

INVENTORY SHEET FOR GROUP NOMINATIONS: IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOISE, IDAHO

NOMINATION: Buhl Dairy Barns thematic group

SITE NAME: Schick, Henry, Barn

SITE NUMBER: 5

LOCATION: ~~2 mi. E, 1 mi. S~~^{SE} of Buhl

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Eleanor Schick Musgrave Bygland
P.O. Box 164
Boron, CA 93516

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Clover Quadrangle
7.5 min.

ACREAGE: 2.5 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Henry Schick Barn and the property on which it stands, SE1/4, SE1/4, SE1/4, SE1/4, Section 5, R15E, T10S.

UTM(S): 11/687805/4716440

DATE OR PERIOD: c. 1914

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: Henry Schick

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture and agriculture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

CONDITION: fair, unaltered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

The Henry Schick Barn is a T-shaped, two-story, balloon frame structure with a flared gambrel roof and nine-foot concrete walls. Its proportions are 68-1/2 feet long by 36 feet wide and 38 feet tall. Its wood siding is quite weathered, but some of the original gray-green paint can still be seen on it. The south gable end has an extension of a milk room adjoined by partially-enclosed cowsheds on the west side and an enclosed pen area with adjoining partially-enclosed cowsheds on the east end. A concrete silo with an onion-shaped dome rises out of the milkroom on the west side. The south gable end has a square hay hood over a bottom-hinged hay door. Two double-hung sash windows flank each side of the hay door; the windows have been replaced with boards. Three fixed windows with twelve lights each and a

hinged door are in the first floor of the main portion. There is also a covered shaft that is attached to this portion; its function is undetermined.

Four similar windows and a door are in the east extension, and two doors and a window are in the milkroom extension. The north gable end contains two casement windows similar to the ones in the south end. The east facade has the previously described extension of a pen and cowsheds on its southeast corner. Eight fixed windows are in the first-floor level, as well as two doors set off-center. A hay chute forms a break in the gambrel roof and extends down along the middle of the facade. The east facade is similar, except that it has only five windows and one door. Two cupolas top each end of the original tin roof: they have onion domes that match the silo.

The interior of the barn currently is used for storage and has not been altered. Ten concrete stalls are on the west side of the barn, with the concrete hangers facing toward the wall. These stalls had sliding iron poles set in concrete and leather straps for stanchions. The east side of the barn consists of five pens with concrete floors used to hold calving cows or cows with their calves. Individual drinking fountains are in each stall and pen. In the southwest corner of the barn is a bathroom that originally had a toilet, sink, and tub. Only the toilet is still extant. Hand-forged iron gates enclose each interior cowpen, and hand-forged iron latches fasten each door. A large ventilator shaft runs from the bottom floor of the barn to the cupola on the north end of the roof.

The framing of the roof structure in the Schick barn is almost identical to the Dau-Wuebbenhorst Barn. A partial post-and-lintel system is used, and the weight of the roof rests on the sidewalls extending above the first floor five feet. An out-

rigger supports the flare of the gambrel roof. There is one difference: no diagonal brace supports the upper and lower rafters. Rather, the lower rafter, outrigger, and sidewall form a brace for support.

As on the Carlson and Dau-Wuebbenhorst barns, hay is unloaded from the outside of the barn by the use of slings and pulley extending from the hay track. Still extant in the loft is an electric winch that pulled the hay up.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Henry Schick Barn is architecturally significant as a good example of the transitional stage between an early style and a later style of gambrel-roofed barn built in the Buhl area between 1910-1915. It is an outstanding example of the craftsmanship of local master builder, Henry Schick. It is historically significant because of Schick's association with the early Buhl dairy industry.

As with the Dau-Wuebbenhorst Barn, the Schick barn follows part of the building pattern set by the earlier barns in the neighborhood, yet a new barn type is beginning to emerge: the smaller, narrower barn with side walls on the second story. Schick's barn shows the beginning of a truss system of bracing with lower eaves, outrigger, and side wall. Yet he still uses the traditional method of partial post-and-lintel bracing. His ability to create flared eaves similar to a mansard roof can be seen in this barn, as well as in the Dau barn.

Henry Schick's skill as a builder is still remarked upon by longtime local residents. His barn and silo stand as mute testimony to his craftsmanship and capability to pour and lay concrete and work with iron. Schick was a German-Russian immigrant who came to Idaho to work as a hired hand. He had previously worked with

his brother in Chicago building houses and in an ironworks factory. Through his association with Gustave Kunze, Schick became interested in the dairy business. Kunze sold him a portion of his land, and soon after Schick was written up in promotional literature as a successful dairy farmer. Schick continued to build barns and houses after he took up farming.

The barn is presently not in use. Its roof is in need of repair, and some of the windows are broken. Otherwise, the building is in good condition.