

Blaine County Comprehensive Plan – Special Areas and Sites

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Mule Trains Approaching Ketchum: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History

Chapter 9 - Special Areas and Sites

Vision Blaine County celebrates its history and protects its rich and diverse heritage.

Key Guiding Principle

Social and cultural diversity and historic preservation are community goals.

Stated objectives of County leaders have included honoring the County's heritage and being mindful of its legacy to future generations. Our County has a rich history. Preservation of historic buildings and sites helps us remember our heritage and tells the story of our history. However, the economic drivers we encourage today are more environmentally responsible than the extractive industries of the past. Blaine County's history also includes a diverse culture that continues and evolves today.

A wide range of ideas, customs, culture, and wisdom enrich community life. Quality community services, both public and private, are important to support our diverse population.

Setting

County citizens have taken pride in their history, heritage and culture for decades. The 1995 Comprehensive Plan identified types of historic landscapes worthy of preservation, including abandoned mines, former mining towns and districts,

kilns, smelters, farms and ranches, sawmills, and ski-related landscapes such as the Rudd Mountain ski lift (first mechanized chair lift in the world).

Idaho's Local Land Use Planning Act requires Comprehensive Plans to include an "analysis of areas, sites or structures of historical, archeological, architectural, ecological, wildlife or scenic significance." The Introduction of this Plan contains a historic timeline for Blaine County. Ecological, wildlife and scenic areas are covered in the Natural Environment Chapter. This Chapter will broadly address historical, archeological, and special interest areas and sites and identify challenges and areas of opportunity. Separate sections have been created for each subarea, listing highlights and notable sites. (These subarea pages follow the Desired Outcomes.) The "Special Historical Notes" section of the Appendix has additional stories and details, generously provided by a local historian.

Background

Blaine County is considered by cultural historians to be part of the Salmon River and Snake River Plains Cultural Regions, which are part of the larger Great Basin Cultural Area. Archeological and historical experts recognize the following cultural time periods:

- Paleoindian/Early Archaic Period (15,000 to 7,500 BP (before present))
- Middle Prehistoric/Archaic Period (7,500 to 1300 BP)
- Late Prehistoric/Archaic Period (1,300 to 150 BP)
- Proto-Historic Period (300 to 150 BP)
- Historic (1870 to 1969 AD, which is 150 to 50 BP)

A continuum of human land use and settlement spans more than 10,000 years. The majority of prehistoric archaeological sites in the county fall within the Archaic time period as indicated above. Historic sites are those 50-years old and older.

While Blaine County does not have a complete survey of all archeological and historic sites, a variety of work has been completed by federal, state, and local agencies as well as the private sector and non-profit groups. Most of the work has been driven by laws including the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966. Sites as of April 2019 include:

- 1123 Cultural Resource Surveys
- 2018 Archaeological Sites
- 577 Isolated Finds
- 544 Historic Sites
- 87 Linear Sites (e.g. roads, canals)
- 4 National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) districts
- 22 NRHP sites



Sawtooth City: Photo credit –Claudia Taylor Walsworth

Historic Themes

Local historic and archeological experts suggest the following thematic organizational approach to Blaine County historic resources:

Native American

The Wood River and Salmon River regions of Idaho are part of the ancestral homelands to the Shoshone-Bannock and Nez Perce Tribes. Federally recognized tribes have inherent treaty rights under the Fort Bridger Treaties of the 1860's to hunt, fish, gather plants, and obtain minerals on public lands including those administered in Blaine County. According to tribal leaders, the Shoshone-Bannock and Nez Perce Tribes have been in Idaho since time immemorial. Native American Traditional Cultural Properties (TCP), include sacred sites and ceremonial areas, edible and medicinal plant food harvesting locations, important topographic features, rock art locales (petroglyphs and pictographs), mineral gathering areas, and tribal fishing grounds. TCP's may not contain material remains at all and can be defined by oral traditions of a particular tribe.



Andrew Honena of the "Agai'Dika" (Salmon-Eater) Northern Shoshone Tribe. Photo courtesy of the Ariwite and Honena families



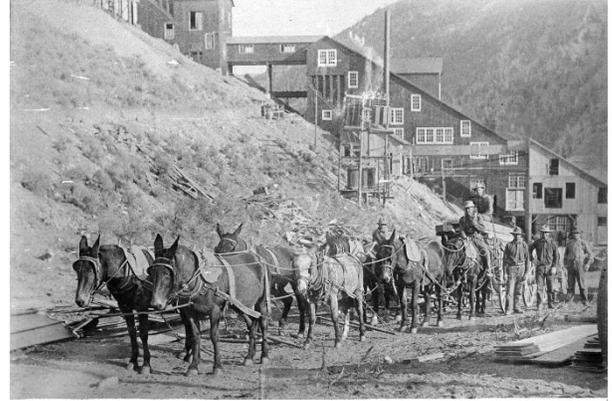
1885 Chinese workers at a blast furnace. Photo taken by Assayer Eugene Antz, who lived in Ketchum: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History

Ethnic Heritage

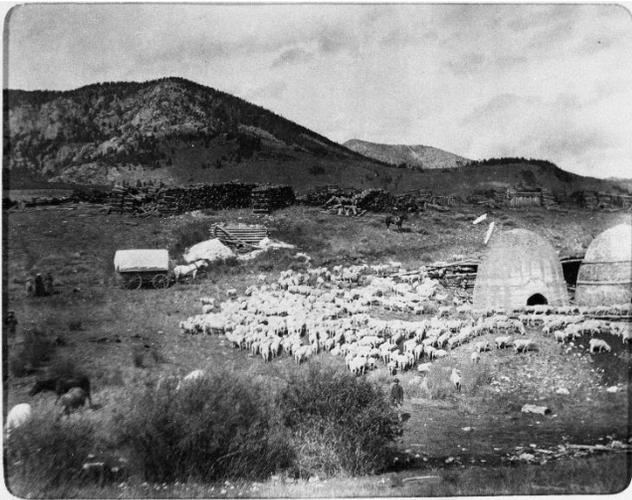
Blaine County contains a rich ethnic heritage, including Chinese immigrants who worked the mines and the railroad and Basque (and more recently, Peruvian and Chilean) shepherders. Their unique settlements included Chinese gardens, opium dens and underground tunnels, and Basque sheep herding areas, camp facilities, and arborglyphs (tree carvings). Few of these remain except several arborglyphs in multiple canyons, visible to observant hikers.

Mining Period (Mining Industry)

The robust period of mining activity includes historic districts; mining camps and towns; individual mine sites; abandoned equipment; mining pits, dumps, and tailings piles; processing areas such as kilns, smelters and reduction mills; below ground features such as tunnels, shafts, and stopes; transporting facilities such as rail lines, trestles, and tramways. There are numerous historic mining districts including Sawtooth City and Vienna which produced silver; the Wood River District which produced gold, lead, silver, and zinc; the Mineral Hill District which produced lead, silver, and zinc; the Camas or Hailey Gold Belt which produced gold; the Little Wood/ Muldoon District which produced lead and silver; and the Bullion District that produced lead/silver. Former mining towns include Sawtooth City, Vienna, Galena, Boulder City, Triumph, Bullion, Doniphan, Broadford, and Muldoon.



Mule Train and Freight Wagon at North Star Mill: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History



Sheep Herding in Muldoon by the coke ovens: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History

Farm and Ranch Complexes and Landscapes (Agricultural Industry).

Some Blaine County farms and ranches date back to the first pioneer settlers traveling via Goodale's cutoff in the 1850's. The ranching lifestyle grew in the late 1800's with numerous sheep ranches. This thematic category includes historic farms and ranches, including iconic barns such as Reinheimer, Sun Valley, Fox and Rock Creek; water holding or diversion systems such as reservoirs, ponds, canals, ditches, diversions, and headgates (many of which are significant to how the County developed); farm trails, fields, hillside terraces and grazing allotments; tree-lined roads, trails, and stock driveways such as the Ketchum to Stanley Stock Driveway.

Early Resort and Recreation Development (Recreation and Tourism Industry)

Numerous hot springs were the region's first resort developments. The Easley Plunge and Cathedral Pines Church Camp began in 1880 and its use and enjoyment continue to this day. The Guyer, Bald Mountain, Clarendon, and Hailey Hot Springs followed soon thereafter. Sadly, none of these latter structures or landscapes remain today.

Historic outdoor winter recreation areas include former ski mountains such as Rudd Mountain (Procter Ridge) ski lift, which contained the first mechanized chair lift in the world, Penny Mountain or Kinderhorn, Dollar Mountain, Bald Mountain; and the Rotarun Ski Area. The Sun Valley Resort established in 1936 was the first in the American West.

Several camp grounds, organizational camps, and summer home areas on public lands (such as Pettit Lake, Baker Creek, and Warm Springs summer home areas) date back to the early 1900s.



Bald Mountain Hot Springs: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History

The built recreational environment reflects an assortment of architectural styles influenced by national and worldwide trends including the Victorian, vernacular, mountain rustic such as the Sun Valley Lodge and Hemingway House; Austrian, German and Swiss themed chalets some of which have exterior walls painted with murals; A-Frames, domes and yurt



CCC Work Camp in Warm Springs: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History

Forest Service and Civilian Conservation Corps

Forest Service improvements include the construction and maintenance of fire lookouts, guard and ranger stations, campgrounds with outhouses, summer home areas and related infrastructure. Some of the early 1930s Forest Service improvements were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC was a successful work relief program developed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to bring employment to millions of Americans during the Great Depression. Many of the roads and trails in Blaine County, including the first ski trails on Bald Mountain were built by the CCC.

Transportation Industry

This thematic category includes a network of travel corridors and systems used throughout recorded history, including ancient Indian trails; immigrant routes such as Goodale's Cutoff and the Kelton Road, pack trails, wagon roads, toll roads, and stage stations used to transport mining equipment, supplies, and minerals; railroad lines, stations, and sidings; bridges and other infrastructure. The reuse of historic railroad grades has become popular and the Wood River Trail bike/multi-use path follows the route of the former "Snow Ball Express"/Wood River Branch (Shoshone to Ketchum) of the Oregon Short Line Railroad, a subsidiary of the Union Pacific. The area's scenic beauty is recognized through two scenic byways: the Sawtooth Scenic Byway which begins in Shoshone, rolls north through fertile agricultural land then on through recreational/resort area of the Wood River Valley, over Galena Summit to Challis; and the Peaks to Craters Scenic Byway, which follows US 20 from the



*The Oregon Short Line Train tackles deep snow:
Photo credit –The Community Library
Center for Regional History*

Hwy 75 junction to Arco, then US 93 to Challis, featuring some of the most diverse stretches of road in Idaho, with massive lava flows, wetlands, high desert and some of Idaho's tallest mountains.



*Logging crew hauling timber near Griffin Butte:
Photo credit –The Community Library
Center for Regional History*

Timber Industry

Since Euro-American settlement, timber harvesting has played a significant role in developing the built environment. Timber was an important resource for mining -- fuel for boilers, timbering in the mines, and for housing and mill construction. In agriculture, logging was essential for structures such as corrals and loading chutes, hay derricks, fencing as well as log cabins and barns. Timber was used for railroad ties and other transportation infrastructure. Sites from this thematic category include timber harvesting areas in various stages of reforestation; stumps; logging and skid trails; abandoned equipment; logging camp sites; and processing areas such as sawmills including Flower's Mills at the mouth of Adam's Gulch, the Frank Young Sawmill in the North Fork of the Big Wood area, and several in Warm Springs including those run by the Board Brothers, Abijah Adams, and Carl Pothier.

Special Areas and Cultural Resources Recorded Sites

Approximately 3,000 historic properties and archaeological sites have been documented in Blaine County. These compilations are a listing of areas, sites, or structures of historical, archeological, architectural, ecological, wildlife, or scenic significance to date (April 2019). Much of this documentation arises through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) process, which requires cultural and historic analysis of actions on federally managed lands. It is likely that there are hundreds, if not more, undocumented sites on public, state and private land. Note that the summaries in this Plan do not focus on sites within the municipalities with the exception of archaeological sites and historic properties that played a significant role in the development of the county and worthy of public attention.

There are 23 designated National Register of Historic Places historic properties in Blaine County, of which 13 are located in Hailey including the Blaine County Courthouse, still housing the County government. Three structures - the Cold Springs and Gimlet Pegram Truss Bridges and the Fish Creek Dam - are the only designated historic properties in the unincorporated County. There are several historic districts including Sawtooth City (part of a mining district), the Bellevue Historic District, the Ketchum Ranger District Administrative Site (Forest Service Park), and the Ernest and Mary Hemingway House. Other historic properties previously determined eligible for listing in the National Register include the Pettit Lake summer home area, the Easley and Baker Creek Summer Home areas, the Ketchum to Stanley Stock Driveway, the Sawtooth Park Highway, the Sun Valley Historic District, Triumph area mines, the Hiawatha and the District Canals, Eccles Flying Hat Ranch, and the Oregon Short Line Railroad.

Table 1. Archaeological Sites and Historic Properties by Subarea

Subarea	Total number of recorded sites (unincorporated areas only)
Sawtooth City/Smiley Creek	126
North Valley/Galena	237
Ketchum & Sun Valley	121
Mid Valley	120
Hailey & Bellevue Canyons	93
Bellevue Triangle	397
Little Wood	92
Craters & Yale	1,111
Total	2,297

Highlights of the recorded sites by Subarea are included in the pages following the Desired Outcomes.

Three maps of historic (not archaeological) sites follow the Subarea pages. Maps of archeological sites are not included due to the confidentiality of these sensitive locations.



Blaine County Courthouse: Photo credit - Blaine County

Countywide Preservation Efforts

A variety of groups are involved with cultural values and the history of Blaine County. These include:

Blaine County Historical Museum

The Blaine County Museum, established in 1962, is a nonprofit organization funded by the County, grant efforts and volunteers. They operate the countywide museum in Hailey on the historic 1882 Friedman property donated by the Friedman family to the City of Hailey for museum purposes. The Museum exhibits focus on pioneer lifestyle, local family history and vignette of mines, schools, ranches, famous literary personalities, period fashions, and political memorabilia, including one of the largest political button collections in the country. In 2018, the Museum purchased the historic adjacent house to the south, and fundraising plans for expansion are underway as of 2019.

Blaine County Clerk and Records Office

While the Clerk and Records Office is not an organization necessarily recognized for historic preservation, the documents and records preserved at the County vault are significant. These original documents are not replicated anywhere else and represent a significant early history of Blaine and Alturas counties.

Hailey Arts and Historic Preservation Commission

The Hailey Arts and Historic Preservation Commission (formerly Hailey Historic Preservation Commission) was founded in 1987 with a purpose of protecting and promoting historic buildings and sites in Hailey. This volunteer group is credited with Hailey becoming a Certified Local Government (CLG) and an Idaho Heritage City. Efforts include an inventory of historic buildings, a Hailey Walking Tour, numerous plaques identifying the history of buildings, and grant partnerships to undertake preservation and renovation. Hailey contains 16 buildings that are

eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. As a CLG, the Commission works with these (and other) owners to obtain grant monies for further protection.

Hailey Public Library Mallory Collection

30 years before Ansel Adams made the American West famous, Martyn Mallory was taking archetypal photos on glass plate negatives of the landscapes in Blaine and Custer counties. His photos span subjects such as scenic vistas, early settlements, early mining towns and cultural events. Mallory was serving as the Blaine County Assessor when he passed at age 56 in 1936. His heirs donated the majority of the Martyn Mallory Historic Photograph Collection to the Hailey Public Library in 1995, including exclusive rights to determine the control and availability of the materials for research and reproduction.

The Community Library Jeanne Roger Lane Center for Regional History

The Jeanne Roger Lane Center for Regional History, established in 1982, is comprised of the Betty Olsen Carr Reading Room, the Regional History Museum, and the Ernest and Mary Hemingway House and Preserve special collections. The Center collects and makes accessible materials on central Idaho historical events and cultural change, as well as on Ernest Hemingway. Significant in the collections are Hemingway materials and an oral history collection of over 500 recorded interviews. The Community Library's mission is to bring individuals, ideas, and information together to enhance the cultural life of the community. The Library is a privately funded public library that offers free access like government-funded libraries, but receives no dedicated tax support. The collection also includes 12 newspaper publications from the turn-of-the-century to the present, including the "Wood River Times" dating back to 1881.

The Community Library Regional History Museum

The Regional History Museum (formerly the Sun Valley Museum of History) promotes a sense of place through exhibitions and programming about central Idaho. The Museum's objective is the reflection of the community's experience and contribution to the history of the American West through storytelling. Stories are told across time, from the earliest known records through the present day, with the museum's collection. Formerly operated by the Ketchum Sun Valley Historical Society as the Heritage and Ski Museum, since 1995, the Community Library took charge in 2014.

Other Organizations

While the Ketchum/Sun Valley Historical Society and the Ketchum Historic Preservation Commission are no longer active, they were involved in laying the foundation for future preservation work in the County during the late 1980's and early 1990's. The US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management offices have valuable historic records. The Upper Wood River Grange began a seed library in 2016.

Cultural/Historic Special Events

A number of special events take place that highlight the region's heritage and celebrate its lifestyle such as Trailing of the Sheep and several parades: Ketchum's Wagon Days, Hailey's Fourth of July, Bellevue's Labor Day and Carey's Pioneer Days.



*Pulling up for sandwiches at the Galena Store, 1956: Photo credit
–The Community Library Center for Regional History*

Sunday Drive

In 1959, the highway between Ketchum and Stanley was finally paved. Before that time, a Sunday drive, with Dad as the tour guide, went something like this: While Sis and I waited patiently on the bench outside the Casino Club in Ketchum, Dad and Mom played the slots for an hour. Finally we hopped in the old Chevy and headed north. The old dirt and gravel road was rough and dusty, and with no air conditioning and all the windows down it wasn't all that pleasant. In places the tall willows on either side of the road made it seem to us in the back seat that we were in a tunnel. As we passed near Lake Creek, Dad said in the horse and wagon days we'd have to pay a toll to go further. We wanted to stop for a dip at the Easley Plunge, but being a Sunday it was closed, so on we went. All along in various places like Easley, Baker Creek, and Anderson Creek, we saw new cabins being built. A result of the U. S. Forest Service policy of encouraging people to use their National Forests. At Russian John, Dad said in the early days there was another toll station run by a cranky old Russian guy. If we were on horseback, it would cost us fifteen cents plus ten cents for our horse to go on. So on we bumped, getting dustier by the mile until we came to Pearl Barber's Galena Store. What a treat that was. Dad needed gas in the car, so he let me hand crank the gas pump while Mom and Mrs. Barber chatted. We all went in to the store where Mrs. Barber fixed us sandwiches and told stories about her early days at Galena. We learned that the road on up to Galena Summit wasn't in very good shape, and we might have to cut down a tree and tie it behind the car to help slow the descent, so Dad decided we'd had enough and turned back to Ketchum.

(by Frank Rowland)

Challenges and Opportunities

This Chapter was developed with the assistance of a cultural resource consultant, collection experts at the Community Library Center for Regional History, experts from other local organizations and the invaluable input of local volunteer historians. The following issues and opportunities were identified by these key stakeholders:

Lack of clear statement of intent regarding historic preservation and implementation. Many organizations and individual are working to recognize and protect Blaine County's resources, including areas of historical, cultural archeological, and architectural values. This Plan and other organizational efforts outlined herein could assist in establishing clear goals on a countywide basis.

Lack of clear organizational structure on a countywide basis. While various historic and cultural organizations exist, there is no countywide board or organization responsible for historic, archeological and cultural preservation. Creating a volunteer board comprised of representatives from throughout the County would create a framework for progress on preservation issues. Staff resources would be needed to assist any such board. This effort could also lead the development of a countywide historic preservation plan.

Lack of consistent coordination between local historic organizations. While meetings have occurred between the various organizations tasked with historic preservation, no regular coordination is in place. This includes coordination with federal partners, as a vast number of resources are located on federally-managed lands.

No Certified Local Government (CLG) designation. Certified Local Governments (CLGs) are communities that show a commitment to historic preservation by adopting a local ordinance and creating a historic preservation commission. The program is a partnership between local governments, the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the

National Park Service. It assists communities in preserving their unique historic character, provides technical assistance and small grants to local governments. At this time, Hailey is the only community in Blaine County designated as a CLG.

One of the biggest benefits of the program is the CLG Grant program. These grants are used for projects such as surveys, National Register nominations, tour brochures, historic preservation plans. In recent years, the Idaho SHPO has distributed about \$76,000 annually to CLGs. The CLG designation allows communities to tap in to resources and grant opportunities otherwise not available. Working towards this designation would require the commitment of staff resources.



*Stained Glass in from the Cloverly Ranch House:
Photo credit –The Community Library Center for
Regional History*

Incomplete inventory of historic and cultural resources. Local historic experts note a lack of inventory of historic resources. Such an inventory would require the dedication of funds to complete the work. It would also include coordinated efforts for the collection and documentation of records associated with Blaine County history maintained at a variety of local repositories.

Loss of historic structures and sites due to new development and redevelopment. Because there is no inventory and no regulations or incentives for protection, historic structures and archeological sites are routinely lost to redevelopment.

Loss of oral histories and stories. The Community Library Regional History Department maintains an oral history program with over 500 interviews preserving the memories of the people of the Wood River Valley. Subject matter includes Native American, Chinese and Basque history, mining, ranching, timber, railroad (transportation history), recreation, and tourism developments including settlement history and early pioneer life. However, many other stories have not been captured.

Philanthropic resources remain untapped. Community members have noted that philanthropic donors would be available for historic preservation efforts, but without staffing and organizational structure they remain untapped.



Ketchum, 1900: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History



Former Guyer Hot Springs Resort - Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History

Desired Outcomes

Desired outcomes are the intended result of our planning efforts. Each desired outcome includes several active policy statements that will guide future decision-making.

A. Historic Preservation Tools

Desired Outcome: Historic preservation is valued, not as a map for our future, but as a way of connecting with our heritage and as a tool for land use planning, economic development and heritage tourism opportunities.

- A-1. Promote the thematic elements of local history including Native American history, mining, logging, transportation, farming and ranching, early ski and recreational development and forest service structures and landscapes. Protect this heritage and these landscapes wherever possible.
- A-2. As funding and resources allow, create an inventory of Blaine County historic resources, beginning with areas having the most development pressure. Record and preserve the inventory, and develop a database, for research purposes.
- A-3. Develop regulatory tools that encourage responsibility in archeological and historic sensitive land areas, including adaptive re-use of historic structures. Explore the ability to link SHPO database information to parcels subject to demolition, development or redevelopment.

- A-4. Continue to partner with organizations to achieve important preservation accomplishments, such as multi-component (prehistoric and early American) Rock Creek Ranch.
- A-5. Support special events that highlight our heritage.
- A-6. Continue to protect the scenic byways for their historic and aesthetic values.

B. Organizations and Partnerships

Desired Outcome: Processes are created that promote unified efforts toward achieving meaningful historic preservation goals.

- B-1: As funding and resources allow, create a countywide volunteer board tasked with preserving, protecting and promoting Blaine County history. Provide staff resources to assist the Board in accomplishing these goals. Include a public educational component in the work plan.
 - Establish regular coordination and collaboration meetings with other historic preservation organizations in the County.
 - Coordinate with federal agencies and the private sector to explore the creation of historic districts such as Pettit Lake recreational cabins and Easley summer home areas, Ernest Hemingway places of interest, and mining districts such as the Little Wood River (Muldoon townsite and charcoal kilns).
 - Partner with the US Forest Service and the BLM to protect archeological sites, traditional cultural properties and historic sites and structures on federally managed lands. Develop, where appropriate, educational materials to educate the public on the history of these assets.
- B-2: Consider becoming a Certified Local Government in order to take advantage of grant opportunities and other resources.
- B-3: Continue to fund the Blaine County Museum as a key collection of historic artifacts, and as an asset to both the local community and the tourist economy. Support the Museum in achieving their building preservation fund and/or expansion goals.
- B-4: Consult, when appropriate, Tribal members regarding areas of concern such as treaty rights for fishing and hunting locales, sacred sites, and traditional cultural properties. Consider these in development review of projects where these concerns are known to be significant.



A crowd gathers at the Hailey Parade: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History



Mining at Sawtooth City: Photo Credit- The Community Library Center for Regional History



Sawtooth City/ Smiley Creek

Historical Highlights

For thousands of years the Northern Shoshone or *Mountain Sheepeaters* wintered at warm springs and summered in valleys of the Salmon River. Families lived under headman *Wongowutavi* until the Sheepeater War of 1879 forced them to reservations. Fur trader Alexander Ross explored the Sawtooth Valley after “discovering” Galena Summit, descending a trail along Horse Creek in 1824.

In 1878 Levi Smiley found gold, spurring mining and town site developments at Sawtooth City and Vienna. Miners carved into the bedrock and worked the land until one disaster after another led to the suspension of work. By the early 1900s the area had become a ghost town.

Sheep and cattle ranchers came after the miners left. Many filed for homesteads along Valley Road, the first settlement road in Sawtooth Valley. Wagon loads of supplies and mail were delivered to the Pierson Post Office/Old Obsidian. William Horton, the first Forest Service ranger in Sawtooth Valley, lived in a cabin he built at Pole Creek in 1909. Horton managed cattle and sheep allotments, fought forest fires, trapped bear and coyotes, installed telephone lines, planted trees, and built fences.



Vienna Mine Boarding House: Photo credit- The Community Library Center for Regional History

Historic Land Uses & Themes

Agriculture; Church group organizational camps; Civilian Conservation Corps projects; commerce; Forest Service administration; mining; outdoor recreation/tourism; resort development; timber; settlement; townsite development; infrastructure; and transportation.

National Register of Historic Places

Properties and Districts

- 17 archaeological sites; 2 multi-component, 15 historic sites recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)
- 21 historic sites recommended eligible for listing to the NRHP
- 1 archaeological/historic site listed on the NRHP; Sawtooth City (1975)
- 1 potential historic district; the Pettit Lake Recreational Residences includes 23 summer cabins or compounds on the Sawtooth National Forest; 14 properties are considered contributing to the potential historic district, 5 are individually eligible and 2 are possibly eligible for listing in the NRHP

Representative Sites

(Some of the sites that have been documented by the Idaho State Historical Preservation Office)

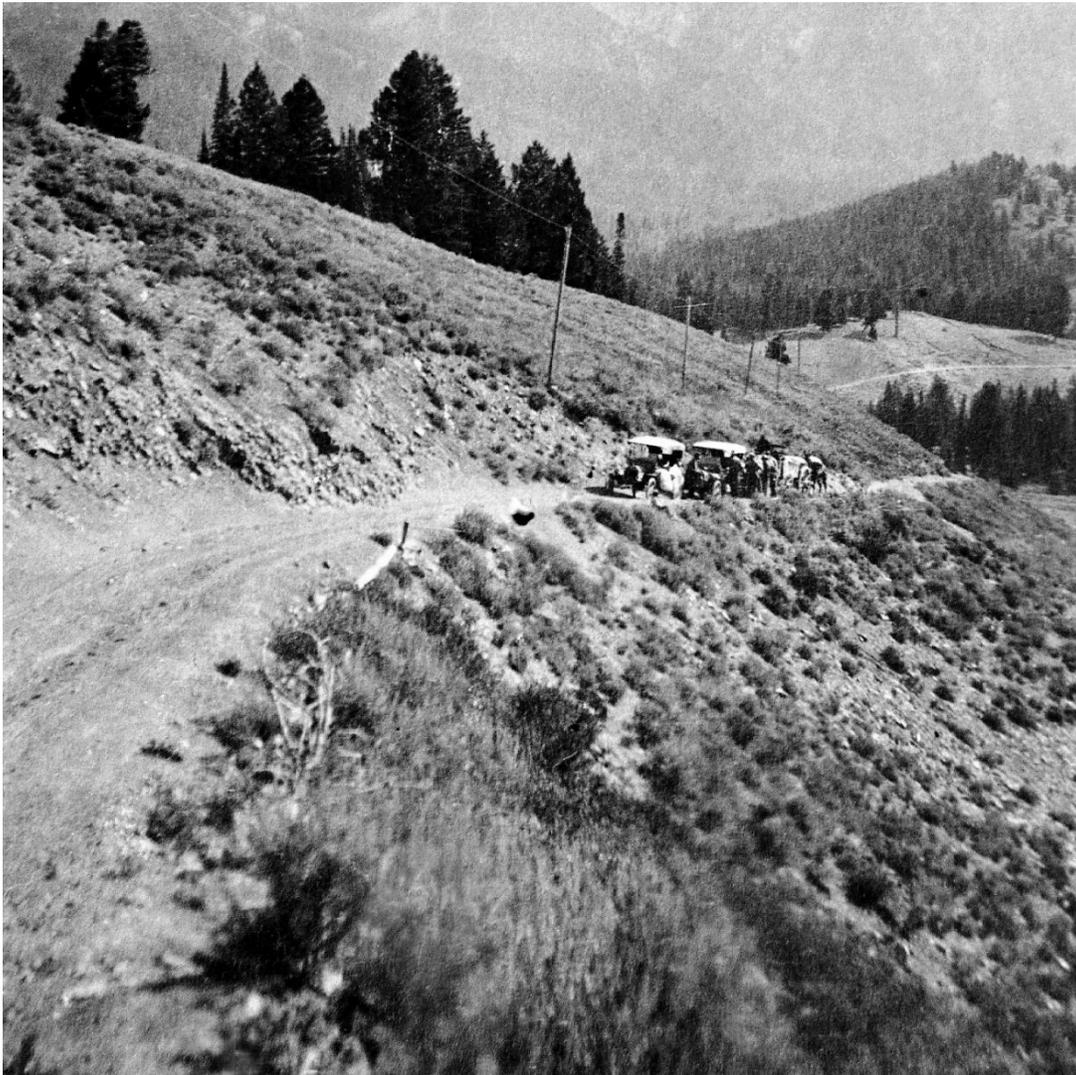
- The Valley Road (first settlement road in Sawtooth Valley)
- Vienna Townsite and Mining District
- Sawtooth City
- Pettit Lake Summer Homes
- Camp Perkins
- Pole Creek Guard Station
- Sawtooth Toll Road/Park Highway/Scenic Byway
- Law-Bradford Homestead

Cultural Resources

- 73 archaeological sites recorded on Archaeological Site Inventory (ASI) forms; 69 historic, 1 multi-component, and 3 prehistoric
- 53 historic sites recorded on Idaho SHPO Historic Sites Inventory (IHSI) forms



Horse Team Hauling Logs at the Sawtooth Mine: Photo credit - The Community Library Center for Regional History



Inching up towards Galena Summit: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History



North Valley/Galena

Historical Highlights

The sight of mule teams pulling trains of ore wagons down the steep narrow track that is now Trail Creek Road must have been an unforgettable one. A particular type of ore, "Galena" (lead mixed with silver), gave its name to a town in this subarea that became the largest in the Wood River Valley at one time.

Now a ghost town, Galena is no longer; but the ore wagons of yesterday can be admired at the Ore Wagon Museum in Ketchum, and in action as the "Big Hitch" -- stealing the show at the annual "Wagon Days" parade.

Historic Land Uses & Themes

Agriculture; church camps; Civilian Conservation Corps projects; commerce; Forest Service administration; mining; outdoor recreation/tourism; resort development; settlement; timber; townsite development; infrastructure; and transportation



The Showers at Easley Hot Springs: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History

National Register of Historic Places Properties and Districts

- 11 archaeological sites recommended for listing in the NRHP
- 28 historic sites recommended eligible for listing to the NRHP
- 2 potential historic districts: Easley and Baker Creek Summer Home areas
- Easley consists of 20 cabins/compounds, 14-15 of which are considered contributing to a potential historic district
- Baker Creek consists of 17 cabins/compounds considered contributing to a potential historic district or individually eligible for listing in the NRHP

Cultural Resources

- 156 archaeological sites recorded on ASI forms; 141 historic, 5 multi-component, and 10 prehistoric
- 81 historic sites recorded on IHSI forms

Representative Sites

- Sawtooth Toll Road/Park Highway/Scenic Byway
- Galena townsite and Barn
- Russian John Ranger Guard Station
- Easley Hot Springs and Summer Recreation Residences
- Baker Creek Summer Recreation Residences
- Spruce and Newman Creeks Summer Home Areas
- Cathedral Pines Baptist Church Camp
- Hollywood movie set locations (e.g. Bus Stop at North Fork; Pale Rider in Boulder Mountains)
- Eagle Creek and Baker Creek area arborglyphs (Basque or Peruvian tree carvings)



