

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: New Sweden School

other name/site number: 016981

2. Location

street & number: Southwest corner New Sweden School Road and Mill Road

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Idaho Falls

vicinity: X

state: ID

county: Bonneville

code: 019

zip code: 83402

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: public-local

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

| Contributing  | Noncontributing          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| <u>1</u>      | <u>      </u> buildings  |
| <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> sites      |
| <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> structures |
| <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> objects    |
| <u>1</u>      | <u>0</u> Total           |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: New Sweden and Riverview  
Farmsteads and Institutional Buildings, 1894-1941; Public School Buildings  
in Idaho.

## =====

## 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ✓ nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ✓ meets    does not meet the National Register Criteria.    See continuation sheet.

Thomas J. Green  
Signature of certifying official

10/8/91  
Date

Idaho State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property    meets    does not meet the National Register criteria.    See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

## =====

## 5. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register Anthony J. Green 11/19/91  
   See continuation sheet.

   determined eligible for the  
National Register

   See continuation sheet.

   determined not eligible for the  
National Register

   removed from the National Register

   other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

for Signature of Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date  
of Action

## =====

## 6. Function or Use

Historic: EDUCATION

Sub: \_\_\_\_\_

Current : Vacant

Sub: Not in use

## 7. Description

## Architectural Classification:

Colonial RevivalOther Description: N/A

|                       |                         |       |                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Materials: foundation | <u>concrete</u>         | roof  | <u>wood:shingle</u> |
| walls                 | <u>brick, concrete,</u> | other | <u></u>             |
|                       | <u>stucco</u>           |       |                     |

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

## 8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: locally.Applicable National Register Criteria: A, CCriteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/AAreas of Significance: Architecture  
Ethnic Heritage  
Exploration/settlementPeriod(s) of Significance: 1894 1941Significant Dates : 1927  Significant Person(s): N/ACultural Affiliation: N/AArchitect/Builder: F. L. McGrew  
Builder: C. S. Crabtree, C.W. & M. CompanyState significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.  
X See continuation sheet.

## =====

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

   preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.   previously listed in the National Register   previously determined eligible by the National Register   designated a National Historic Landmark   recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_   recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

## Primary Location of Additional Data:

X State historic preservation office   Other state agency   Federal agency   Local government   University   Other -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

## =====

## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property:   2 acres  

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing      Zone Easting Northing

A  12  410880 4814740 B         C          D            See continuation sheet.Verbal Boundary Description: X See continuation sheet.Boundary Justification: X See continuation sheet.

## =====

## 11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Jennifer Eastman Attebery, Architectural HistorianOrganization: Idaho State Historical Society Date: August 5, 1991Street & Number: 210 Main St. Telephone: (208) 334-3861City or Town: Boise State: ID Zip: 83702

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Section number 7

New Sweden School

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The New Sweden School is a one-story common-bond brick building with a raised concrete basement story. The building has a hipped roof. The front exposure, facing east onto New Sweden School Road, has five bays. The central bay is outset and serves as an entry bay giving access to the interior central hallway. Bays either side are created by banks of large double-hung sash windows (currently secured against damage with wood panels) and slightly outset brick columns or piers. Concrete bands at the tops of these piers are cast to resemble classical capitals. The raised basement story also has double-hung sash windows. The north and south exposures have two large window bays. The hipped roof is covered with wood shingles in deteriorated condition.

Colonial Revival features of the building include the brick columns or piers, large areas of inset brick suggesting panels at the building's corners and centered on the south and north exposures, a pedimented gable roof for the entry bay, stuccoed gable spaces with round vents suggestive of oxeye openings, and the building's overall symmetry. Above the main door is a concrete entablature with the legend "New Sweden School Dist No 27."

There are three alterations. A cupola-like bell tower has been removed from the roof of the building. The metal double doors at the entrance appear to date later than 1927. There is also a shed-roofed rear gymnasium addition, which is attached to the building at the central bay of the rear wall through an enclosed hallway. The addition is brick, and although the brick size and texture is distinct from that used in original portions of the building, its light pink color is similar.

The building retains its rural setting, surrounded by farmlands and farmsteads. Across Mill Road is the former community store, now used as a residence.

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New Sweden School

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The New Sweden School is architecturally significant as an excellent example of the multiple-classroom public schools built in Idaho to replace the earlier one-room schools. The building is also a good example of the Colonial Revival style used for some of these buildings. The building is historically significant for its association with the third phase (1920-1941) of community development in the Swedish-American communities of New Sweden and River-view, in which those communities began to align themselves more closely with the Anglo-American culture of surrounding towns and communities. Symptomatic of the adjustments being made by the Swedish-American community are the building's mainstream style and fact that the building was designed by a regional architect. The building is also associated with an era of public schools development (1890-1930) in which Idaho communities had to accomodate a rapidly growing population at the same time that the rural economy was suffering from the effects of low agricultural prices and from the Great Depression.

The 1927 New Sweden School was preceded by at least three other buildings that had been used for school instruction. The first was located at the Charlie and John Peterson Farm. School was held there in a frame building from autumn 1895 to spring 1896. The second building used as a school in New Sweden was the Mission Covenant Church building, completed in the spring of 1896. The church was used for schooling until 1902, when a wood-frame one-room school was built at the current school's location. By 1905 more room was needed, but the school was not added onto until 1907. In 1920 the New Sweden school board began discussions about building a new schoolhouse. Funding would not allow for a major construction project, but by 1926 approval was won for school bonds that would fund a \$25,000 building. The new building was put in service in 1927. It was used by the community until 1980, when the New Sweden school district was consolidated into School District 91. For a half century the school building provided a focus for the community, in addition to its important role as an educational facility.

The New Sweden School retains its integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association sufficient to represent historical developments in the New Sweden community. The building retains its architectural character sufficient to represent the styles, types, materials, and construction techniques from the period of significance. Integrity of materials and workmanship is good on the exterior of the building. Particular features that survive include exterior materials, massing, roof profile, fenestration, Colonial Revival style features (excepting the cupola), the building's rural setting at the intersection of two section-line roads, and its location on its parcel and orientation to the New Sweden School Road. The addition has a minimal impact upon the building's integrity because of its location at the rear, its minimal attachment to the building, and its relative size in relation to the building's bulk.

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Anderson, Chas. E., et. al. After Fifty Years. Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Printers, 1941. Pp. 76-78.

Beautiful Bonneville: County of Contrasts. Logan, Utah: Herff Jones, 1989. P. 79.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nomination includes the New Sweden School and the property on which it sits, in the NE4 NE4 section 28 T2N R37E, Boise Meridian: commencing at the NE corner of section 28, running thence due W 16 rods, thence S 20 rods, thence E 16 rods, thence N 20 rods to point of beginning.

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BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

Boundaries for the nomination are identical to boundaries for the New Sweden School District parcel first aquired for a school in 1901.

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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 91001714 Date Listed: 11/19/91

New Sweden School  
Property Name

Bonneville ID  
County State

New Sweden and Riverview Farmsteads and Institutional Buildings  
MPS  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*Elizabeth Egleston* 11/19/91  
*for* Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: The Period of Significance is amended to read: 1927-41.

This information was confirmed with Elizabeth Egleston of the Idaho state historic preservation office.

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DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



New Sweden School  
vicinity of Idaho Falls, Idaho  
Elizabeth Egleston  
September 13, 1991  
Idaho State Historical Society  
view from the southeast.



New Sweden School  
vicinity of Idaho Falls, Idaho

Elizabeth Eggleston

September 13, 1991

Idaho State Historical Society

view from the east