

DEC 3 1981

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

NOMINATION: Historic Resources of Challis (Partial Inventory: Architectural Properties)

SITE NAME: Challis Cold Storage SITE # 16

LOCATION: Main Avenue, Challis, Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Robert Ralphs, Box 339, Challis, Idaho 83226

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Challis, 15 minute ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The nomination includes the Challis Cold Storage and the property on which it stands, block 14, T-140, Challis, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/7,19,775/49,31,500

DATE OR PERIOD: 1881 EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

deteriorated condition                      altered                      original site

DESCRIPTION:

The Challis Cold Storage building is a one-story dressed and rubble rock structure. Its simple stepped parapet facade has the remains of an outset cornice on its top tier. The centered front door is double and has panels and a transom. On either side of the door are deep-set six-over-six double-hung sash windows. The building has a gable roof, covered with corrugated metal, and a compatible rear extension built in cinder block. The right side wall has been replaced with cinder block, the front wall and quoins are rusticated dressed tuff, and the left side wall is uncoursed rubble. Large pieces of dressed tuff act as lintels above doors and windows. There is a short, outset water table along the building's west wall. Mortar is lime plaster over adobe.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Challis Cold Storage is one of the earliest of many stone commercial buildings in Challis, and it is historically significant because of its connection with Governor George L. Shoup, the building's first owner. The several stone buildings of Challis exemplify the use of local materials—volcanic tuff and rhyolite from the bluff above town—in a period when Challis was still isolated enough that materials were dear. Stone probably was used for commercial and governmental structures because of its substantial appearance.

Governor Shoup, owner of a general mercantile store in Salmon, established stores in Challis and Custer when those towns were created. This stone building for his Challis store was constructed in 1881. According to the Tri-Weekly Statesman account, it had a several-inch dirt layer over the ceiling to prevent fires. George's brother James Shoup was in charge of the store, which had a \$150,000 inventory.