

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

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

SITE NAME: Silva, Arthur D., Flume

SITE NUMBER: 4

LOCATION: ~~Four miles north and approximately three miles west of~~ Shoshone, ID. ^{NW of vic}

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Corwin Silva
Rural Route
Shoshone, ID 83352

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Shoshone, 7.5 minute

ACREAGE: 5 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Arthur D. Silva Flume and the property on which it stands, the N 1/2 SE 1/4 SW 1/4 NW 1/4 Section 16 T5S, R17E. Legal description on file at Lincoln County Courthouse, Shoshone, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/707920/4762700

DATE OR PERIOD: 1904 or 1905

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: George Ashley

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture, agriculture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

CONDITION: good, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

Several hundred yards to the east of the Arthur D. Silva Ranch (site 3) is a flume built to carry irrigation water across the river to irrigate a field on the other side. The open flume was originally made of wood, and later lined with metal. A flood tore out the center section in the late 1950's and a metal pipe is now in place inside the original wooden flume on each end. Six lava rock piers varying in height from about four feet to approximately fifteen feet support the flume. Each pier is about four feet wide and about eight feet long.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Arthur D Silva Flume is significant as an example of the use of lava rock in flume construction and as an example of the work of English-trained mason George Ashley. With the Silva ranch and water tank (sites 3 and 17), the flume is part of a complete complex of ranch outbuildings that are built with lava rock. Not only is that complex a good example of ranch layout and of local ranchers' reliance on lava rock materials, but it is also significant for its association with Portuguese settlement in South Central Idaho.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Silva, Floyd and Corwin, interview with Marian Posey-Ploss, Shoshone vicinity,
Summer 1979.

"Silvas--Early Sheep Ranchers." Bicentennial Supplement to the Gooding County
Leader (Gooding) County Journal (Shoshone), and Hub City Voice (Wendell),
July 15 1976, p 32.