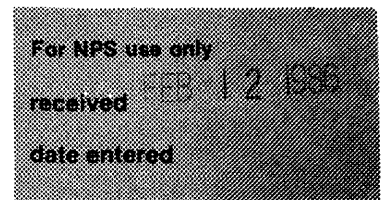
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The main house that Halleck Lucken built is notable for its gracious, as well as functional, qualities. Probably selecting his design from existing lumberyard pattern books, Lucken constructed a home with detailing representative of the more successful Valley farmers. He utilized rare woods, such as butternut and black walnut, throughout the house's interior. The design of Lucken's house separated the living and social quarters from the portion of the building that served the day-to-day farm needs. The kitchen, with its related functional spaces, is located in a part of the building that appears to be an addition to the house. The outbuildings are placed in a semi-circle around the kitchen at the rear of the house. Lucken's reasoning for the location of the buildings, and the interior division within the house, probably stemmed not only from a desire to divide work from living and socializing, but also from the fact that he had four daughters, whom he might have wanted to keep separated from the workings of the farm.

The Lucken farm remains in the Lucken family today. After Halleck Lucken's death in 1924, and his wife's death in 1935, their daughter, Etha, married Edvard Anderson and they made their home at the farm. Edvard passed on in 1968, followed by Etha in 1970, at which time Etha's sister, Bertha Lucken Whiting, fell heir to the property. Bertha's three daughters currently own the farm. One of the sisters, Gretchen (Whiting) Lund, along with her husband Robert, plan to restore the farm and use it as their residence.

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Gretchen (Whiting) Lund, family papers and personal recollections.

Mayville Civic Club, Diamond Jubilee, 1881-1956, Mayville, North Dakota, 1956.

Portland Diamond Jubilee History Committee, Diamond Jubilee, 1882-1957, Portland, North Dakota, 1957.

The Portland Republican, July 17, 1924.

Trail County Historical Society and Red River Valley Historical Society,  
Trail County History, Taylor Publishing Company, Dallas, Texas, 1976.