

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

NOMINATION: (Lava Rock Structures in South Central Idaho T&E)

SITE NAME: Newman, J. W. and Rachel, House and Bunkhouse

SITE NUMBER: 71

LOCATION: ~~Twelve miles east~~^E of Jerome ^{vic} on Highway 25

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: A. V. Beem
c/o Al D. Lee
313 Seventh Avenue East
Jerome, ID 83338

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Twin Falls, 7 5 minutes ACREAGE less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the J. W. Newman House and Bunkhouse and the property on which they stand, the SW 1/4, SW 1/4, SW 1/4, SW 1/4, SW 1/4 of Section 2, T9S, R18E, Boise Meridian. Legal description on file at Jerome County Courthouse, Jerome, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/719265/4726830

DATE OR PERIOD: c. 1920

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: Bill Darrah

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

CONDITION: good, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

The one-story Newman house is about 27 by 31 feet with a shallow, shingled gable roof with narrow, enclosed eaves. There is a narrow plain bargeboard on each gable. The gable wall has tongue and groove siding above the one-story stone walls. Wooden molding is at the top of each wall. The house has an interior red brick chimney with a corbelled top. The gable front has a centered door with a narrow one-over-one-light double-hung sash window on each side. The windows have shouldered wooden lintels made of two or more wooden beams. The narrow concrete lug sills are outset and sloping. A gabled overporch supported by steel pipes covers the concrete stoop leading to the front door. The coursed rubble walls have stones of different textures and colors but similar shapes and sizes. The mortar is brought out to the face of the stones, creating wide joints. The joints have been tooled to produce a bead, which has been painted white emphasizing the wavy line of the courses and the vertical lines of the joints. The house has been enlarged by a full-width frame addition about twelve feet wide across the rear. The gable roof on the addition is lower than that on the main house. Just behind the house is a bunkhouse on a high basement. It is approximately fourteen by eighteen feet. The shingled gable roof has close eaves with exposed rafters, and narrow, plain bargeboards. There are shingles in the gables above the stone walls. The entrance

entrance to the building is offset to the left of the gable facade through a low, gable-roofed entrance hall approximately eight by six feet. Just inside the door of the building itself are a few steps leading up to the first floor bunkhouse, and steps leading downward to the basement. The rubble walls of the bunkhouse are of rougher, less selected stones than in the house and have almost flush untooled joints. There is a double-hung, two-over-two-light window on the right and left wall.

SIGNIFICANCE:

These buildings are significant as excellent examples of rural vernacular building, and as examples of the craftsmanship of Bill Darrah. The buildings were built for J. W. and Rachel Newman in the early 1920's. The Newmans acquired this property in Perrine Valley as winter quarters for feeding and lambing. They kept their herds of sheep on the ranges in Lincoln and Blaine counties in the summer. A stable supply of water was available in Perrine Valley, and it was somewhat more sheltered and lower in altitude than their Lincoln County property. Winter sheep operations required much labor, so the bunkhouse was needed to provide workmen with sleeping quarters. Feeding the laborers required frostfree food storage facilities. Both needs were met by building the bunkhouse. The selected stones, carefully tooled mortar, and the undulating lines of the coursed masonry in the house are good examples of the quality of work of which Darrah was capable. The contrast in the finished work of the house and the rougher work of the bunkhouse demonstrates the way in which masons adapted the degree of detail and finishing to the purpose of the building. The rear addition of the house does not detract unduly from the integrity of this site.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Records of the Jerome Abstract and Title Company, Jerome, Idaho.

Patz, F. A. interview with Marian Posey-Ploss, Jerome, Idaho, Summer 1979.

Martin, Art, interview with Marian Posey-Ploss, Shoshone, Idaho, Summer 1979.