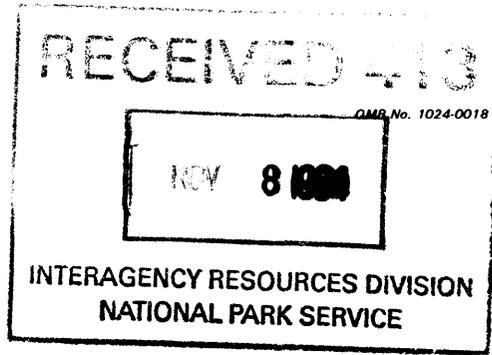


1452



United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A).

1. Name of Property

historic name Sherwood, Joseph, House and Store

other names/site number Sherwood Museum

2. Location

street & number Highway 87, 1.2 miles west of junction with Highway 20

N/A not for publication

city or town Island Park

X vicinity

state Idaho code ID county Fremont

code 043

zip code 83429

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

Signature of certifying official

Date 1 Nov 94

John R. Hill, State Historic Preservation Officer State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

X entered in the National Register.

See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall

12.9.94

Included in the National Register

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

Property Name Sherwood, Joseph, House and Store

County and State Fremont County, Idaho

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**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a

No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

**6. Functions or Use**

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Hotel</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>General Store</u>
<u>GOVERNMENT</u>	<u>Post Office</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Cat: <u>VACANT NOT IN USE</u>	Sub: _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation STONE

walls WOOD: Weatherboard

roof METAL: Iron

other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Property Name Sherwood, Joseph, House and Store

County and State Fremont County, Idaho

**8. Statement of Significance**

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

COMMERCE

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Period of Significance

1889 - 1937

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

c. 1899

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Sherwood, Joseph

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Property Name Sherwood, Joseph, House and Store

County and State Fremont County, Idaho

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property less than 1 acre

UTM References

1	<u>1/2</u>	<u>4/6/9/4/4/0</u>	<u>4/9/4/5/7/0/0</u>	3	<u>/</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>/</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	4	<u>/</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Mary McBroom, President/Island Park Historical Society, revised by Linda Morton-Keithley, Oral Historian  
 organization Idaho State Historical Society date July 15, 1994  
 street & number 210 Main Street telephone 208-334-3863  
 city or town Boise state ID zip code 83702

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_  
 street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

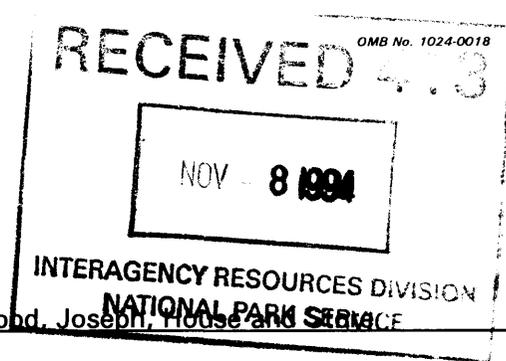
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Name of Property Sherwood, Joseph, House and Store

County and State Fremont County, Idaho



The Joseph Sherwood house and store is located on the north shore of Henry's Lake in Fremont County, Idaho. The structure is located in a relatively undeveloped area which is surrounded by the Targhee National Forest. Sherwood constructed the building about 1899, using wood milled from a sawmill located nearby on the property.

The building is a simple frame structure with gable roof covered with corrugated iron panels. The overall dimensions are approximately 55 feet wide, 37 feet deep and 46 feet high. It stands 2 1/2 stories high, sits on a rock foundation and is sheathed in wood clapboards. A porch extends across the front and sides of the building, with stairs leading to the road at each end. The porch sides were enclosed and enlarged at an unknown point in time to create additional space. All windows in the building are two-over-two, double-hung sash.

On the south (front) elevation, the first floor is accessed by a set of double doors leading directly from the porch. These doors serve as a public entry for the store and post office. To the right are two windows and to the left is one window. The enclosed side porch area on the right (east) is set back slightly from the front facade, allowing room for a single door leading into the main building on the east elevation. The enclosed area to the left (west) is accessed by a single door. The second floor is marked by the placement of four windows.

On the east elevation, the enclosure of the side porch has obscured the original placement of windows and doors, except the door noted above which provided access to the family living quarters. This area is further screened by overgrown shrubbery. Two windows are placed at the second floor level and one at the attic level.

