

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

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

SITE NAME: Gooding, Thomas, Water Tank House SITE NUMBER: 62

LOCATION: ~~Six miles north and six miles west~~ ^{NW} of Shoshone ^{vic} ID ~~2~~

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Robert Quigley
Rural Route
Shoshone, ID 83852

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Thorn Creek SE, 7.5 minutes ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Thomas Gooding Water Tank House and the property on which it stands, the SE 1/4 SW 1/4 and the SW 1/4 SE 1/4 all in the SW 1/4, SW 1/4, SW 1/4 of Section 36, T4S, R16E. Legal description on file at Lincoln County Courthouse Shoshone Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/702445^{del}/4766445

DATE OR PERIOD: 1919

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: Bill Darrah

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture agriculture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE local

CONDITION good unaltered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

This round water tank house is about twenty feet tall and twelve feet in diameter. A wooden door is set almost at the inside of the three-foot wide walls. A horizontal casement window is opposite the door, also set at the inside of the wall. Neither has a visible lintel. Five steel I-beams are embedded in the ceiling of the lower chamber, providing support for the water tank above. The top of the water tank is covered with planks coated with concrete. The coursed rubble walls have untooled mortar in their wide joints. The mortar is brought out to the face of the stones. Scratched into a particularly wide joint at about the five-foot level on the wall left of the door is the inscription "Bill Darrah, Oct. 19, 1919." On a nearby joint is the inscription, "A. B. Ramsey, Oct. 19." and "Harold." Part of the wall shows white mineral staining from water leaking from the tank.

SIGNIFICANCE:

This water tank house is significant as an example of a vernacular water tank house type and as an example of the craftsmanship of Bill Darrah. This water tank house was built for Thomas Gooding, one of the well-known Gooding brothers who were sheepmen and ranch developers in Lincoln County. Its placement between the house

and farm buildings indicates that it was used to provide water both for the residence and for farm animals. It is relatively taller and smaller in diameter than most of the water tank houses Darrah built. By the time he built this structure, Darrah seems to have settled on his basic design with a single window opposite the door, but his treatment of lintels is still varying, with none visible in this structure. The windmill that provided power to pump water into the elevated tank has been removed.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Silva, Floyd. interview with Marian Posey-Ploss Shoshone, Idaho, Summer 1979.