

IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REFERENCE SERIES

CANYON DITCH COMPANY

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Originally known as the Campbell Canal, the Canyon Ditch began on the north side of the Boise River on the northeast corner of the northeast 1/4 of Section 16, T4N, R3W, 110 feet below the Sebree Canal headgate. It parallels the Sebree Canal, extending in a westerly and southwesterly direction for two miles.

D. D. Campbell, along with Fred Sundman, Eric Falquist, and Ed and Douglas Campbell, began construction on the canal on October 26, 1901. They finished the project just before the end of the year. Their headgate measured seven feet on the bottom and eight feet at the top. The canal supplied water onto 390 acres in 1902.

The canal utilized the water rights of both D. D. Campbell and Fred Sundman. The latter, in 1900, constructed a private ditch for which he had appropriated and diverted 500 inches of water. The following year, Campbell filed a notice to appropriate and divert 277 inches. In 1901, Sundman abandoned his ditch and combined his water rights with those of Campbell. In the fall of 1902, William and Henry Baker and Ross Dement were given an interest in the canal, with the provision they enlarge it to seven feet on the bottom and build up the headgate. They met these stipulations with completion of the enlargement in the spring of 1903. In 1903, the canal maintained a capacity of 20 second feet, extended three miles in length, and irrigated over 600 acres.

The Canyon Ditch Company, Ltd., was incorporated on January 5, 1904. It began with a capital stock of \$8,500 divided into 850 shares with a par value of \$10 per share. All the available stock was subscribed to by members of the company. D. D. Campbell, William E. Baker, William Messler, Fred Sundman, and Eric Falquist were installed as the company's first directors. Initially the company consisted of eight shareholders. In 1906, the canal received water rights (132, 134) of 777 inches.

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