

IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REFERENCE SERIES

SITE REPORT - BLACKFOOT RIVER ABOVE LINCOLN CREEK

Number 611

December 1981

Historic-site reports contain information designed to assist in two preservation functions. One is preservation planning at the local level. The other is the work of federal agencies in carrying out their responsibilities to comply with historic-preservation requirements prescribed by federal statutes and regulations. These reports summarize local archaeological, historical, and geographical contexts; existing surveys of historic sites; architectural, engineering, industrial; and other cultural resources; and available maps and literature concerning each area. Natural geographical, rather than governmental, boundaries have been used to identify seventy-two areas that vary greatly in size. Site reports reflect a broad cultural and geographical disparity characteristic of diverse regional components found in Idaho, but the areas are designed to incorporate cultural elements of immediate local significance that need to be taken into account for preservation planning.

1. Geographical context: This largely arid section has rangeland and ranch land in a series of valleys that have some irrigation. Blackfoot reservoir stores water used farther downstream in another area. A mountainous divide between Blackfoot River and Star Valley, as well as some other upper Blackfoot ridges, has extensive Forest Service lands. Important as a transportation route in early Montana gold rush years, this area lacks a major highway system. Elevations range from at Lincoln Creek to 9,131 feet at Draney peak.

2. Prehistory and significant archaeological sites: People have inhabited southern Idaho for fourteen thousand years or more. Until about eight thousand years ago they were noted primarily as big game hunters. Since then, they specialized more in camas, bitterroot, and other natural crops and seeds, as well as in smaller game. But they continued to hunt large game that remained after earlier elephants, camels, giant sloth, and other ice age creatures left as climatic conditions changed.

3. Cultural resource surveys and archaeological literature:

4. Historical summary: Major historical episodes include
 1. Exploration and fur trade, 1819-1862
 2. Emigrant roads, 1858-1866
 3. Fort Hall reservation, 1867-
 4. Ranching, 18
 5. Forest Service administration,
 6. Phosphate mining, ?
5. Historical documentation and literature:
6. Historic sites inventory:
7. Industrial archaeological and engineering sites literature:
8. Architectural resources:
9. United States Geological Survey Maps:

Ammon	Lincoln Creek 1955
Auburn	Lincoln Peak
Bear Island 1966	Little Valley Hills
Big Elk Mtn. 1966	Lone Pine Ridge
Bone	Long Valley
Caribou Mtn. 1966	Lower Valley 1949
Castle Rock	Meade Peak 1970
Chesterfield Reservoir	Meadow Creek Mtn.
China Hat	Miner Creek
Commissary Ridge	Ozone
Diamond Flat	Paradise Valley
Dry Valley 1949	Point Lookout
Dunn Basin	Poison Creek
Elk Valley	Poplar 1951
Fossil Canyon 1970	Reservoir Mtn.
Giraffe Creek 1970	Rigby SE 1950
Goshen 1950	Sage Valley
Grissly Creek	Snowdrift Mtn. 1949
Harrington Peak 1970	Stewart Flat 1949
Hatch	Stump Peak
Heise SE 1951	The dip
Henry	Ucon 1948
Herman 1966	Upper Valley 1949
Higham Peak 1951	Wayan East
Homer Valley	Wayan West
Idaho Falls South 1948	Wolverine
Johnson Creek 1949	Yandell Springs (15')1955
Jumpoff Hill	
10. Cultural resource management recommendations:

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