

IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REFERENCE SERIES

SITE REPORT - GOOSE CREEK

Number 615

1982

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. Geographic context: Rising in Nevada, Goose Creek flows through a valley in which early travel was discouraged by a narrow gorge. A connection through Lyman pass to upper Raft River made Goose Creek valley an attractive route northwest from Salt Lake. Westbound California Trail traffic gained access to upper Goose Creek and Nevada through Granite Pass. Aside from transportation routes, Goose Creek valley contains ranch and irrigated farmland. Some Forest Service timberland is available on higher slopes. Elevation ranges from at Burley to 10,335 feet on Cache peak.

2. Prehistory and significant archaeological sites:

3. Cultural resource surveys and archaeological literature:

4. Historical summary: Major historical episodes include

1. Exploration and fur trade, 1811-1842

2. California trail and Kelton road, 1843-18

3. Mormon settlement,

4. Oakley tract development, 19 -1919
5. Transportation improvement and farm depression, 1920-1932
6. New Deal and wartime adjustment, 1933-1945
7. Advanced farm technology, 1946-
5. Historical documentation and literature:
6. Historic sites inventory:
7. Industrial archaeological and engineering sites summary:
8. Architectural resources:
9. Geological survey maps available:
10. Cultural resource management recommendations: