

INVENTORY SHEET FOR GROUP NOMINATIONS: IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOISE, IDAHO

NOMINATION: (Lava Rock Structures in South Central Idaho ^{TR})

SITE NAME: Byrne, Tom, House

SITE NUMBER: 34

LOCATION: ~~Fifteen miles northeast~~ ^{NE} of Shoshone, ^{vic} ID

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Burmah Grazing Association, Inc.
c/o Joe Leguineche
Gooding, ID 83330

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: ~~Shoshone~~ ^{1:25,000} ~~1:25,000~~ ACREAGE: 2.5 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Byrne House and the property on which it stands, the S 1/2, SW 1/4, NW 1/4, and the N 1/2, NW 1/4, SW 1/4, all in the SW 1/4, SE 1/4 of Section 25, T3S, R18E. Legal description on file at Lincoln County Courthouse, Shoshone, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/722460/4778590

DATE OR PERIOD 1914 ARCHITECT OR BUILDER attributed to Hayden brothers

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

CONDITION: good, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

The one-story Byrne house is approximately 25 by 31 feet with a full basement and a truncated pyramidal roof with close enclosed eaves. The facade has a centered door flanked by two symmetrically-set double-hung windows. All of the windows in the house have similar treatment with buff brick relieving arches formed of two stretcher courses and a dressed, dark bluish-black, fine-grained lava keystone. Each of the windows has a curved head. Sills are formed of bricks set on edge, slightly sloping, and topped with mortar. Double brick relieving arches are above the basement windows. The sides of each window and the sides of the front door have a decorative brick surround. A similar decorative pattern of buff bricks in imitation of quoins is on each corner of the house. The random rubble walls have almost flush darkened mortar in the joints. A concave indentation in the joints has been painted white. A simple concrete stoop extends from the front door. An 11 by 21 foot shed-roofed concrete addition is offset to the right of the rear. Some of the brick trim is painted aqua.

SIGNIFICANCE:

This attractive small house is significant as an excellent example of the one-story pyramidal-roofed Colonial Revival cottages commonly built as rural houses in south Idaho. It is also an excellent example of craftsmanship in lava rock construction with brick trim. It is a very decorative and light-appearing house. The surface emphasizes curved detail with its curved white line of the joints, the curved lines of the arches, and the curved window heads. These curvilinear elements are balanced by the angular brick window and corner trim. The house was built in 1914 for Tom Byrne on his ranch near the Cottonwoods, a main water hole and stopping place on the Kelton to Hailey freighting and stage road. The excellent craftsmanship and elaborate, decorative detail is consistent with the work done by the Hayden brothers, masons trained in Sweden, and it is almost a certainty that the house was built by them. It is one of two modest houses attributed to them in the Richfield-Shoshone area. (see the site 24). The typical rear addition is unobtrusive and does not detract from the integrity of the house. The blue-green paint is unfortunate. Though misguided, it does further emphasize the decorative elements of the house, and is a reversible alteration.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Richfield Recorder. July 30, 1914.



Lava Rock Structures in South Central Idaho
Byrne, Tom, House, site 34

Fifteen miles northeast of Shoshone
Shoshone vicinity, Lincoln County, Idaho

Photograph by Marian Posey-Ploss
Summer 1981

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

View from northwest

Photograph one of one