

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

NOMINATION: (Lava Rock Structures in South Central Idaho *TR*)

SITE NAME: Lawshe, George, Well House

SITE NUMBER: 66

LOCATION ~~Four miles south and seven-eighths of a mile east of the junction of~~
~~Highways 93 and 25 in Jerome County~~ *SE of Jerome via*

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Boyde B Bruning
c/o Creg E and Rebee Clark
Route 4
Jerome ID 83338

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE Falls City 7 5 minutes

ACREAGE less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the George Lawshe Well House and the property on which it stands, the NW 1/4, SE 1/4, SE 1/4, SE 1/4, SE 1/4 of Section 2, T9S, R18E, Boise Meridian. Legal description on file at Jerome County Courthouse Jerome Idaho

UTM(S) 11/711100/4726770

DATE OR PERIOD 1920's

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER H Vipham

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE local

CONDITION: good, unaltered original site

DESCRIPTION

The low one-story Lawshe well house is approximately twelve by fifteen feet. It has a shingled, hipped roof and close eaves with exposed rafters. A wooden door at the outside of the wall is offset to the right of the front wall which is on the longer dimension of the building. A wooden beam is built into the masonry above the door. There are no windows but there are screened ventilation holes at the ground level on the right and left walls. These also have inset wooden beams for lintels. The dirt floor of the well house is several feet below ground level. A large wooden beam is built into the stones on the right interior wall. It forms part of the support for the well machinery inside the building. Untooled mortar is in the slightly raked out medium-width joints. Scratched into one of the joints on the right wall is the inscription "H. Vipham"

SIGNIFICANCE:

This well house is significant as an example of a vernacular well house type and as an example of the work of H Vipham. It was built for George Lawshe in the early

1920's, according to a daughter-in-law who lived on the property. Although it is known that Thomas Vipham's sons assisted him in masonry jobs this is the only structure in the nomination known to have been built by a Vipham son. This structure was built to shelter the pumping mechanism of a now-removed windmill that provided power to pump water to the house and to the farm buildings.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lawshe Mrs Spencer interview with Marian Posey-Ploss Jerome Idaho August 1978.



Lava Rock Structures in South Central Idaho
Lawshe, George, Well House, site 66

Four miles south and seven-eighths mile east of junction
of Highways 93 and 25
Jerome vicinity, Jerome County, Idaho

Photograph by Virginia Ricketts
June 1983

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

View from southeast

Photograph one of one