

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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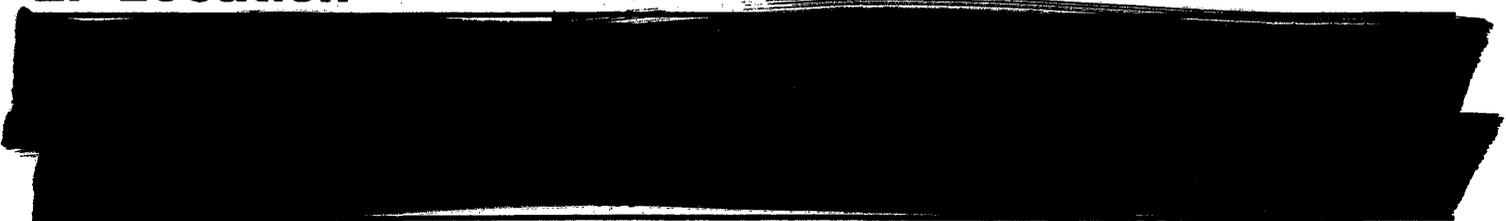
See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic (TR) Buhl Dairy Barns ~~thematic group~~

and/or common N/A

2. Location



3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> thematic	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> group		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name See individual inventory sheets

street & number N/A

city, town N/A N/A vicinity of N/A state N/A

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Twin Falls County Courthouse

street & number Shoshone Street and Fourth Avenue North

city, town Twin Falls state Idaho 83301

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Idaho State Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

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 type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" 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
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>N/A</u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The barns nominated in this thematic group were owned by the members of the earliest dairying community in the Buhl area. All of the barns are located east of Buhl in a four-mile radius of each other. Construction of the barns occurred between the years 1910 and 1915. Henry Schick, a German-Russian immigrant, was involved partially or totally with the construction of all the barns but one. The main portion of each building is a rectangular, two-story, balloon-frame structure with a gambrel roof. All the barns but one have concrete foundations eight to thirteen feet in height.

Although all the barns exhibit similarities in materials and workmanship, two distinct barn types are present within the group. The first barn type includes the Gustave Kunze, T. P. Bowlby, and Alfred Carlson Barns. These barns are characterized by proportions of 80-120 feet in length, 56-70 feet in width, and 45 feet in height. The rafters of the gambrel roof meet at or close to the first floor of the barn. Although the interior floor plans vary, the barns in this type all have the mangers facing inwardly towards each other or the middle of the barn. The partial post-and-lintel system of framing was used on each barn, representing a very early method of framing a gambrel roof. Variations occur within this first barn type. The first two barns are constructed for the interior unloading of hay, while the third is constructed for the unloading of hay from the outside. Architectural details such as the style of windows, use of dormers, and cupolas also vary from barn to barn.

The second barn type within this thematic group includes the barns of Max Dau, Henry Schick, Rudolf Kunze, and Art Maxwell. The proportions of these barns are smaller and narrower than those of the first barn type. The proportions vary from 52-68 feet in length, 31-40 feet in width, and 34-38 feet in height. The side walls of the barns extend four to five feet above the first floors; the roof structures bear on these walls. Again no two floor plans of the barn are alike, but all share the characteristic of the mangers facing outwardly towards the walls of the barn, rather than inwardly.

All the barns in the second type were constructed for the exterior unloading of hay. However, the style of hay hood and hay door used varies from barn to barn. The use of windows, dormers, and cupolas varies with each barn, also. Two systems of framing occur within the second barn type. A partial post-and-lintel system with outriggers forming side wall braces were used on the Dau and Schick barn. Two styles of the truss system of framing were used in the Rudolf Kunze and Art Maxwell Barns.

Though the basic design of the barns probably came from planbooks of the time period, the quality of workmanship on the barns is quite evident. The barns on which Henry Schick helped to pour the cement and did most of the framing himself are still in good shape; even those that have been uncared for. The only barn with some structural problems is one that Schick did not help to build: the Rudolf Kunze Barn.

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The barns create a striking silhouette on the Buhl landscape, especially the Dau and Schick barns. The flared eaves Schick created on these barns have an appearance similar to that of a mansard roof. The exteriors of all the barns retain their architectural integrity, and over half of them are being well preserved by their owners.

A reconnaissance survey of the Buhl area was conducted in the spring of 1978 by Don Hibbard, grantee of the State Historic Preservation Office. An intensive survey of barns in the area east of Buhl was done by Madeline Buckendorf of the Idaho State Historical Society from December of 1978 to February of 1983. Buckendorf took field notes and recorded interviews with several longtime residents of the area and researched newspapers, deeds, state farmer's digests, and early promotional literature of the locale to gather information about the buildings and their owners. Buckendorf documented the buildings by taking measured drawings, photographs, and notes on construction details. None of the original owners were alive, but several second owners and longtime residents of the neighborhood provided valuable interpretive information on each of the barns, their owners and builders.

