

40087831

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Idaho

COUNTY: Clark

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE: DEC 2 1974

1. NAME

COMMON: Birch Creek Rockshelters

AND/OR HISTORIC: (10 CL 10 and 10 CL 3)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: [REDACTED]

CITY OR TOWN: [REDACTED] CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: [REDACTED]

STATE: [REDACTED] CODE: [REDACTED] COUNTY: [REDACTED] CODE: [REDACTED]

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: [REDACTED]

STREET AND NUMBER: [REDACTED]

CITY OR TOWN: [REDACTED] STATE: [REDACTED] CODE: [REDACTED]

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: [REDACTED]

STREET AND NUMBER: [REDACTED]

CITY OR TOWN: [REDACTED] STATE: [REDACTED] CODE: [REDACTED]

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: [REDACTED]

DATE OF SURVEY: [REDACTED] Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: [REDACTED]

STREET AND NUMBER: [REDACTED]

CITY OR TOWN: [REDACTED] STATE: [REDACTED] CODE: [REDACTED]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

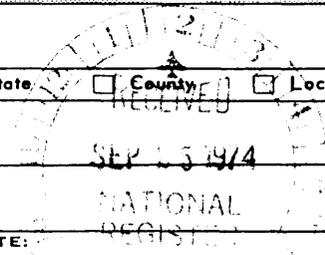
STATE: Idaho

COUNTY: Clark

ENTRY NUMBER: [REDACTED]

DATE: [REDACTED]

FOR NPS USE ONLY



4. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

11,000

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Archaeological research and excavation in the Birch creek region has brought to light a number of facts.

Available radiocarbon dates indicate that the rockshelters were continuously occupied for almost 11,000 years. Artifactual data analysis indicates that Northern Shoshoni cultural patterns were established in the region for approximately 8000 years.

Cultural continuity statistical analysis has demonstrated progressive adaption to climatic change over the past 8000 years by people occupying the region. Changing human and animal densities have been correlated with the climatic changes; that is, lesser density during the cold-wet eras and greater density in the dry-hot climates, moving in and out of the Snake River plain. Complementary artifact distribution indicates the development of a climax culture in a climax brushy grassland environment. Migration of peoples of different cultural groups is excluded by this analysis.

Hunting activities in the valley are stratified by altitude. From 11,000 years ago to A.D. 1850, bison prevailed on Birch creek; after that date bison disappeared from the region. This is the longest recorded existence of bison hunting in North America.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Birch Creek rockshelters, Bison and Veratic, are located [redacted] at the [redacted], on the [redacted] Birch creek. Both Bison and Veratic rockshelters are rock overhangs, occurring in close proximity to each other, [redacted]. The overhangs were initially formed at the time Birch creek flowed against the face of the cliff and undercut it. To the north and south of these sites are steep, narrow canyons, and an alluvial fan has formed at the mouth of each of these. Veratic rockshelter is situated at the low point between the two fans and has been partially filled by materials from both. Bison rockshelter is situated at a higher point relative to Veratic rockshelter and contains a greater depth of cultural deposits; although the deposits at both sites are of the same antiquity. At present, the canyons in the vicinity of the sites are dry, except for brief moments during wet years.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Swanson, Early H., Jr. and Alan Lyle Bryan
 1964 Birch Creek Papers No. 1: An Archaeological
 Reconnaissance in the Birch Creek Valley of Eastern Idaho.
Occasional Papers of the Idaho State University Museum, No. 13.
 Pocatello.

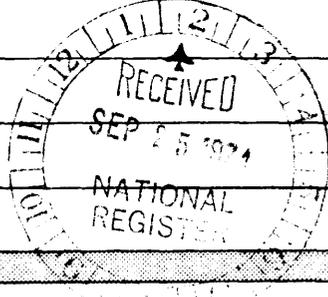
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . "	0 . "		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
NE	0 . "	0 . "		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
SE	0 . "	0 . "		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
SW	0 . "	0 . "		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than ten acres.**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Earl H. Swanson

ORGANIZATION: Idaho State University Museum

DATE: 6 September 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Pocatello

STATE: Idaho

CODE: 16

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Merle W. Wells

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: May 6, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/2/74

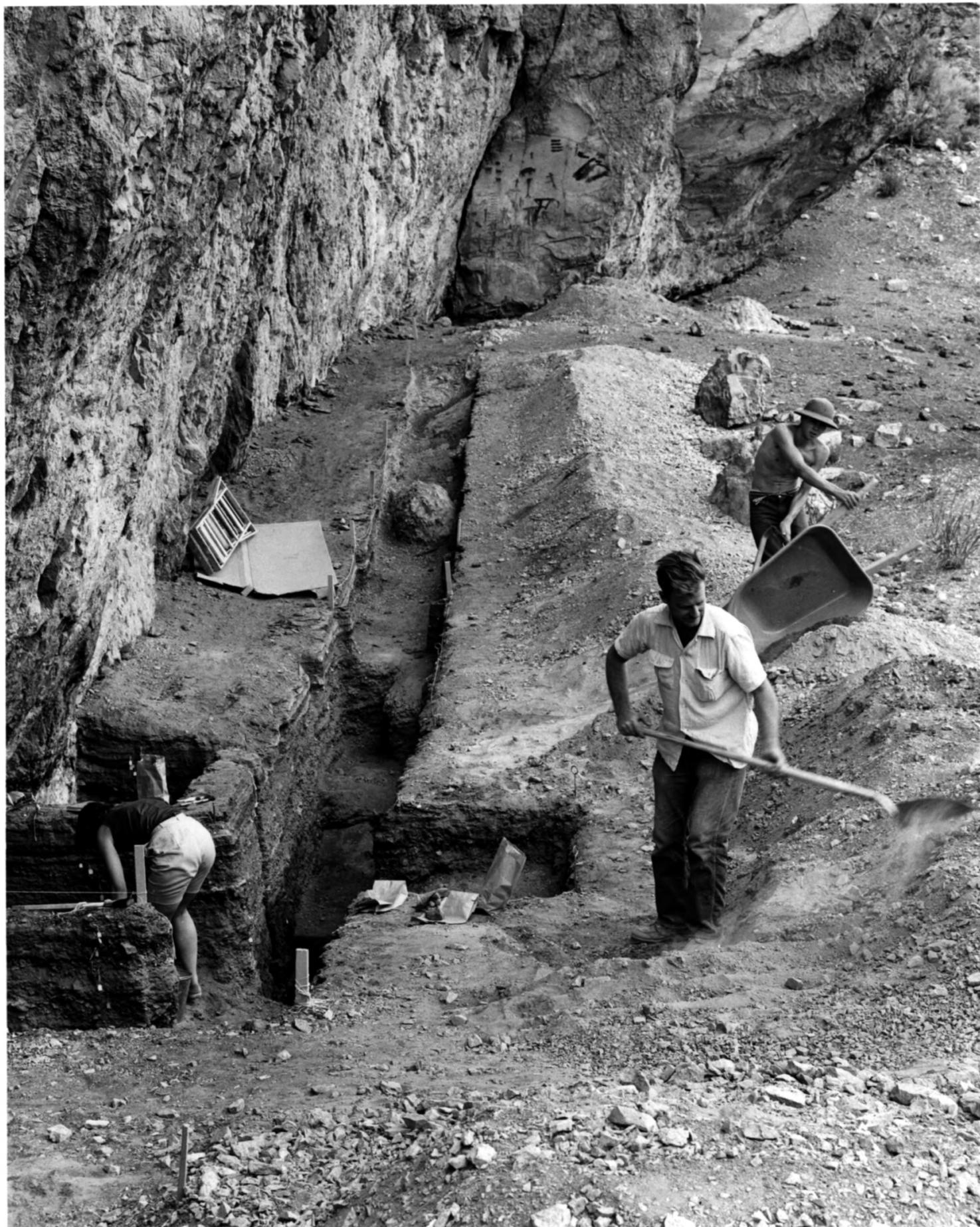
ATTEST:

[Signature]
 Keeper of the National Register

Date: Nov. 25, 1974



SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	Idaho
COUNTY	Clark
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
DEC 2	1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Birch Creek Rockshelters (10 CL 10 and 10 CL 3)
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Sec. 4 & 5, T9N, R30E, 112° 53' 52", 44° 09' 10", 112° 52' 51, 44° 09' 08"
CITY OR TOWN:
near Blue Dome

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Idaho	16	Clark	33

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Idaho State University Museum
DATE OF PHOTO: 1960
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Idaho State University

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
Excavation of 10 CL 3
1081



1081

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER