

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form1991
OCT 18 1989

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Spencer Rock Houseother names/site number Hardy, Charles W., House; Centennial Mountain Lodge
015032

2. Location

street & number Huntley Canyon & Old Highway (county road) N/A not for publicationcity, town Spencer N/A vicinitystate Idaho code ID county Clark code 033 zip code 83446

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
	<u></u> sites
	<u></u> structures
	<u></u> objects
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/ANumber of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.☐ other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single dwellingSUBSISTENCE/Agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single dwellingVACANT/NOT IN USE**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stonewalls stoneroof metalother concretewood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Spencer Rock House is a two-storied, side-gabled stone home which falls in the Craftsman category of architectural classification. The integrity of the house, and of the accompanying barn, is exceptional with only minor alterations over the past 70 years. Located in a small meadow at the mouth of Huntley Canyon, it is the single remaining example of stone construction in the area and one of the last existing buildings with close association to the Wood Live Stock Company, the company which established the sheep industry in Clark County, Idaho, and much of the rest of northeastern Idaho and southwestern Montana.

Finished in 1919 after two years of construction, the Spencer Rock House is crafted of rough-cut igneous field stone with a foundation wall below basement level approximately 36-inches thick. The rock walls narrow gradually to a width of 18-to-20 inches at the roof line. Built in a balanced rectangle, the house appears square due to the front porch and the back porch, sun room and utility room. Three shed dormers are evenly spaced across the front expanse and one large shed dormer on the reverse accommodates a sun room and a pair of double casement windows.

The roof is moderately steep with exposed rafters on the east and west expanses. The overhang of the roof is not as exaggerated as in many Craftsman structures, but it is still substantial. The original shingle roof was replaced with a metal roof, probably during the 1960's. Wood shingles were also original over the front and back porch areas on the north and south faces of the house, on the sides of the dormers and around the upper sun room. These were replaced with new shingles in the 1970's when shingles were also used to enclose the lower portion of the back porch.

A full-width front porch, contained under the main roof, is constructed of concrete and features partial stone walls with a continuous concrete cap which emphasizes the horizontal lines of the house. There are four two-foot square stone porch supports and three long concrete steps lead up to the front door. Three narrower concrete steps access the porch on the south end.

The entire front porch was once screened, but it is unclear whether this was original or a later addition. The first and second floor sun rooms are thought to have been originally screened, but they have since been enclosed. Both sun rooms

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1917-1919

1919-1934

Significant Dates

1919

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Spencer Rock House is significant historically because of its association with the Wood Live Stock Company and the resultant establishment of the sheep industry in northeastern Idaho. Of all the principals involved in the Wood Live Stock Company, only Charles W. Hardy, owner and builder of the Spencer Rock House, maintained his home throughout the period in Spencer, Idaho. Of all the homes built in Spencer by principals in the Wood Live Stock Company, only the Hardy home remains today. Most of the company buildings are also gone, have fallen into disrepair or have lost their historic integrity due to modification.

The Wood Live Stock Company was incorporated in 1895 by James D. Wood, Francis J. Hagenbarth, Spencer Harwood, Benjamin White, Robert Wing and James Hooper to be established in Beaver Creek, Idaho, several miles north of the present site of Spencer. The winters in the narrow canyon at Beaver Creek soon proved too severe, and in 1904, culminating a process which had begun several years earlier. It was during this period that Charles W. Hardy arrived in Idaho.

Charles W. Hardy was born in Unionville, Ohio, August 15, 1873. As a youngster, he worked in his father's general store in Unionville. Hardy attended business college before coming to Idaho, at approximately 20 years of age, to become commissary clerk for the Wood Live Stock Company. In late 1905, Hardy was assigned to accompany a trainload of sheep to the Chicago market. It was on this trip that he continued on to Virginia where he married before returning to Spencer with his bride. Upon their arrival in Idaho, they found that a company home had been built for their use.

Hardy's rise with the Wood Live Stock Company was rapid. Within three years of coming to Idaho, he became company secretary and he became company treasurer as well soon thereafter. He held these positions for over 25 years until the dissolution of the Wood Live Stock Company in 1934. Hardy stayed on in Spencer after the company's demise, operating a garage, store and tourist camp for many years. He was also a full partner in a lumber mill several miles north of Spencer during much of his career.

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

The Clark County Historical Board. Memories of Wood Live Stock Days. Dubois, Idaho: (n.a.), 1978. (available at the Idaho State Historical Library).

The Clark County Historical Society, "Articles of Incorporation, Wood Live Stock Company", Dubois, Idaho, 1895. (Copy of original supplied by Margaret Hagenbarth and Mary Hagenbarth Quigley; available from the Clark County Historical Society).

The Clark County Historical Society, "Certificate No. 4185, Wood Live Stock Company", Dubois, Idaho, 1904. (Copy of original supplied by Margaret Hagenbarth and Mary Hagenbarth Quigley; available from the Clark County Historical Society).

☒ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository:

Idaho State Historical Society

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approx. 2.3 acres

UTM References

A 12 405290 4912750
Zone Easting Northing

C

B
Zone Easting Northing

D

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as ---x---x--- on the accompanying sketch map entitled "Partial Record of Survey." A sequence of metes and bounds is also attached.

☒ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary is based on the legally-recorded boundary lines of the property and the existing fence line. The boundary includes the house and barn, and it contains the area which has historically been associated with the Hardy homestead.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joy H. Myers

organization N/A date July 25, 1989

street & number 131 So. Holmes telephone (208) 357-7823

city or town Shelley state Idaho zip code 83274

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have partial stone walls topped with concrete caps similar to the caps on the front porch. The first floor sun room was fitted with triple-pane sliding windows in 1988. The back porch originally featured floor-to-ceiling screens.

