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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC  
Fish Creek Dam  
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
CITY, TOWN  
STATE Idaho  
VICINITY OF Carey  
COUNTY Blaine  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Second  
CODE 16  
CODE 013

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Reservoir

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
Carey Valley Reservoir Company  
STREET & NUMBER  
CITY, TOWN  
VICINITY OF  
STATE Idaho

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Blaine County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER  
CITY, TOWN  
Hailey  
STATE Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE  
Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory  
DATE  
1972  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
Idaho State Historical Society  
CITY, TOWN  
Boise  
STATE Idaho

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT                       DETERIORATED  
 GOOD                                 RUINS  
 FAIR                                    UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fish Creek dam is a reinforced concrete multiple arched dam, located at the confluence of the three branches of Fish creek. From bedrock to crest it is 92 feet high and is 1725 feet in length.

There are sixty eight arches. The reservoir has a capacity for 12,743 acre feet to the spillway and 14,600 acre feet to the crest of the dam.

The dam, although still in use, is not in good condition. A seepage problem exists and there are some fears that the dam is unstable.

# SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES

1919-1920

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

John S. Eastwood

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fish Creek dam is significant as one of two multiple arch dams in Idaho. This type of dam was described as "the latest and most scientific form of dam known to the engineering world"<sup>1</sup> in 1919. This new design reputedly had greater elasticity and resiliency than more traditional dams and was considered to be earthquake proof.

John S. Eastwood, an engineer from Oakland, California, was the designer and builder of this type of dam. Fish Creek dam was the fourteenth dam he built in this style. Most of his work was done in California, although several examples exist in Utah, and this one and another at Malad Valley still stand in Idaho.

The dam was part of a Carey Act reclamation project and its reservoir provided water to irrigate the area around Carey, which was named after James Carey, the town's first post master, rather than the legislative act of 1894. This reclamation project is one of Idaho's better examples of systematic colonization by the L.D.S. church, and its meeting with no anti-Mormon resistance marks a change in social attitudes toward such church related endeavors.

<sup>1</sup> Idaho Daily Statesman, July 13, 1919, p. 9, c. 1-2.