Although there are several kinds of barns located in the region east of Buhl, Buckendorf narrowed the scope of her survey to include those buildings which had common architectural and historical themes. The criteria Buckendorf used to choose the barns were:

- (1) the barns were the earliest gambrel-roofed barns in the Buhl area used mainly for dairying purposes;
- (2) the barn owners were all associated with each other through business (Gustave Kunze's cheese factory) or family ties;
- (3) the barns as a group would represent transitions on the design, construction, and use of a gambrel-roofed dairy barn in the early twentieth century.

There has been one other survey done of the area that includes barns: the thematic nomination of Lava Rock Structures in South-Central Idaho. These structures are not discussed in the Buhl Dairy Barn thematic group nomination because they did not fit the above criteria used to develop the nomination.

Little study has been done on the development of the gambrel-roofed dairy barn in the early twentieth century. Few barn planbooks and written records exist, but the barns within this nomination suggest some trends in the practice of building barns and the dairy practices of the time period.

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 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 circa 1911 - ca.1915 **Builder/Architect** Henry Schick and others

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Buhl Dairy Barns are architecturally and historically significant as a group because they reflect transitions in the design, construction, and use of gambrel-roofed dairy barns in the Buhl area in the early part of the twentieth century. The construction of the barns illustrates the influence of technology on building practices and a move away from more traditional methods of building a barn. Changes in agricultural practices can be seen in the way the barns were built to store hay and to feed cows. Most of the barns are also architecturally significant because they show the development of the building style and skill of Henry Schick, a master builder of the Buhl area. The barns are significant historically for their association with the beginnings of the dairy industry in Buhl, initially started by dairy farmers from Tillamook, Oregon.

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When Gustave Kunze, T. P. Bowlby, and Alfred Carlson moved to Buhl from Tillamook, they chose to build a style of barn that was newly in vogue at the turn of the century. The gambrel-roofed barn was being widely advertised in agricultural bulletins and building planbooks at that time. The barn had become a specialized structure. Some were built specifically for dairying purposes, in contrast to the more common multi-purpose general farm barns.

Several advances in technology affected the way the barns were built. The availability of precut lumber led to a move away from traditional methods of building, such as hand-hewn framing and heavy timber post-and-lintel construction. The invention of the hay fork and the track-and-pulley system called for the barn loft area to be open. The development of the gambrel roof grew out of such a need. Other building features were discussed in barn planbooks and agricultural literature: among them were ventilation, lighting systems, the use of concrete as a building material, and the placement of cows in the barn. Double-sashed windows, dormers, and cupolas with vents running from them to the bottom floor are recommended in various planbooks. Concrete was endorsed as being a better and cheaper building material than stone. Even the placement of cows in the barn was discussed; one book recommended that the cows face outwardly for easier removal of manure.

It is clear that the dairy barns in Buhl were influenced by these new technological developments and barn styles presented in early agricultural literature. However, the dairy barns in Buhl reflect a transition from more traditional barn types to the types presented in planbooks. Three major transitions occur within this thematic group. There was a move away from using posts to support a roof on a wide expanse of barn to the use of a balloon truss system to support the roof of a smaller, narrower barn. The method of putting up hay changed. In the early barns hay was unloaded on the inside of the barn, and in the later barns hay was unloaded on outside. Third, while floor plans vary quite a bit among all the barns described, there seems to have been a move to having all the cows face outwardly rather than inwardly. These transitions were influenced not only by technology, but also by the barn owners' experience with other barn types and the barn builders' particular expertise.

Gustave Kunze, T. P. Bowlby, and Alfred Carlson chose to build the new style of barn with a gambrel roof, yet chose an older, more traditional method to frame their roofs. Whether the roof framing was part of some barn plan, the owners' idea, or the builders' idea is hard to say. It may have been that the owners wanted to have the new style of gambrel-roofed barn, but the builders had not yet gained the knowledge of how to frame such a barn. The builders may have adapted the method of construction they were familiar with (post-and-lintel construction) to build the gambrel roof style of barn.

The next two barns built in the neighborhood, Max Dau's and Henry Schick's, followed a newer style of gambrel-roofed barn--one smaller and narrower with side walls extending above the floor. These barns imitated the exterior of a general

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the George Watt Barn), but a portion of the post-and-lintel system is again used to frame these barns instead of the new truss system of framing. Some knowledge of the truss system is shown in the way the side walls are braced. The last two barns of the thematic group (Rudolf Kunze and Maxwell) show two variations of the truss system of framing, perhaps indicating that the newer truss system of braced framing had become an established and better understood method of framing a barn.

