Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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7. DESCRIPTION						
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CONDITION	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
CONDITION		(Check O	ne)		(Ch	eck One)
	☐ Alter	red	🗓 Unaltered		☐ Moved	▼ Original Site
DESCRIBE THE P	RESENT AND ORI	GINAL (if kno	own) PHYSICA	L APPEARANCE		

About 1890, a settler near the Snake River named William W. Priestly invented a way to get water to flow uphill 110 feet to irrigate his land lying just above Thousand Springs near Hagerman. His pump consisted of a series of 24" diameter pipes made of "boiler plate (a metal reservoir tank) and to operate the pump, he first trained one pipe opening at the largest spring flowing from the cliff, catching the water in such a way that a great deal of air was combined with the water. This aerated water fell through the pipe for a distance of 190 feet to the reservoir at the bottom of the cliff. Here, the water was drained off into the river and the channeled air was forced by great pressure back up the cliff in a second pipe. The air pipe was connected to a third pipe which also caught spring water, although not as much as the first pipe. This pipe dropped the water sixty feet before it met the air pipe. When the air from the second pipe met the water from the third pipe, it pushed up a fourth pipe which fed the water onto the dry farmland above. Parts of the pipeline and the storage tank still remain at the site today.



ERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
☐ Pre-Columbian ;	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	17th Century	∑ 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ole and Known) 1890		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
XX Agriculture		Science	
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	☐ Transportation	

Pioneer inventiveness, wrought of necessity, is dramatically shown in this ingenious device which enabled fertile but arid land to be farmed prosperously with the addition of water. Priestly's arable land was located 110 feet directly above Thousand Springs. Here he had plenty of water and 190 feet of fall to make his pump work well. The boiler plate pipes all had to be riveted together by hand, then lowered from the top of the cliff and set into place. This task alone must have taken considerable doing. To insure the continued success of his pump, in 1894 Priestly claimed the water rights on all of the waters of Thousand Springs.

Priestly's hydraulic ram, a pump with not one moving part, was considered truly marvelous. Although evidence points to a similar less sophisticated device in Arizona in 1886, four years before, Priestly is thought to have come upon his invention independently. Similar hydraulic air compressors were built near Montreal, Quebec in 1896, at Ainsworth, British Columbia in 1898 and at Norwich, Conn. in 1902. However, these pumps, which operated with about 70% efficiency, were displaced by much more efficient steam, gasoline and electric pumps, before any possible development of widespread use of Priestly's pump. The 1947 edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica describes Priestly's invention in detail. Few such original developments in the field of power transmission have been made anywhere in the United States.



9. MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPH	ICAL RI	FERENCE	S							
	Twin Fal	ls Tim	es-News	, 21 May 1	972.						
	Encyclop	edia B	ritanni	ca, 1947 e	dition.						
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