The north (rear) elevation has had several additions to provide storage space, including a shed-roof attachment in the same width and proportions as the front and side porches, and a single story cross-gabled extension. The second story has two windows.

The west elevation has a one-story shed-roofed addition which extends beyond the edge of the original side porch. This addition has recently collapsed from the weight of winter snows. The upper stories are identical to the east end--two windows at the second floor level and one at the attic level.

The structure was built with twenty-seven rooms to accommodate domestic and commercial spaces. The first floor contains one large room which served as the general store and post office, and family living area with bedrooms, kitchen, dining and living rooms. Additions to the rear of the building were used for storage. The second floor includes four bedrooms which were rented to overnight guests, one large room which was used to display Sherwood's collection of taxidermy mounts, a photographic darkroom and picture gallery where Sherwood displayed examples of his photography. The half-story attic served as additional storage space.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2 Name of Property Sherwood, Joseph, House and Store

County and State Fremont County, Idaho

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The site is currently overgrown with shrubbery and grasses, and outbuildings have been reduced to little more than piles of wood. The various one-story additions to the building are in deteriorated condition, but the overall design and massing of the house and store remain intact and in relatively good condition.

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1 Name of Property Sherwood, Joseph, House and Store  
County and State Fremont County, Idaho

The Joseph Sherwood house and store is eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its role in the early settlement and development of Henry's Lake. The building is among the oldest still standing in the area, and it played a prominent role as an early store, post office, stage stop and tourist facility.

Prior to the 1860s, the Henry's Lake area was known only to Native Americans, explorers and fur trappers, such as Andrew Henry for whom the lake is named. (Today the area is known by the broader term, "Island Park.") The first permanent settler, Gilman Sawtell, arrived in the late 1860s. Designation of nearby Yellowstone National Park in 1872 brought public attention to the area, and traffic and settlement began to increase. By 1881, a stage line was running between Monida, Montana and Yellowstone Park, by way of Island Park. The trip took three days and visitors spent two nights at so-called "home stations" where meals and a night's lodging were provided. Residents made their living from farming and ranching, providing accommodations for visitors, trapping, fishing, and in a few cases, developing commercial fish hatcheries.

Joseph Sherwood and his first wife, Susan, arrived at Henry's Lake in 1889 (perhaps earlier). Joseph built a store which subsequently burned down and was replaced, about 1899, with the current structure. To make a living, Joseph raised cattle, operated the store and on November 4, 1889 was named postmaster of the Lake, Idaho, post office, located in his store. Acting as an agent, he packaged fish from local fishermen and shipped them to various places in Montana and California. In a letter to an interested buyer dated October 31, 1892, Sherwood wrote, "The amount of fish usually caught in winter here varies from 50 to 90,000 pounds."<sup>1</sup> He also began a short-lived commercial fish hatchery on the property which later was leased to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

One of Joseph's earliest tasks was to develop a series of ponds on a bench above the house. Using a canvas flume, he carried the captive water down to a turbine which powered a sawmill. He provided the lumber for his own house and also sold lumber to many of his neighbors. It is said that several of the earliest buildings in West Yellowstone, Montana were built of lumber from the Sherwood mill. Other structures, no longer extant, on the Sherwood property included the sawmill building, a horse barn, corrals and dock located on the lake.

Joseph took a correspondence course to master the art of taxidermy, later teaching the skills to his second wife, Ann, whom he married in 1899 after Susan's death. Both Joseph and Ann became very proficient in taxidermy and they managed to mount a specimen of every animal and bird native to the area. A room was set aside on the second floor of the house to display the taxidermy mounts to the public. This collection of wildlife became the nucleus of the Sherwood "museum." Joseph was also

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<sup>1</sup> Tamra Cikaitoga, "Commercial Fishing - Henry's Lake," Snake River Echoes, Vol. 10, No. 3 (1981), p. .

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2 Name of Property Sherwood, Joseph, House and Store

County and State Fremont County, Idaho

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a prolific photographer, developing the film himself and displaying the work in a picture gallery, also on the second floor of the house.

In addition to housing the general store, post office, family living quarters and museum, the building served as a "home station" with four bedrooms which were rented to overnight guests traveling from Monida to Yellowstone. Ann Sherwood was responsible for preparing meals and generally caring for these visitors. Son Clarence recalls a separate building, no longer standing, which was used to prepare and serve meals to guests. Joseph also rented boats for rides on Henry's Lake, took visitors on the lake in his own launch and hosted celebrations for special events such as the Fourth of July.

