

1H0037842

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Idaho
COUNTY:	Minidoka
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	OCT 29 1974

1. NAME

COMMON: Minidoka Dam and Power Plant

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: S of Minidoka
Section 1, T9S, R25E, B.M.s

CITY OR TOWN: Minidoka vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: District #2

STATE: Idaho CODE: 16 COUNTY: Minidoka CODE: 067

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Bureau of Reclamation

STREET AND NUMBER: Federal Building

CITY OR TOWN: Boise STATE: Idaho CODE: 16

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Minidoka County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Rupert STATE: Idaho CODE: 16

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Idaho State Historic Preservation Plan

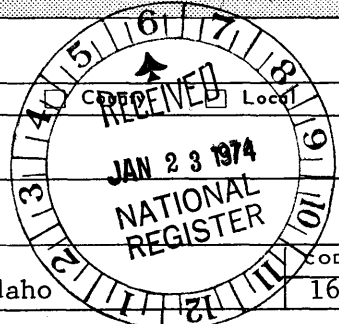
DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 Federal State

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Idaho State Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER: 610 North Julia Davis Drive

CITY OR TOWN: Boise STATE: Idaho CODE: 16

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Idaho

COUNTY: Minidoka

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ENTRY NUMBER: OCT 29 1974

DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

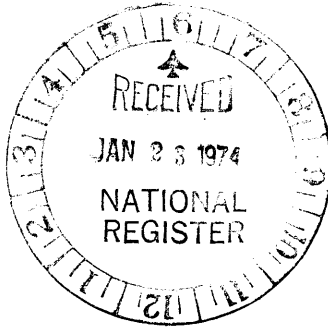
(Check One)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Minidoka Dam, located northeast of Rupert, has not changed greatly since the time it was built in 1904-06 for a cost of \$675,000. It is of zoned earth and rock fill construction with a concrete spillway. The height of the dam is 86 feet above the stream bed, and the total length is 4475 feet, of which 2400 feet is the spillway. The active storage capacity is 95,180 acre feet.

The powerhouse was the earliest federal hydroelectric plant in the Pacific Northwest, completed in 1913 for a cost of \$472,000. It originally had five generating units, but two more were added in 1927 and 1940, bringing the total to the present level of seven units.

Major reclamation canals for the Minidoka project come from this diversion dam, with a total of 120,000 acres irrigated in a desert country. The reservoir backs up past Bonanza Bar to Massacre Rocks.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

4. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Dam: 1904-06; powerhouse: 1913

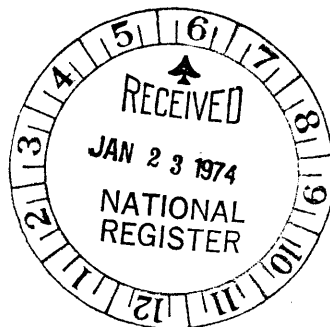
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On the basis of a 1902 investigation by the new United States Reclamation Service, Congress authorized construction of Minidoka Dam in 1904. Construction began September 17, and took more than a year. Part of the Burley canal system required pumping, so a 16,000 KWH electric plant was installed at the dam. Inadequate funding delayed completion of the \$5,800,000 Minidoka canal project until 1909, creating serious problems for the settlers there. Surplus power was available for public distribution, and some early experiments in space heating of houses and schools resulted from efforts to find local markets for Minidoka power. Senator George Norris of Nebraska used this experience with Minidoka power as a basis for justifying creation of the Rural Electric Administration.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Annual History of the Minidoka Area Project, 1966, Vol. 60. Burley.

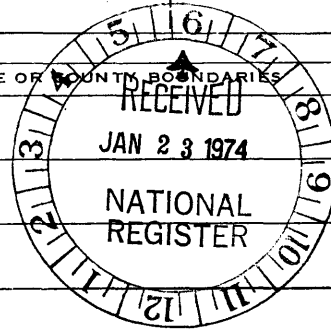
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	42 ° 40 ' 36 "	113 ° 29 ' 29 "				
NE	42 ° 40 ' 36 "	113 ° 28 ' 17 "				
SE	42 ° 39 ' 45 "	113 ° 28 ' 17 "				
SW	42 ° 39 ' 45 "	113 ° 29 ' 29 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 640 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



NW 12/29/650/4721650
 SE 12/297450/4721650
 SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Merle W. Wells, Director

ORGANIZATION: Idaho State Historical Society DATE: 18 January 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
610 North Julia Davis Drive

CITY OR TOWN: Boise STATE: Idaho CODE: 16

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Merle W. Wells

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 18 January 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. R. Mortensen
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 10/29/74

ATTEST:
Wm. H. ...
Keeper of the National Register

Date 10.22.74