

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

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

✓ SITE NAME: Johnson, Edgar, House

SITE NUMBER: 52

✓ LOCATION: ~~Two miles south~~^S of Jerome, Idaho, and ~~one-half mile east~~ on the ~~three-mile road~~^{Vic.}

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Wayne Peterson
c/o Virgil D. Mitchell
Rural Route 6
Jerome, ID 83338

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Jerome, 7.5 minutes

ACREAGE: 2 1/2 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

✓ The nomination includes the Edgar Johnson House and the property on which it stands, NE 1/4, NW 1/4, NW 1/4, NE 1/4 of Section 6, T9S, R17E, Boise Meridian. Legal description on file at Jerome County Courthouse, Jerome, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/704225/4728155

DATE OR PERIOD: 1910's

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: unknown

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

CONDITION: good, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

The one and one half story Johnson house is approximately 28 by 33 feet. It has a basement and a shingled gable roof with close eaves and a plain narrow bargeboard. A plain, narrow, wooden molding separates the shingles in the gable wall from the one-story stone walls. A double-hung sash window is centered in the peak of the gable. The gable front features an approximately twelve-by-twelve-foot outset porch with a lower gable roof, offset to the left. It also has a narrow bargeboard and shingles in its gable space. The main gable roof has four figure-four brackets, and the porch gable has two. Two plain, square, wooden porch posts are flush against the wall where the porch joins it, and there is one post at each corner of the porch. Flush, dark, concrete lintels are set above the door and the double-hung windows. The centers of the narrower, outset, sloping lug sills have been scooped out to assure drainage. Small horizontal, rectangular basement windows have a concrete lined well in front of them and a rough, shouldered, slightly outset concrete sill above them. The mortar has been brought out even with the faces of the small stones in the random rubble walls. A beaded line produced by tooling has been painted white. A cinder-block addition approximately 16 by 32 feet with a gable roof lower than that of the main house has been placed at right angles at the rear of the original house.



SIGNIFICANCE:

This modest rural residence is significant as an example of rural vernacular bungalow design and as an example of lava rock craftsmanship. With its double gable facade, this house represents the standard patternbook bungalow style. The porch treatment and the treatment of the basement windows distinguishes it from any other house in the nomination. The Edgar Johnson family moved to the property in 1914. Title Company records indicate that a mortgage on the property was obtained in 1917. The house was built in about 1918 or 1919. The mason for the building is not known. Because of the light-gray color of the cinder block addition, because of its placement at the rear, and because of its lower gable roof, the addition is unobtrusive and does not detract from the still highly visible original design and construction.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Records of the Jerome Abstract and Title Company, Jerome, Idaho.

Johnson, Olivier, interview with Marian Posey-Ploss, Wendell, Idaho. Summer, 1978.