Joseph was skilled in medicine, again self-taught, and delivered Ann's children, even doctoring himself and his neighbors on occasion. Clarence recalls a time his father was thrown from a wagon, breaking a leg. He managed to splint the leg, get back in the wagon, return home and set the leg with Ann's help. A short time later, he drove himself to St. Anthony to attend a board meeting at the local bank, for which he served as president.

On February 19, 1907, Joseph was granted U.S. Patent No. 844,963 for an "auto snow-car," devised to fight deep snowdrifts and also provide hauling capabilities. He based his design on a horse-drawn four-runner sled. A platform was built on the runners to hold a 1 1/2 horsepower gasoline engine. The engine was connected to a gear box and fly wheel by a chain drive. Two additional chains propelled large sprockets, which were mounted on each end of a large drum. The drum provided the pushing surface over the snow. The front runners were used to steer and they were controlled by a sprocket gear which could lift them up and over snowdrifts. The sleigh weighed less than a thousand pounds and may have reached speeds up to 12 miles per hours. Joseph also built what is believed to be the first automobile in Island Park. Called "The Black Car," its design was based on pictures Joseph had seen in magazines.

In 1909, a rail line was completed from St. Anthony, Idaho, to Yellowstone Park by way of Island Park. Many former stage stops were put out of business by the railroad and also by the introduction, in 1916, of automobile traffic in the Park. The Sherwoods were among those who adjusted to the new traffic patterns by selling gasoline and oil, and offering overnight camping facilities to the motorists.

Following Joseph's death in 1919 of complications from diabetes, Ann and some of the Sherwood family remained at their home on Henry's Lake. They continued many of the activities which Joseph had begun. Ann was named postmaster of the Lake post office on June 24, 1920 and retained that position until November of 1937 when the post office was moved to the nearby Wild Rose Ranch. The store continued to operate until the mid-1960s. In later years, Ann promoted the "Museum" as a tourist attraction, charging a 10¢ admission.

The Sherwood family were among the earliest settlers of the Henry's Lake area and played an

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3 Name of Property Sherwood, Joseph, House and Store

County and State Fremont County, Idaho

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important role in community life by opening a general store, serving as a stage stop and post office, and developing their property for tourist activities. The Joseph Sherwood house and store is the single remaining structure at the family property with a clear association to this early settlement and development of Henry's Lake.

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1 Name of Property Sherwood, Joseph, House and Store  
County and State Fremont County, Idaho

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Allison, James L. and Dean H. Green. Idaho's Gateway to Yellowstone: The Island Park Story. Mack's Inn, Idaho: Island Park-Gateway Publishing Company, 1974.

Cikaitoga, Tamra. "Commercial Fishing: Henry's Lake" in Snake River Echoes (Upper Snake River Valley Historical Society). Vol. 10 No. 3, 1981.

Green, Dean H. A History of Island Park. Ashton, Idaho: Gateway Publishing Company, 1990.

"Joseph Sherwood's 1907 Snowmobile" in Idaho Hunting and Fishing Guide, 1970.

miscellaneous promotional flyers (ISHS accession #1991.108)

Perin, Loa. interviewed by Peggy Wright. Boise: Idaho Oral History Center, November 29, 1993.

Sherwood, Clarence. interviewed by Linda Morton-Keithley. Boise: Idaho Oral History Center, May 7, 1994.

"Sherwood Museum" in Island Park Villager. Rexburg, Idaho, August 1, 1975.

"Snowmobiling West of Yellowstone" in Standard Examiner. Rexburg, Idaho, 1982.

United States Patent Office. Specifications of Letters Patent. "Auto Snow-Car." Patent No. 844,963. Patented February 19, 1907.

United States Post Office Department. Records of Appointments of Postmasters, 1863-1929, Idaho. (microfilm-Record Group 28)

United States Post Office Department. Reports of Site Locations, Idaho. (microfilm-Record Group 28)

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1 Name of Property Sherwood, Joseph, House and Store  
County and State Fremont County, Idaho

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### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

#### Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary of the nominated property is defined as only that portion of Lot 1, Section 32 of Township 16 North, Range 43 East, Boise Meridian, on which the building stands.

#### Justification:

The nominated property includes only the building and the land on which it stands. Associated outbuildings and the remains of the original parcel have lost integrity to the point they would not contribute to further understanding of significance for which this building is eligible.