

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 21 1979

DATE ENTERED

JUL 26

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**HISTORIC ~~Artesian Hot and Cold Water Company~~ ⁹ Pumphouse and Wells

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATIONSTREET & NUMBER ^{off ID 21} SE corner SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 12 T3N, R2E, vicinity of old Penitentiary Road

CITY, TOWN

Boise

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY

Ada

CODE

001

CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☒ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ OTHER ^{pumphous}**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Boise Warm Springs Water District

STREET & NUMBER

660 Emerald

CITY, TOWN

Boise

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Ada County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

514 West Jefferson

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1972

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Idaho State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE
Idaho

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated at the base of the foothills northwest of the old State Penitentiary, the Artesian Hot and Cold Water Company pumphouse is a tall, one-story, rectangular building of board and batten construction.

Three sides of the approximately 27 x 50 foot structure are battered, the canted timbers emerging at the angles from the corrugated metal roof. The walls of the building are battered due to the fact that the building was constructed following the lines of two drill derricks, located over the two hot water wells. The framework of the derricks was used as the bearing members for the building. The fourth, unbattered wall, on the south side of the pumphouse, is lower than the other sides; it represents an addition to the building which produces a long "saltbox" profile to the roofline. Two rectangular cupolas with hinged vents straddle the ridge of the gabled roof.

A double-width machine-access door in the west wall leads to a concrete floored interior. Inside the building there are two pumps. The west pump is a 1914 Byron Jackson Deepwell Turbine. The current motor is dated 1950.

The east pump is driven by a 1927 General Electric Co. variable speed motor. The depth of both wells is 400 feet. These two wells are the only ones currently in use, pumping 1650 gallons of hot water per day. The water is about 165° and is rich in flouride. The wells were last cleaned in 1954.

Southwest of the pumphouse is a concrete equalizing reservoir of which the construction date is unknown; it was abandoned in the 1930's.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☒ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☐ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☒ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		energy

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Artesian Hot and Cold Water Company pumphouse is significant in the areas of **archffecture, engineering, and energy because the** surviving structure was built to accomodate Idaho's pioneer application of a natural hot water heating system. Commercial geothermal power systems soon followed in Italy (1904), New Zealand, Iceland, Mexico, Salvador, Japan, and Russia, as well as in one or two other places in the United States, including a similar space heating arrangement in Klamath Falls, Oregon, and a major electric power development in Lake county, California.

The uses of the geothermal resource were both public and private. Boise became a well known resort, with the opening of her elaborate Natatorium in 1892. Fine homes were built along Warm Springs Avenue after the Natatorium and a connecting street car line were completed. The natural hot water was piped in for space heating and domestic purposes.

A group of Boise businessmen secured an option for ten acres of land near the state penitentiary on the east edge of Boise and began drilling in December of 1890. It was announced on December 24, 1890, in the Idaho Statesman, that warm water (92°) had been struck at a depth of eighty feet.

By May of 1891, two wells had been established, each about four hundred feet deep, that produced a flow of over one million gallons of water daily, at a temperature of 180°.

Inmates from the Idaho State Penitentiary, which borders the pumphouse property, maintained the pumps for several years. This penitentiary site was abandoned in 1973 and is now an historical park.

The pumphouse houses two wells that curently serve approximately 240 customers, including three state office buildings.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Idaho Daily Statesman, Dec. 28, 1890, p. 8, c. 1; May 8, 1891.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Boise South Quadrangle

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5

UTM REFERENCES

A 1 1 5 6 7 5 8 0 4 8 2 8 8 0

B

ZONE EASTING

NORTHING

ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property includes the Artesian Hot and Cold Water Company Pumphouse and the land it stands on. The property comprises less than one acre and is situated at south side of the termination of the old Penitentiary Road in the SE Corner SW 1/4 Section Township 3 North Range 2 East; refer to UTM points on attached USGS map.

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

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Janet McCulloch, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Idaho State Historical Society

DATE

14 June 1979

STREET & NUMBER

610 North Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

384-2120

CITY OR TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Merle Wells

TITLE Idaho State Preservation Officer

DATE

14 June 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

for CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

7-26-79

DATE

July 25, 1979



Artesian Water Co. Pumphouse & Well

Artesian Hot and Cold Water

Company Pumphouse

Old Penitentiary Road, Boise,
Idaho (Ada County)

Photographer: Duane Garrett

April, 1979 JUL 26 1979 DOE
negative on file at the Idaho

State Historical Society,
Boise, Idaho

view from southwest

#1 of 3

JUN 21 1979



Artesian Water Co. Pumphouse & Well

Artesian Hot and Cold Water

Company Pumphouse

Old Penitentiary Road, Boise,
Idaho (Ada County)

Photographer: Duane Garrett

April, 1979

negative on file at the Idaho
State Historical Society,
Boise, Idaho

view from northeast

#2 of 3

JUN 21 1979



Artesian Water Co. Pumphouse & Wells

Artesian Hot and Cold Water

Company Pumphouse

Old Penitentiary Road, Boise,
Idaho (Ada County)

Photographer: Duane Garrett

April, 1979

negative on file at Idaho State

Historical Society, Boise,

Idaho

interior from west

#3 of 3

JUN 21 1979

JUN 26 1979 DOE