

PH0037800

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
Idaho	Second Dist.
COUNTY:	
Lemhi	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
FEB 23 1972	

1. NAME

COMMON: Fort Lemhi

AND/OR HISTORIC: [REDACTED]

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: [REDACTED]

CITY OR TOWN: [REDACTED]

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

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes:
Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			No: <input type="checkbox"/>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS 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]

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: *less than ten.*

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: [REDACTED]

DATE OF SURVEY: 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: Lemhi

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: FEB 23 1972

DATE: FEB 23 1972

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Soon after the missionaries arrived twenty-five cabins were erected. They were enclosed by a fort which consisted of two sections; a timber stockade sixteen rods square and twelve feet high which surrounded the cabins and a Spanish wall stock corral. The latter was sixteen rods square with the walls constructed of a wet clay. It measured two feet in width and seven feet in height. Also included in the structure were portholes spaced at convenient intervals. The houses were built in a row along the inner four sides of the fort. Immediately inside the wall a space was left to serve as a yard for the wood. A large square was located in the center of the fort. In the middle of the square a well was dug. A flagpole was placed on top of the well. One house possessed a larger room than the others and here the members met for church services. Within two months after construction began a blacksmith shop and sawmill were added to the fort. Today all that remains is the deteriorating remnants of the adobe stock corral, and an irrigation ditch which still is in use.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1855

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

In keeping with the Mormon policy of establishing outposts and missions, Thomas S. Smith, at the annual Mormon Conference on April 7, 1855, was appointed leader of a proposed expedition to found a mission to the north among the Indians. Smith and his party of twenty-seven chosen men left Salt Lake City May 15, 1855, with eleven wagons, forty-six oxen, seven horses, and many cattle. On June 15, 1855, the group selected a site for a fort and a tract of land for farming. In order to water the farmland, they devised one of Idaho's earliest irrigation systems. The location chosen was the place where Captain Meriwether Lewis had met the Lemhi Shoshoni fifty years earlier. The new settlers named the river for King Limhi (later spelled Lemhi by people unfamiliar with the Book of Mormon) and called their mission settlement Fort Limhi. The mission was ideally situated for missionary work as it was readily accessible to the Shoshoni, Bannock, Nez Perce and Flathead Indians.

In May 1857, Brigham Young visited the settlement. He decided to transform the mission into a permanent colony. The Indians were agreeable to a mission but against permanent settlement. Consequently this change initiated a time of trouble for the settlers.

When Albert Sidney Johnston's Utah expedition approached the region, the Bannock heard from local mountaineers that traders were offering good money for horses and cattle which in turn would be sold to Johnston's army. On February 25, 1858, they raided the stock at Salmon River Mission for stock which they took to Soda Springs for sale. The Mormons suffered few casualties but thought the raid a part of an Indian uprising.

The Indian attack coupled with the movement of Johnston's army toward Salt Lake City spelled the end of the settlement, as Brigham Young deemed it best to abandon operations in that area. On Sunday, March 28, 1858, over 100 Mormon missionaries departed the fort and headed their wagons back toward Salt Lake City.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

M.D. Beal, The Salmon River Mission (M.A. Thesis, University of California)
 B.D. Madsen, The Bannock of Idaho (Caldwell, 1958).
 John D. Nash, "Salmon River Mission of 1855: A Reappraisal", Idaho Yesterdays (Spring, 1967).
 David L. Bigler, "The Crises at Fort Lemhi", Utah Historical Quarterly (Spring 1967, No. 35: 121-136).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Merle Wells, State Liaison Officer**

ORGANIZATION: **Idaho State Historical Society** DATE: **Sept. 2, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER: **610 North Julia Davis Drive**

CITY OR TOWN: **Boise** 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 Wells

Title State Liaison Officer

Date September 2, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 FEB 22 1972

Date _____

ATTEST: William Munitz
 Keeper of The National Register

Date Jan 28 1972

NO
 717M
 HF

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



MUD WALLS OF
MORMON FORT
ESTABLISHED 1855
ABANDONED 1858

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

STATE	
Idaho	
COUNTY	
Idaho Lemhi	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
FEB 23	1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Fort Lemhi

AND/OR HISTORIC: Salmon River Mission

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Section 17, T19N, R23E

CITY OR TOWN:

about 18 miles southeast of Salmon

STATE:

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY:

Lemhi

CODE

059

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Idaho State Historical Society

DATE OF PHOTO: 1963

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Idaho State Historical Society

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Adobe walls of the mission corral, looking northwest.



Salmon River,

Idaho

(Fort Lemhi)

Salmon River Mission

Lemhi County, Idaho