All windows, with the exception of those in the sun rooms, have thick concrete lintels and concrete sills. Most of the glass is original with slight distortions and imperfections. The casement windows and the upper sashes of the double-hung windows feature nine small-pane window glazing. Muntins are wood and all double-hung windows and all casement windows have the same dimensions. The casement windows open inward on original hardware. Storm windows with aluminum frames were added in 1988, but the present owners hope to replace them so that the small-pane glazing is more visible.

With the exception of the north facade, window placement is symmetrical. The fenestration on the east features two sets of tripartite double-hung windows on the first floor on either side of the entrance. Each of the three dormers has a paired set of casement windows. The south elevation has a pair of casement windows on either side of the chimney on the first floor and a single double-hung window on either side of the chimney on the second floor. The west face, in addition to the sun rooms, has two symmetrically-placed paired casement windows and a single casement window which faces the back porch on the first floor. On the first floor of the north side, one tripartite, one double and one single casement window appear, along with a single double-hung window. The second floor has two double-hung windows.

A broad, flat exterior chimney dominates the south face of the house and is accessible to rooms on the first and second floors. The fireplace, however, is canted on the first floor and extends down through the basement. An interior chimney, located on the north side of the house, is also accessible to rooms on the first and second floors. The result is that every major room has the potential for a wood-stove heat access. There is no central heating; however, circulating wall heaters were installed in some rooms in 1988.

The interior of the house remains much the same as when the house was constructed. Plumbing fixtures, with the exception of the kitchen sink, are original. The first floor half-bath includes a mopping sink. The partition between the office and living room has been removed, probably in 1979. Short sections of walls between the kitchen and pantry and in the entry have also been removed. After standing vacant for a period of approximately ten years, a massive restoration effort was undertaken in 1979-80, but the work was done so as to maintain the integrity of the house. The original outside doors were replaced at that time. The woodwork and floors are of native pine and the 9-foot interior walls feature drop crown moldings. Styling of all woodwork, including the stair railing, is plain rather than ornate. Much of the first floor woodwork has been "antiqued," but the present owners are restoring it to the original finish.

A unique feature of the house is that it was constructed so as to use several natural springs which enter on the south and west sides of the basement. The springs

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flow in through the rock walls and the water is channeled via a trench or gutter to a "sink" on the northeast corner where the water drains. The basement maintains a relatively even and cool temperature for food storage. Originally, there was a dumb-waiter with which to move food supplies from the basement up to the kitchen, but this has been removed.

The barn, which was also completed in 1919, consists of a first floor built of stone and a second floor of wood. It is built into a hillside and entry on the south is onto the first floor level and, on the north, onto the second floor level. As it has been vacant for many years, it is in need of restoration, but the structure is basically sound. There have been no alterations to the building except for the addition of a metal roof, probably in the 1960's. It is the intention of the present owners to restore the building on the interior so that the exterior remains unchanged. While windows will be added to the second story, they will be behind the existing wood siding which will be remodeled into drop-shutters.

The garage, one of the non-contributing buildings on the nominated property, is beyond repair. The foundation has shifted and it has become a hazard. The present owners have begun razing this building and plans have been drawn to replace it with a concrete block structure this fall. The new garage will be faced with stone salvaged from the present building so as to maintain the historical integrity of the site. The new structure is indicated by a broken line on the site plan.

The remaining noncontributing building was constructed by the city of Spencer as a chlorination station for the city water supply, but it was never used. It is constructed of concrete blocks and is used for storage by the present owners. It will also be faced with stone when the garage is rebuilt. As the existing garage walls are three stones thick, there will be ample available material.

A small privy behind the garage and the chicken coops connected to the east side of the barn were not counted as either contributing or noncontributing resources as they are not substantial in size and scale. The privy will be removed when the garage is rebuilt and the coops will be razed for the salvageable lumber for barn restoration.

The grounds of the nominated property are typical of a highland meadow. Two small creeks run through the property and are brush-lined for most of their course. The property is fenced with a lodgepole pine "buck" fence with a metal gate. The grounds are consistent with the integrity of the nominated property.

While the property is most-commonly known in eastern Idaho as the "Spencer Rock House," it is also known as the C.W. Hardy home. This is the way the house appears in the Clark County Historical Society files. Since the Wood Live Stock Company grazed sheep in the Centennial Mountains, immediately to the northeast, the property was renamed "Centennial Mountain Lodge" in 1978 when the area was platted. This name appears on the deed to the property.

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The Wood Live Stock Company got its start in the 1880's when J. D. Wood brought 6,000 head of young ewes from Oregon to his ranch in the Pahsimaroi Valley in Custer County, Idaho. This herd formed the basis for the company. The range for the Wood Live Stock Company flock covered over 100,000 acres of choice grazing lands in Idaho and Montana and reached from Dillon, Montana through the Centennial and Beaverhead Mountains into the area southwest of Yellowstone National Park and as far south as Roberts, Idaho. In addition to extensive land holdings in Jefferson, Lemhi and Custer Counties, the company also had interests in Bingham, Blaine and Fremont Counties. Virtually all of Clark County was controlled by the Wood Live Stock Company. By 1910 the net resources of the company amounted to over \$2 million.

One of the reasons for the great success of the Wood Live Stock Company was the company's early realization of the fact that young lambs, four months old, could be shipped from the western range to the eastern market and sold at approximately the same price as two and three-year-old wethers. In 1909, the company sent nearly 60,000 head of young lambs to Chicago, netting around \$3.50 per head. In addition to growing lambs for the mutton market, the Wood Live Stock Company imported the best strains of mutton blood obtainable from England. By 1910, the company had on their range near Spencer, the largest and best flock, size considered, of pure registered Hamshires in the world. The lambs from this flock readily topped the eastern markets in price.

Other innovations of the Wood Live Stock Company included open range shearing in large numbers by use of machinery and introduction of the Australian method of grading wool on the open range. By 1908, three such shearing operations had been instituted, two in Idaho and one in Montana. The Australian system allowed the wool to go directly from the sheep's back to the woolen mill without passing through a sorting shed; the wool was graded and sorted as the sheep were sheared.

The headquarters and general offices of the Wood Live Stock Company in Spencer consisted of a large, three-story office and commissary building and several cottages built by the company for the use of foremen and their families. Company buildings were readily recognizable due to their yellow color and white trim, although few remain today and none in the original color. The sole remnant of the commissary building are the partial rock walls which once contained the company vault. The commissary once provided everything required for life on the range or ranch, in quantity, and the company even manufactured its own sheep wagons which were models of convenience and comfort. All shipments to or from Spencer were by rail.

The principal stock holders in the Wood Live Stock Company, Wood and Hagenbarth, while maintaining homes in Spencer, also had homes elsewhere. Their Spencer homes were destroyed by fires which razed much of Spencer in the early 1930's. It was Charles Hardy who maintained the Wood Live Stock Company presence in Spencer. Hardy began construction on his rock house in 1917 and completed it in 1919, the same year that Clark County was established. An office, from which most of Hardy's company duties were conducted, was designed as an integral part of the house. Hardy continued to live in the house until his death in 1955.

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While little remains of the once bustling community of Spencer, the sheep industry continues to thrive in Clark County. As the center of the industry is the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, operated by the Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the University of Idaho. The experiment station was founded in 1914, six miles south of Spencer. Today, flocks of sheep still trail past the Spencer Rock House on their way to summer range much the same way as they did 70 years ago.

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The Clark County Historical Society. Clark County Photograph Collection Index and A Brief Historical Sketch of the County of Clark. Dubois, Idaho: (n.a.), 1985. (available at the Idaho Falls, Idaho Library)

The Clark County Historical Society, "C.W. Hardy", Dubois, Idaho, 1978. (unpublished biography by Sarah Hardy Ward; available from the Clark County Historical Society).

The Clark County Historical Society, "Historical Sketch of the Wood Live Stock Company, Limited, Spencer, Idaho", Dubois, Idaho, 1909. (unpublished information supplied by Dave Hagenbarth, author unknown; available from the Clark County Historical Society).

Dunn, Harry A., Spencer native and friend of Charles W. Hardy, Jr., interviews conducted in Idaho Falls, Idaho, June 29, 1989 and July 5, 1989.

Holden, Earl, sheriff, Clark County, Idaho (retired), interview conducted in Spencer, Idaho, July 4, 1989.

Idaho Department of Commerce and Development, "Know Your Idaho: A Mile High", Boise, Idaho, June 2, 1966. (unpublished radio script; available at the Idaho State Historical Library).

Pettite, William Stibal. Memories of Market Lake, Vol. I, II, III. (n.a.), 1965, 1977, 1983. (available at the Idaho State Historical Library).

Stoddard, Bonnie, chairman, Clark County Historical Society, interview conducted in Spencer, Idaho, July 3, 1989.

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Legal Description

Township 12 North, Range 36 East of the Boise Meridian, Clark County, Idaho

Section 14: Beginning at a 1/2" rebar from which the Section Corner common to Section 14, 15, 22 and 23 is S54°05'30"W 1510.40 feet and Highway Right of Way Marker is S27°36'15"W 396.10 feet; thence S89°17'03"W 232.60 feet to a 1/2" rebar; thence N00°08'01"W 283.48 feet to a 1/2" rebar; thence N89°17'03"E 382.50 feet to a 1/2" rebar from which the 1/4 corner between Sections 14 and 15 is N43°35'35"W 1999.8 feet and Highway Right of Way Marker is N27°36'15"E 190.30 feet; thence S27°36'15" W 322.00 feet to the point of beginning.

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Section number Photos Page 1

The following information is the same for the first 8 photographs:

1. Spencer Rock House
2. Spencer, Idaho
3. K. M. Myers
4. July 2, 1989
5. Myers, 1321 So. Holmes, Shelley, ID 83274

Photo #1:

6. Front of house; taken facing W

Photo #2:

6. Front & north side of house, outbuilding, site; taken facing SW

Photo #3:

6. South side of house, barn (partial); taken facing NNW

Photo 4:

6. East side of garage, south side of house (partial), outbuilding, site; taken facing NW

Photo #5:

6. South and west side of garage, south and west side of house, site (including gate), privy; taken facing ENE

Photo #6:

6. West side of house; taken facing E

Photo #7:

6. North side of garage; taken facing S

Photo #8:

6. Barn, chicken coops; taken facing NE

All are indicated on the Site Plan.

