

Schick-Ostolasa Farmstead —Site Map—

Please walk down the gravel driveway and begin your tour in the front yard of the old white farmhouse. Follow the numbers to each station. ADA-parking and access to the house are in the back of the farmhouse.

R Public restroom (ADA accessible)

*The Farmstead historic site is owned by
Ada County and managed by
the Dry Creek Historical Society.*

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Dry Creek Historical Society

—Self-Guided Tour—

Schick-Ostolasa Farmstead Historic Site

Listed in the
National Register of Historic Places
since 2006



*Schick farmhouse, late 19th century.
Photo: Del Yaryan*

*Step back into Idaho's past
& explore farm life
in the late 19th century...*

Schick-Ostolasa Farmstead Tour



1. Farmhouse

The farmhouse was built by Phillip L. Schick, probably in the late 1860s. It is a National-style folk house with Italianate touches on the windows and doors, built on a strong sandstone foundation. The clapboard siding, attached with square cut nails, and many of the glass window panes appear to be original to the house, dating at least to the late 1800s.

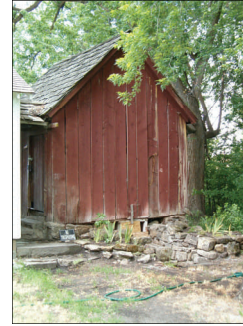
The center section of the house may have been built first, with the two-story section added later. An ornate balcony railing once covered the entire second story. The front porch has been rebuilt as it was in late 19th- and early 20th-century photos, reusing columns and trim from the old porch. An attached kitchen was added to the house in 1945.

Inside the house, wallpaper was hung on muslin cloth tacked to rough-cut board walls. Small stoves heated each room, though much of the heat must have been lost through the thin walls.

The rooms were lit with candles and kerosene lamps until electricity was installed in the mid-20th century. An indoor bathroom was added in the pantry in the 1950s.

2. Red House

The Red House was a cook house built over a spring that provided water to the farmhouse. Perishable food like milk was kept cool in the springhouse, reached by stone steps below the Red House.



Later a lean-to kitchen was built on the house. Even after the attached kitchen was built, the Red House was used for food preparation such as sausage-making.



3. Root Cellar

Root crops and canned goods were stored in the root cellar, which was cool in summer and warm in winter. It was built of stone and later insulated

by a wall of handmade bricks. Sawdust fills the space between the bricks and stone. Newspapers from the 1800s insulate the roof. A small wood stove kept food from freezing in winter.

4. Wood Shed

Wood and coal to heat the house were kept here. The farmhouse does not have central heat. It has always been heated with wood, coal or oil stoves.



5. Saddle Shed

Saddles, tack and other supplies for the riding horses were kept in this shed, right across from the horse barn.



6. Horse & Dairy Barn

Dairy cows were kept in one end of the barn. Milk was cooled in the spring house and made into butter and cheese. The center of the barn was used for livestock feed and equipment. The other end of the barn was a stable for saddle horses.

Large draft horses and wagons were kept in the Big Barn nearby (outside the site).

7. Blacksmith Shop Area

A blacksmith shop, where metal repairs were made and horses shod, once stood on this spot. In the 1950s, lightning struck the willow tree and a branch fell on the blacksmith shop, destroying it.

8. Granary & Chicken Yard

Poultry and other livestock feed was stored in the granary. It is all that remains of the chicken yard and pigpen area. Two chicken houses and several pens once formed a square yard here.



9. Farm Equipment Area

The Farmstead has a small collection of equipment used on 19th- and early 20th-century farms and ranches in Idaho.