

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

NOMINATION: (Lava Rock Structures in South Central Idaho ^{7A})

SITE NAME: Canyonside School

SITE NUMBER: 69

LOCATION: ~~Four miles south~~^S of Jerome, ~~ID~~^{vic}

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Rex and Beth Blamires
Rural Route
Jerome, ID 83338

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Jerome, 7.5 minutes

ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Canyonside School and the property on which it stands in the SE 1/4, SE 1/4, SE 1/4, SE 1/4, SE 1/4 of Section 1, T9S, R16E. Legal description on file at Jerome County Courthouse, Jerome, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/703410/4726570

DATE OR PERIOD: 1920

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: H. T. Pugh, Paul R. Kartske

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, education

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

CONDITION: Excellent, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

The one-story Canyonside School is approximately 80 by 46 feet. It has a high basement and a shingled hipped roof with close boxed eaves. Each angle of the roof has a centered, shallow, gable-roofed ventilator dormer. There are two tall, red brick chimneys on the rear roof. There is a continuous concrete watercourse above the basement windows. A pedimented overporch is centered on the facade with the peak just below the eaves line. There is a transom above the wooden door that has three small panes at the top. Square stone pillars support the overporch. On each side of the entrance is a small double-hung window, flanked by a bank of five double, casement windows. The upper one-half of the windows on the left facade have been covered with redwood siding. On the right facade, the upper half of the windows are covered as is all of the center window. There are no windows at the first floor level on either the right or left walls, but there are two panels of windows on the rear wall. There is a centered stone stoop with concrete steps outside a ground level door on the rear wall. The rounded tannish to brown-and-pink stones in the random rubble walls are small to medium in size. There is light, sand-colored, brushed mortar in the nearly flush medium-width joints.

The Canyonside School house is significant as an example of rural school design, for its association with the development of rural education and for its craftsmanship. It was built for School District 33 in 1920. Paul R. Kartske, early Jerome contractor, was awarded the contract for building the school. H. T. Pugh was the mason. This is the second of four rural stone schoolhouses built by H. T. Pugh. This building shows the fine craftsmanship of master mason Pugh, with its fine, even, closely-fitted rubble masonry. Its brushed joints has mortar still in excellent condition.

Before construction of this building children had been attending several small, frame schools in the areas south of Jerome. Building this fine country school was an indication that the irrigated tract was becoming a financial success and that the rural area justified this kind of investment. The high profile of this school clearly displays it as an important public building. It is now being used as a residence. The covered windows are reversible alterations. Early photographs of the school show that it once had a centered bell tower on the ridge line. This was removed at an unknown date, probably when the school was reroofed. Otherwise the building remains intact to represent the craftsmanship of Pugh and the development of regional education.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

North Side News (Jerome). August 21, 1919; August 25, 1921