The first two barns built in the area, T. P. Bowlby's and Gustave Kunze's, were designed for interior unloading of hay. This may have been due to their experiences with the climate and barns of Tillamook, where because of the large amount of rainfall many barns were constructed for interior unloading of hay. All of the other barns in the thematic group were built for exterior unloading of hay, suggesting a shift in agricultural practice and an adaptation to the drier climate of the Buhl area. The hay hoods on the barns constructed for exterior unloading vary from square to pointed to none at all, suggesting individual stylistic preferences among the farmers, rather than any particular climatic need.

The common practice in the first three barns built in the neighborhood (Gustave Kunze, Bowlby, Carlson) was to have the cows face inwardly towards each other and the middle of the barn. In the last four barns, the cows face outwardly toward the walls. These barns were easier to clean with central manure gutters down a wide passage, from which a manure spreader could be loaded easily.

In the progression of barn types within the Buhl Dairy Barn thematic group one can see the development of the skills of master builder Henry Schick. Schick was a German-Russian immigrant who worked in an ironworks factory with his brother and building houses in Chicago before coming to Idaho. He also was quite skilled in working with concrete, a relatively new barn construction material. Schick was one of several workers who helped to build the Kunze, Bowlby, and Carlson barns, and he was the main builder of his own barn and the Dau-Wuebbenhorst and Maxwell barns. In the Dau-Wuebbenhorst Barn and his own barn, Schick followed the framing pattern used in the three earlier barns he helped to construct, but supplemented it with braces on the side walls. This shows some understanding of the truss system. By the time Schick built the Maxwell barn, he had completely shifted to using a highly sophisticated form of truss assembly, perhaps indicating that he had been influenced by other builders' methods or by new designs in barn plans and engineering books.

Schick's skill in working with concrete can be seen in most of the barns he built. It is especially evident in his own barn, where he constructed a concrete silo and concrete stalls and mangers that are still in good condition. Schick's barn, with all its hand-forged latches and gates, also is evidence of his skill as a smith. Overall, Schick had the reputation in the Buhl area of being a good builder, and he was called upon to construct many houses and barns. The quality of his construction methods marked him as a master builder.

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The barns in this thematic group are linked historically as well as architecturally. The initial settlement of the area east of Buhl by dairy farmers from Tillamook was part of a broader pattern of migration from the west coast inland to Idaho. Lured by promotional literature distributed by the Buhl Commercial Club, Gustave Kunze came from Tillamook to visit the Buhl area in 1910. He was attracted to the area by the cheapness of the land and the fact that alfalfa could be grown in great quantities. He purchased a section of uncleared land and by 1911-12 had constructed a barn, home, and cheese factory. Other dairy farmers in Tillamook, some of whom were originally neighbors of Kunze's, were also attracted to the Buhl area. Two of these dairy farmers were Alfred Carlson and T. P. Bowlby. They settled in the area east of Buhl and built gambrel-roofed dairy barns similar to Kunze's. They brought their milk to Gustave Kunze's cheese factory.

The dedication of the Kunze cheese factory in 1912 was a major event in the Buhl area; the local newspaper gave it full coverage on the front page. Bowlby and Carlson are described as rich dairymen from Tillamook who came to help get the dairy industry started in Buhl. Gustave Kunze's own children became involved in the dairy business. His son Rudolf helped run the cheese factory and managed a small dairy herd of his own. His daughter Frieda married Art Maxwell, a hired hand of Kunze's; they started a dairy operation and took milk to the cheese factory. Gustave Kunze also helped Henry Schick, builder of most of the dairy a s, get started in the dairy business. Other farmers in the neighborhood also e a . For example, Max Dau, who lived close by, had a dairy barn built on his place in 1913-14.

By 1915, the dairy industry was in full swing in the Buhl area. Gustave Kunze became president of the state dairy association and received a medal for his dairy products at the Panama/Pacific International Exposition at San Francisco. Kunze and Schick were written up as successful farmers in newspapers and promotional literature of the Union Pacific. Kunze decided to retire from farming and sold his place in 1918 to E. T. Sandmeyer. Sandmeyer ran the cheese factory four to five years, then leased it to the dairy farmers of the area, who ran it as a cooperative. The Sego Milk Company, in turn, leased the factory from the farmers in the mid-1920's in order to test the area's milk production for building a milk factory in Buhl. When Sego built its own factory, many farmers then started to take milk to it rather than to the cheese factory. The cheese factory ceased operation. In later years, dairying took a lesser role in comparison to beef cattle and row crops such as beets, beans, and potatoes. Many farmers kept a few cows and sold milk to the factory in Buhl, but few dairies the size of Kunze's operation still existed. The large dairy barns became outdated when hay began to be baled and stored outside and cows were no longer kept indoors.

