

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

NOMINATION: (Lava Rock Structures in South Central Idaho - R)

✓ SITE NAME: Sugarloaf School

SITE NUMBER: 81

✓ LOCATION: ~~Eight miles east~~ <sup>E</sup> of Jerome, <sup>vic</sup> Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Sugarloaf Grange No. 427  
Jerome, ID 83338

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Twin Falls N.E., 7.5 minutes      ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

✓ The nomination includes the Sugarloaf School and the property on which it stands, Tract 7, in the NW 1/4, SW 1/4, and SW 1/4, NW 1/4 of Section 33, T8S, R18E. Legal description on file at Jerome County Courthouse, Jerome, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/715860/4729600

DATE OR PERIOD: 1924

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER H. T. Pugh

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

CONDITION: excellent, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

The tall one-story Sugarloaf School sits on a high basement. It measures approximately 50 by 80 feet. It has a light red hipped roof with red composition shingles, lightly flared eaves, and exposed rafters. The facade on the wider dimension features a gable-roofed tower about eighteen feet wide and outset about ten feet. A low frame addition about six feet wide with a metal shed roof has been built at ground level across the base of the tower, partially obscuring the details of the complex facade. Visible above it at each side of the tower is a transom window with a curved head. Windows below the transom are obscured. Radiating stone arches are above each transom. A pent gable roof with bargeboards is above each relieving arch. These roofs are supported by king post and tie beam arrangements, between two heavy, angled brackets and purlins with chamfered ends. The king posts extend above the peaks of the small gables. The rafter ends extending beyond the eaves are narrowed and sharply cut for decorative effect. Between the brackets are decorative wooden panels. Centered in the upper part of the stone tower, above the double entrance doors, is a tripartite window with thirty-six panes. It has a wide curved wooden head with a circular molding in it. A wide, stone relieving arch is above it. Centered just under the peak of the gable is a narrow rectangular window with a narrow slip sill and a wide concrete lintel set flush with the wall and set into the stone several inches on each end. The gable roof of the tower has an upright square beam similar to those in the two small side gables. Chamfered purlins

are exposed, meeting the bargeboards. To the right of the large window and intersecting the eaves is an high outset cinder block chimney. To right and left of the tower are tall double-hung sash windows with nine panes. Identical windows form two banks of six windows each on the rear wall at the first floor level. The tops of the windows coincide with the tops of the walls. The single windows have narrow, concrete slip sills. The panels of windows have continuous concrete sills. There are no windows at the first floor level on either the right or left walls. There is a concrete water course approximately three feet high and ten inches wide around the main body of the building. The water course acts as a lintel for basement windows on each wall. A small, low, shed-roofed ventilation dormer is centered on the rear roof. The random rubble walls are built of brownish and reddish stones of varying sizes with weathered naturally rounded faces. Light brushed mortar is in the tight slightly raked-out joints.

#### SIGNIFICANCE:

This imposing building is significant as an example of rural school architecture as well as for its craftsmanship. This, the fourth and last rural school building built by master mason H. T. Pugh, has the most complex facade with the most detail of any of the four. (See the Falls City and Canyonside School in this nomination.) Its tower accentuates its high profile and, along with the large scale details, proclaims it as an important public building. The tower, especially, demonstrates Pugh's excellent abilities with fitting stones, forming various types of arches, and handling mortar to enhance the shape and texture of the stones. The building was completed in 1924 for School District 6 in the Sugarloaf Valley. Both the school and the community were named for a high volcanic cone to the west of the school, standing between it and the town of Jerome, which has a distinctive squared off top visible from many locations in Magic Valley. The building was bought by the Sugarloaf Grange 427 in 1959 for \$800 after children living in the area began riding busses to schools in Jerome. The building is now used as a grange hall, community meeting hall, and polling place. The original interior features are intact. The shed across the lower level of the tower is a functional addition built to protect the ground level front door from the prevailing western winds. It and the cinder block chimney are reversible alterations. The original facade is intact behind them. The small frame addition on the rear also could be removed.

#### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

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

Records of School District 6, County Clerk's Office, Jerome County Courthouse, Jerome, Idaho.