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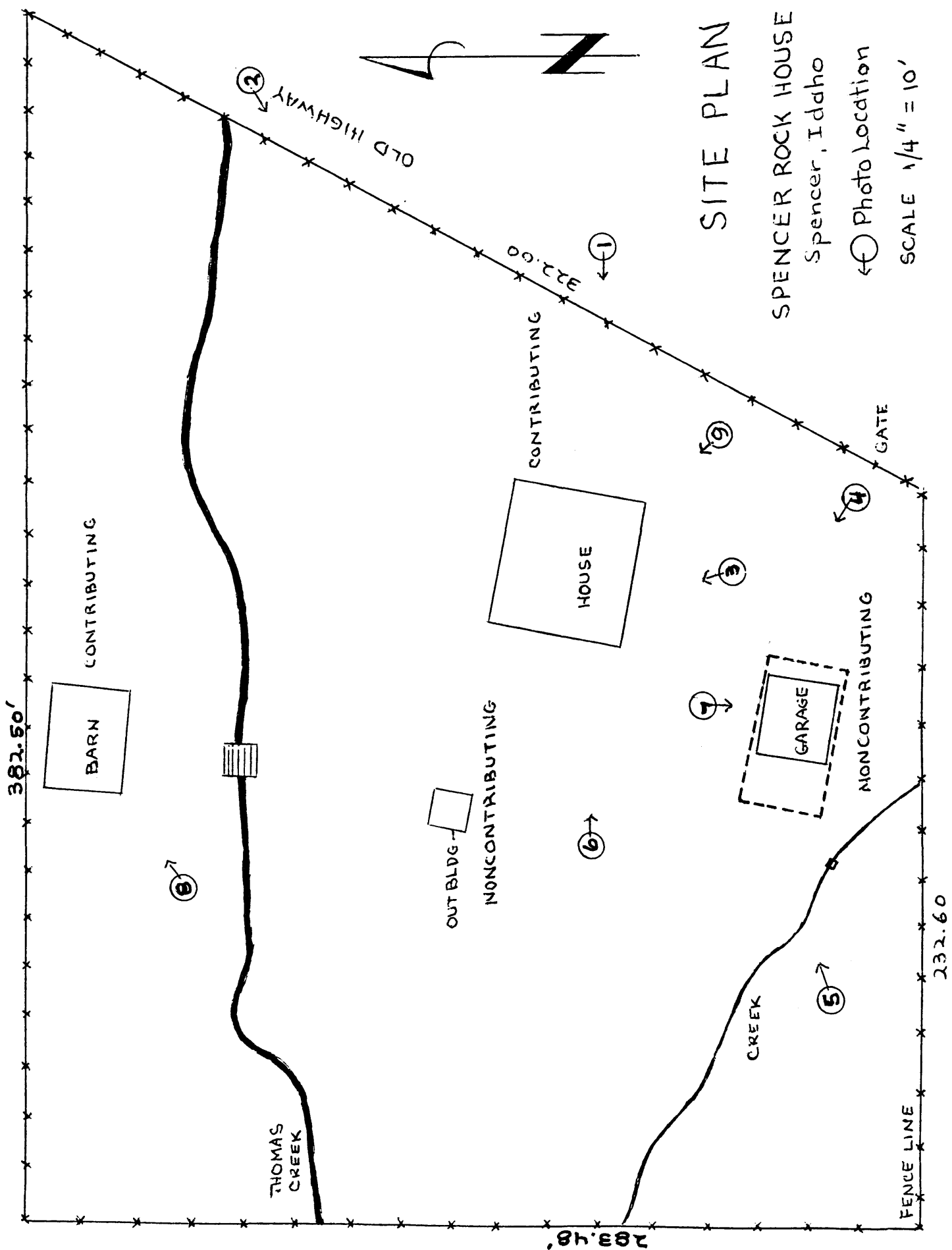
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Photo #9:

1. Spencer Rock House
2. Spencer, Idaho
3. Unknown; donated by the Hardy family
4. Ca. 1940
5. Clark County Historical Society; Dubois, ID
6. Front & south sides of house; taken from NW

This is also indicated on the site plan.

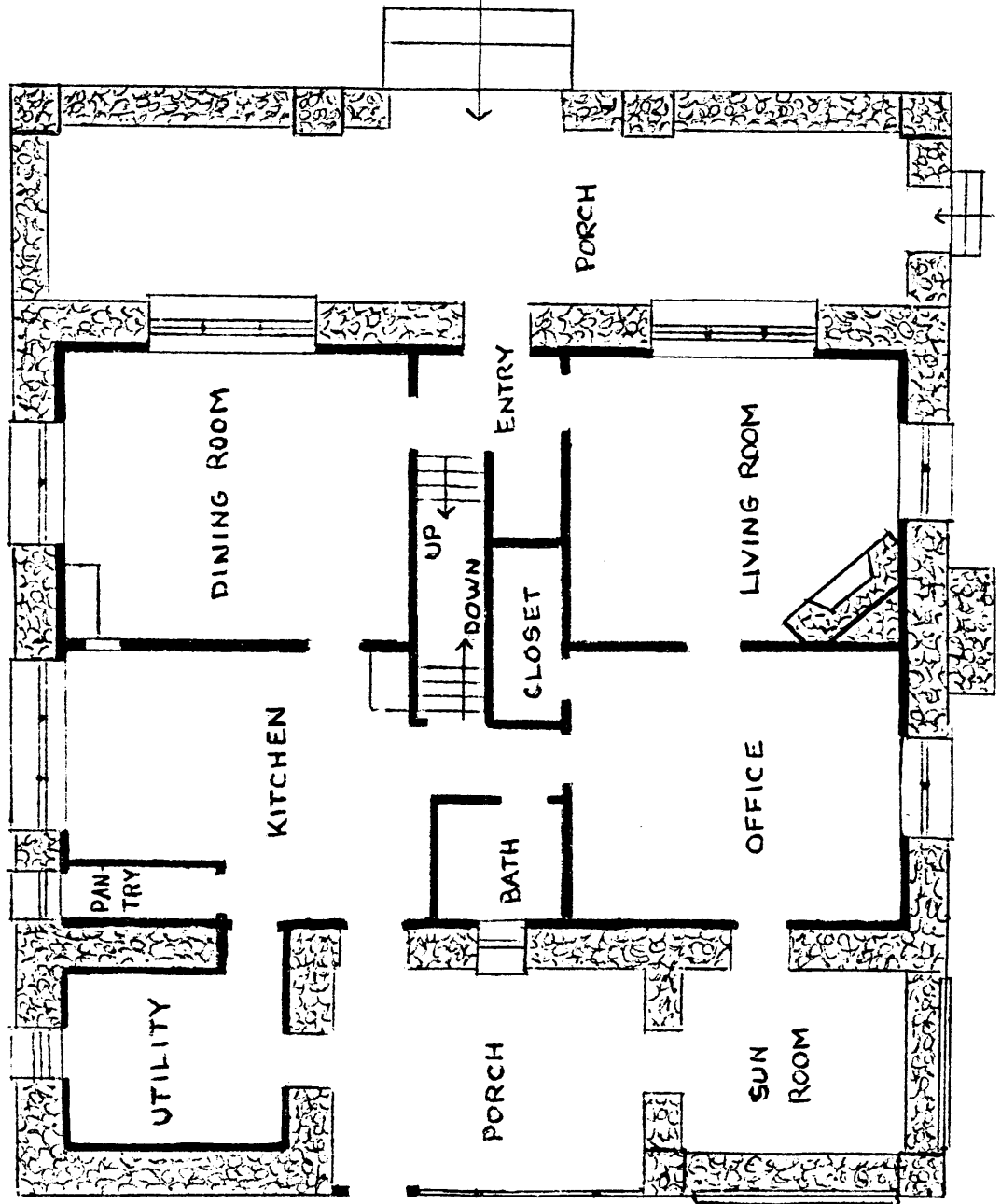


SITE PLAN

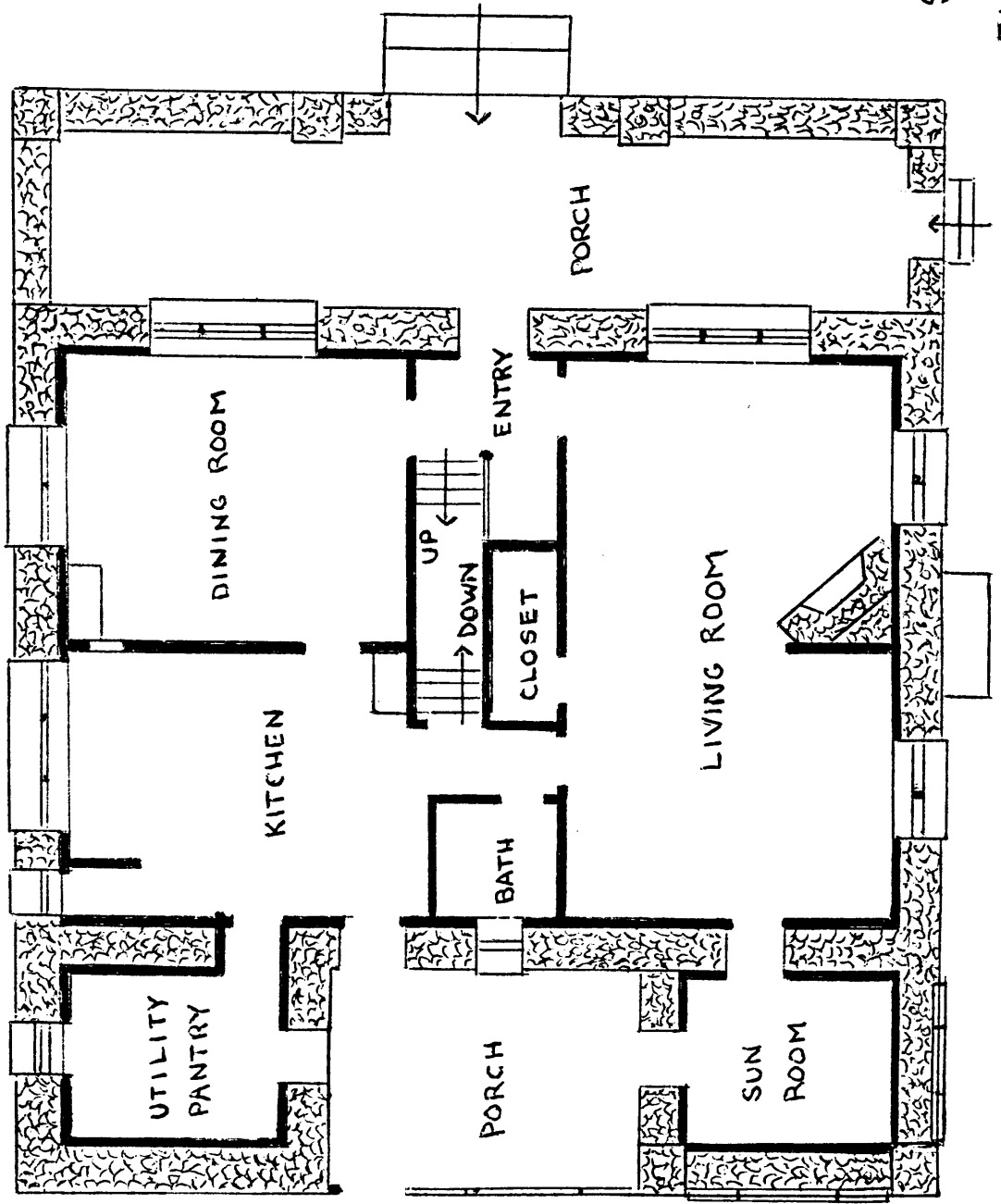
SPENCER ROCK HOUSE
Spencer, Idaho

⊙ Photo Location

SCALE 1/4" = 10'



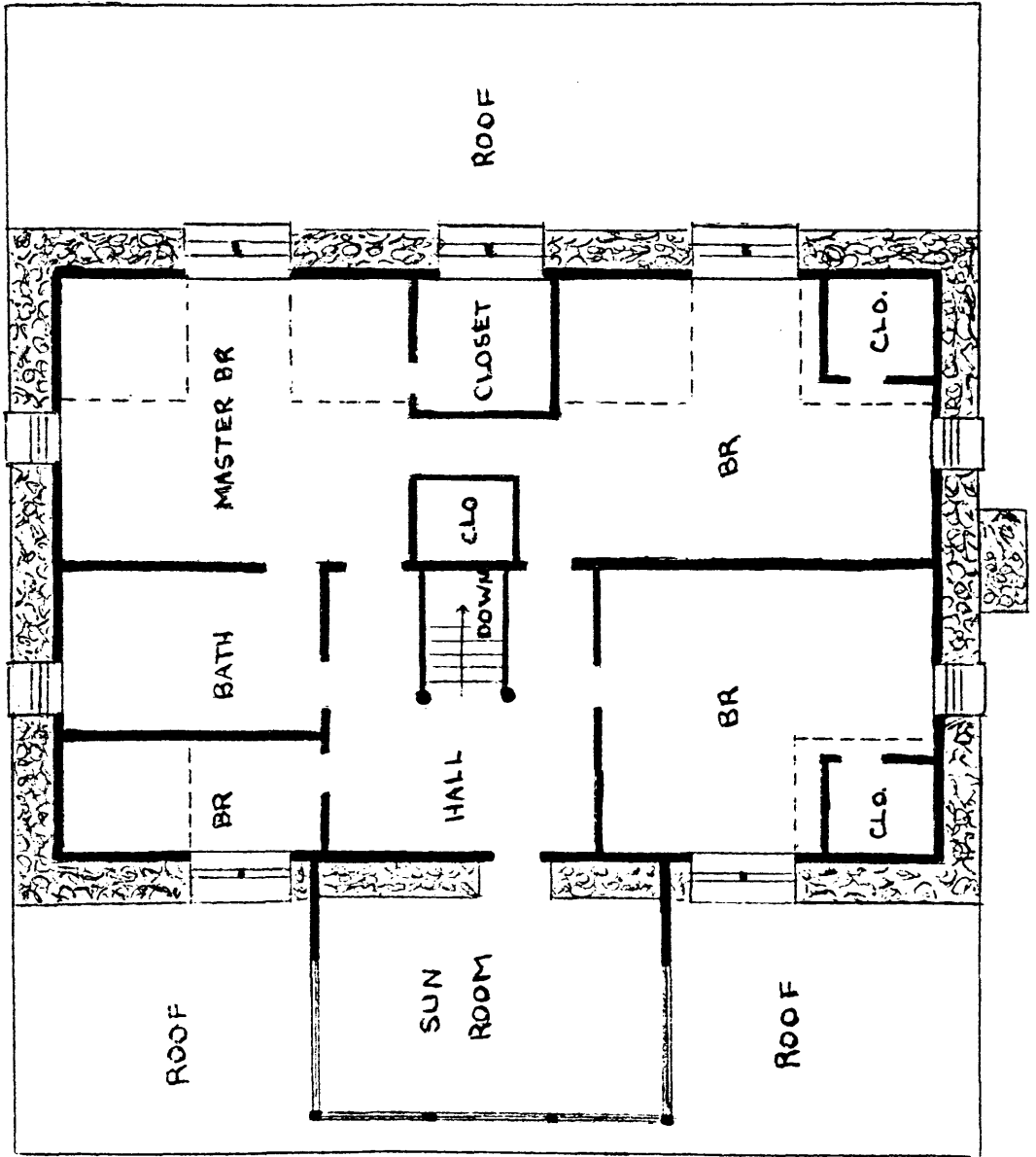
SPENCER ROCK HOUSE (ID)
 FIRST FLOOR PLAN (ORIGINAL)
 SCALE 1/8"=1'



SPENCER ROCK HOUSE (ID)

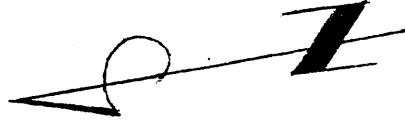
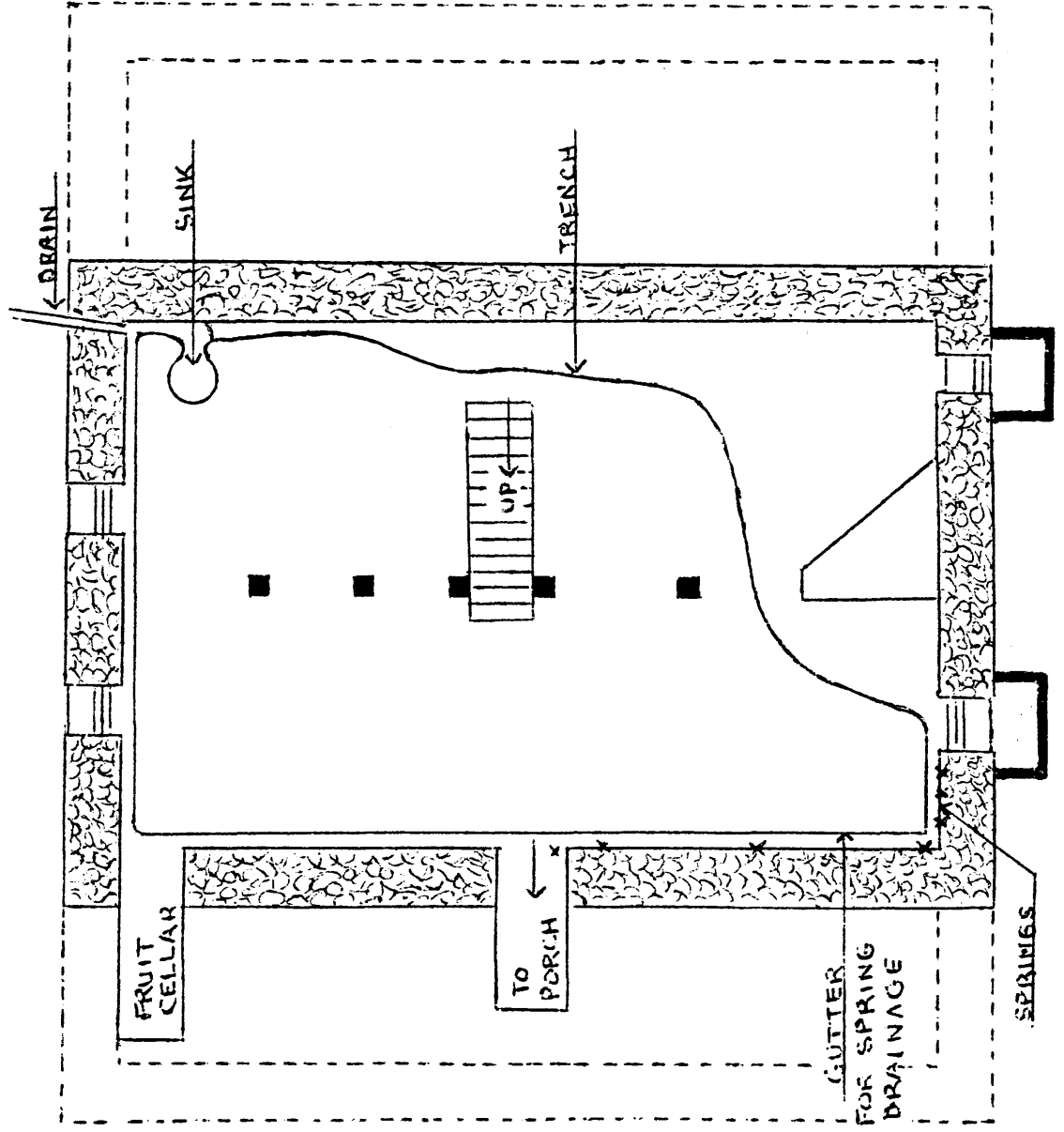
FIRST FLOOR PLAN (PRESENT)

SCALE 1/8"=1'



SPENCER ROCK HOUSE (ID)

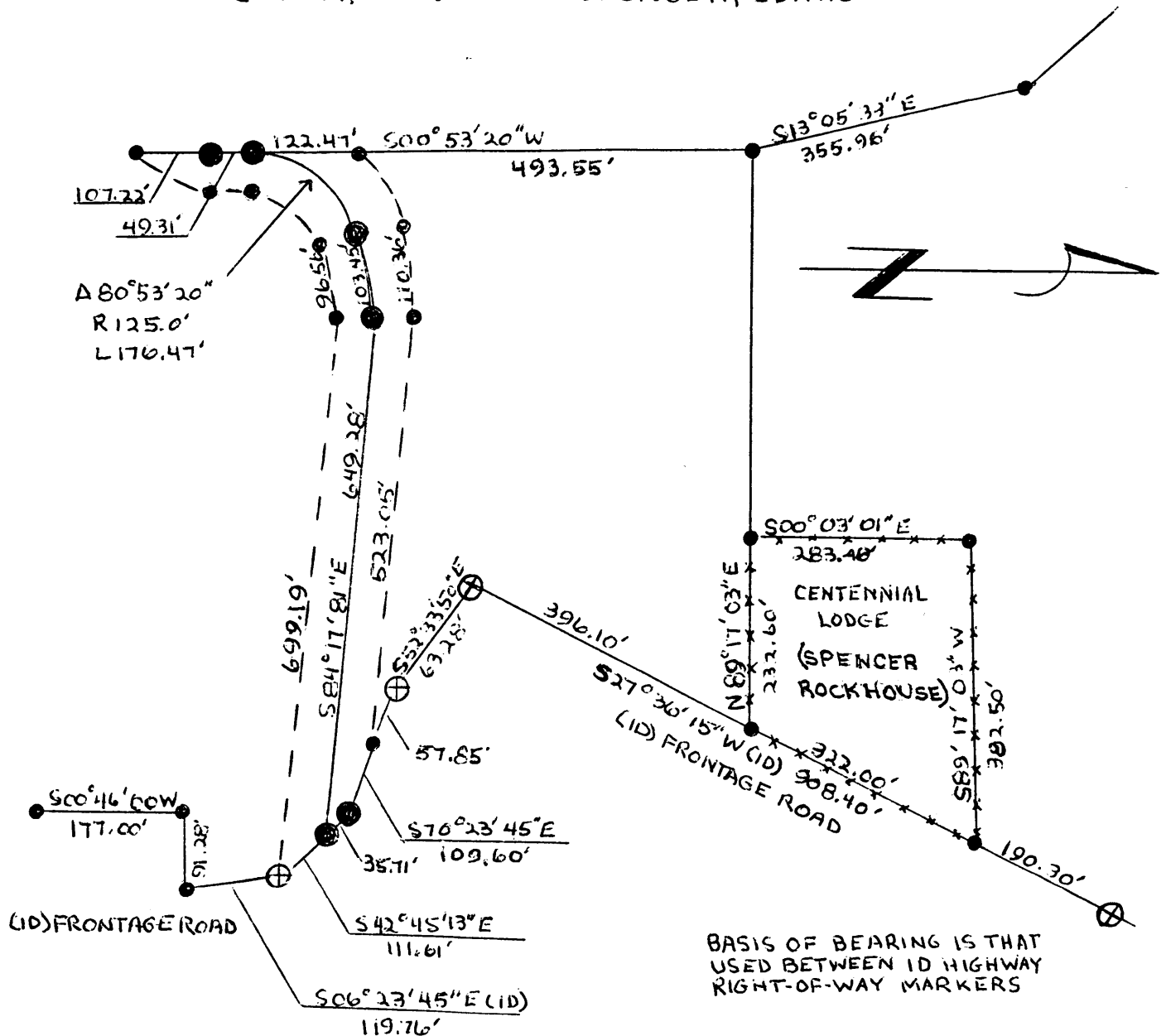
SECOND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'



SPENCER ROCK HOUSE (ID)
BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'

PARTIAL RECORD OF SURVEY

A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN SECTION 14
T12N, R36E BOISE MERIDIAN, CLARK COUNTY, IDAHO
SEPT. 17, 1979 SPENCER, IDAHO



SCALE: 1" = 200'

⊕ CONCRETE HIGHWAY R/W MARKER

5/8" REBAR SET

- 1/2" REBAR SET

ID - DATA BY IDAHO DEPT OF HIGHWAYS

— — — EDGE OF UTILITY EASEMENT

~~***~~ BOUNDARY OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

SURVEY CONDUCTED BY

ELMER H. LIKES

REG. LAND SURVEYOR

THOMPSON ENGR. INC.



#1

Spencer (ID) Rock House

SPENCER, IDAHO

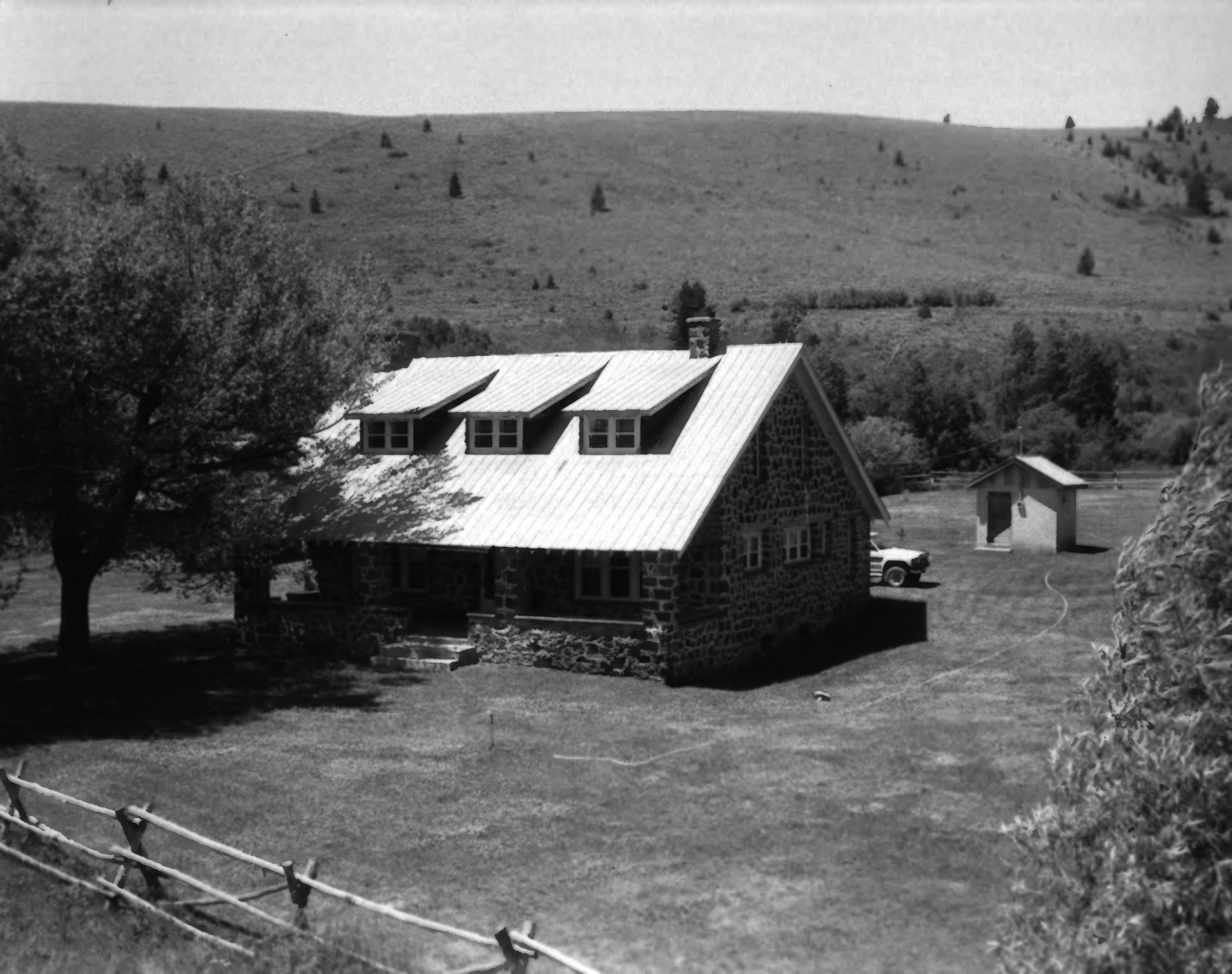
K.M. MYERS

2 JULY 1989

MYERS PRIVATE COLLECTION

FRONT OF HOUSE,

VIEW FROM EAST



#2

Spencer (ID) Rock House

SPENCER, IDAHO

K.M. MYERS

2 JULY 1989

MYERS PRIVATE COLLECTION

VIEW FROM NE



#3

Spencer (ID) Rock House

SPENCER, IDAHO

K.M. MYERS

2 JUL 1989

MYERS PRIVATE COLLECTION

VIEW FROM SSE



#4

Spencer (ID) Rock House

SPENCER, IDAHO

K.M. MYERS

2 JULY 1989

MYERS PRIVATE COLLECTION

VIEW FROM SE



#5

Spencer (ID) Rock House

SPENCER, IDAHO

K.M. MYERS

2 JULY 1989

MYERS PRIVATE COLLECTION

VIEW FROM WSW



#6

Spencer (ID) Rock House

SPENCER, IDAHO

K.M. MYERS

2 JULY 1989

MYERS PRIVATE COLLECTION

VIEW FROM WEST



#7

Spencer (ID) Rock House

SPENCER, IDAHO

K.M. MYERS

2 JUL 1989

MYERS PRIVATE COLLECTION

VIEW FROM NORTH



#8. Spencer (ID) Rock House

SPENCER, IDAHO

K.M. MYERS

2 JULY 1989

MYERS PRIVATE COLLECTION

VIEW FROM SW



#9). Spencer (ID) Rock House.

SPENCER, IDAHO

PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN

DONATED BY HARDY FAMILY

CA 1940

CLARK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VIEW FROM SE