

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

NOMINATION: (Lava Rock Structures in South Central Idaho TR)

SITE NAME: Phelps, Kenneth G., Barn

SITE NUMBER: 43

LOCATION: ~~One mile west~~^u of Richfield, ~~ID~~^{vic.}

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Merle S. Hill
252 Markland Drive
Monterey Park, CA 91754

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Richfield, 7.5 minutes

ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Kenneth G. Phelps barn and the property on which it stands, the SW 1/4, SE 1/4, NE 1/4, SE 1/4, NE 1/4 of Section 27, T4S, R19E, Boise Meridian. Legal description on file at Lincoln County Courthouse, Shoshone, ID.

UTM(S): 11/730200/4769970

DATE OR PERIOD: 1916

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: Sandy Reed

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, agriculture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

CONDITION: Excellent, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

This rectangular barn has a shingled gambrel roof with close enclosed eaves. Ship-lap is in the gables. The masonry is random ashlar with darkened mortar. Convex beading has been painted white to emphasize the lines created by the joints. Corrugated metal covers the original sliding wooden doors. The doors are the full height of the walls. The doors and gables are painted dark red.

SIGNIFICANCE:

This barn is significant as an example of a medium-sized variant of the gambrel-roofed barn type as it was built for small family farms and as a example of the lava rock masonry work of Sandy Reed. The moderate scale of the barn made it suitable for a family farm. Its careful attention to detail indicates pride and care in construction. It was built in 1916 for Kenneth G. Phelps to replace a frame barn that had burned the year before. It is an example of a farmer turning to stone as a building material to reduce fire hazard. The stone mason was Sandy Reed. The broken ashlar work with careful pointing of work laid up with mud is characteristic of his craftsmanship.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHY REFERENCES:

Richfield Recorder. November 17, 1916.

Bushby, Les, interview with Marian Posey-Ploss, Richfield, Idaho, Fall, 1980.