The primary significance of the nominated buildings is their representation of the transition in the construction, design, and use of the gambrel-roofed dairy barn in the Buhl area during the early twentieth century. Of secondary significance is the barns' historical association with the beginning of the Buhl dairy industry.

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Other barns located in the Buhl area are not included either because they are not gambrel-roofed barns used mainly for dairying or they are not associated with the earliest beginnings of the dairy industry in Buhl. Within this same area of study there are some intact farmsteads that are architecturally and historically significant. These buildings were excluded from consideration because they do not tie in with the nomination's primary theme: the development in construction design and use of the gambrel-roofed dairy barn. These farmsteads are part of the Idaho State Historic Sites Survey and they may form the core of future nominations of farmstead sites, buildings, districts, groups, or resource areas.

This nomination has been developed as part of the Idaho State Historic Preservation Plan and will be taken into consideration in review of federally funded projects. Data are made available to local planning agencies as requested.

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Agricultural Department, Union Pacific System. Dairying in Idaho. Omaha, Nebraska, 1925.

Buhl Herald. January, 1911 - December, 1915.

Byglund, Eleanor Schick, Boron, California to Madeline Buckendorf, 27 July 1982. Letter in files of Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, Boise, Idaho.

Ellington, E. V. "Dairying in the Irrigated West." New West Magazine 8, No. 4 (April 1917), pp. 8-9.

Freeman, Orlin, interview with Madeline Buckendorf, Buhl, Idaho, 21 November 1982. Field notes on file at Idaho State Historical Society, Boise, Idaho.

Kessler, Phyllis Tannler, Portland, Oregon to Madeline Buckendorf, 15 August 1982. Letter in files of Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, Boise, Idaho.

Maxwell, Joe, interview with Madeline Buckendorf, Tillamook, Oregon, 10 August 1982. Tape on file at Idaho State Historical Society, Boise, Idaho.

Sandmeyer, Ted, interviews with Madeline Buckendorf, Buhl, Idaho, 12 December 1978 - 20 February 1983. Tapes, transcripts, and field notes on file at Idaho State Historical Society, Boise, Idaho.

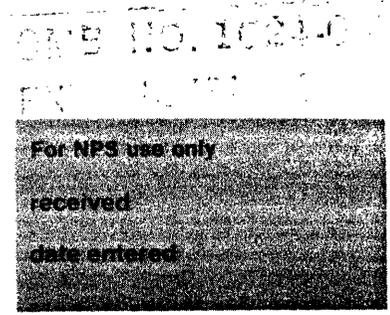
Schaefer, Eldore, interviews with Madeline Buckendorf, Buhl, Idaho, 27 June 1979, 19 November 1982. Field notes and tapes on file at Idaho State Historical Society, Boise, Idaho.

Warrington, Jessie, "Dairying in the Twin Falls Country." New West Magazine 8, No. 4 (April 1917), p. 20.

Watt, Bill, interviews with Madeline Buckendorf, Buhl, Idaho, June 1979 - 20 November 1982. Field notes and tapes on file with Idaho State Historical Society, Boise, Idaho.

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Buhl Dairy Barns Thematic Resources
State IDAHO

Cover - 9/7/83

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Kunze, Gustave, Barn | <i>Entered in the National Register</i> | Keeper | <i>Suzanne McClelland 9-7-83</i> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 2. | Bowlby, T. P., Barn | <i>Entered in the National Register</i> | <i>for</i> Keeper | <i>Delores Byers 9/7/83</i> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 3. | Carlson, Alfred, Barn | Substantive Review | Keeper | <i>Suzanne McClelland 9-7-83</i> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 4. | Dau-Weubbenhorst Barn | <i>Entered in the National Register</i> | <i>for</i> Keeper | <i>Delores Byers 9/7/83</i> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 5. | Schick, Henry, Barn | <i>Entered in the National Register</i> | <i>for</i> Keeper | <i>Delores Byers 9/7/83</i> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 6. | Kunze, Rudolf, Barn | <i>Entered in the National Register</i> | <i>for</i> Keeper | <i>Delores Byers 9/7/83</i> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 7. | Maxwell, Art and Frieda, Barn | <i>Entered in the National Register</i> | <i>for</i> Keeper | <i>Delores Byers 9/7/83</i> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 8. | | | Keeper | _____ |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 9. | | | Keeper | _____ |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 10. | | | Keeper | _____ |
| | | | Attest | _____ |