Basque Sheepherder Carving in Neal Canyon: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History



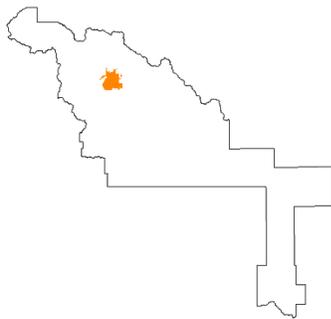
CCC work Camp Meeting: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History



Relaxing at the Roundhouse:

Photo credit - The Community Library Center for Regional History

Ketchum/ Sun Valley



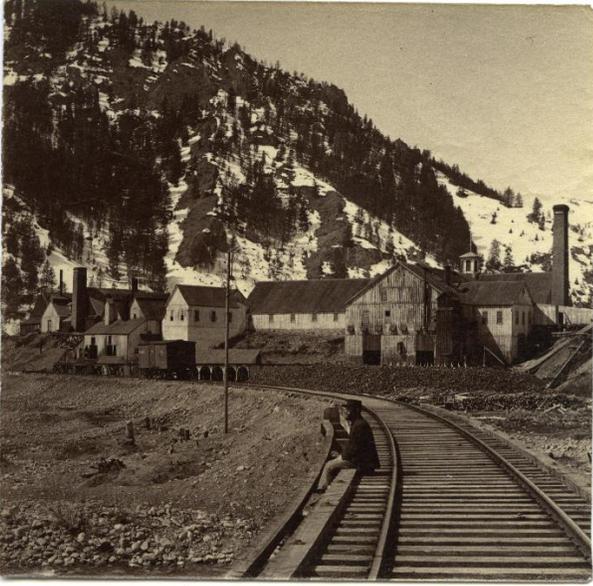
Historical Highlights

Early Native American habitation, the mining boom, the largest sheep-shipping center in the West, and ultimately the development of the Sun Valley Resort all anchor the towns of Ketchum and Sun Valley with a rich history. Ketchum's population had dropped to a mere 270 in the early 1930s, but fortunes changed once again in 1935 when the Union Pacific Railroad tasked Count Felix Schaffgotsch to find the best spot in the West for the first American ski resort. Months of fruitless searching left the Count ready to return unsuccessful when he heard a railroad employee

mention that the Ketchum spur cost the company more money for snow removal than any other line. The Count was so taken by the beauty of the Wood River Valley that he sent a wire to Union Pacific saying, "This combines more delightful features than any place I have ever seen in Switzerland, Austria or the U.S."

Historic Land Uses & Themes

Agriculture; Civilian Conservation Corps projects; commerce; community development; Forest Service administration; infrastructure; mining; outdoor recreation/tourism; resort development; settlement; townsite development; timber; and transportation.



Philadelphia Smelter: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History

National Register of Historic Places

Properties and Districts

- Six archaeological sites/historic properties are listed on the NRHP:
 - Proctor/Ruud Mountain (1980)
 - Bald Mountain Hot Springs (1982 & later demolished)
 - Cold Springs Pegram Truss Bridge (1997)
 - Greenhow and Rumsey Store (1983)
 - Ketchum Ranger District Administrative Site (2007)
 - Ernest and Mary Hemingway House (2015)
- Several (5 archaeological sites and 22 historic sites) are recommended eligible for listing to the NRHP either individually or part of a historic district. These include the Ketchum to Stanley Stock Driveway; the Sun Valley Lodge Complex which consists of over 30 historic buildings; the Sawtooth Park Highway/Scenic Sawtooth Byway; the Oregon Short Line Railroad (Union Pacific Railroad) and Elkhorn Springs at Sun Valley.

Representative Sites

- Ketchum townsite
- Sun Valley Lodge complex
- Ketchum Ranger District Administrative Site (Forest Service Complex)
- Cold Springs Pegram Truss Bridge
- Proctor/Ruud Mountain
- Bald, Dollar and Penny Mountains
- Trail Creek Cabin
- Pioneer Cabin
- Independence Mine and Trail Creek Roads
- Reinheimer/McCoy Ranch and Barn
- I.I. Lewis (Sun Valley) Barn
- Philadelphia Smelter and first electric lights in Idaho site
- Sawtooth Toll Road/Park Highway/Scenic Byway
- Numerous Hollywood movie set locations (Sun Valley Serenade)
- Elkhorn Springs at Sun Valley (over 10,000-year old site playing significant role in the indigenous settlement of the area, eligible for the NRHP)

Cultural Resources

- 75 archaeological sites recorded on ASI forms; 68 historic, 1 multi-component, and 6 prehistoric
- 46 historic sites recorded on ISHI forms

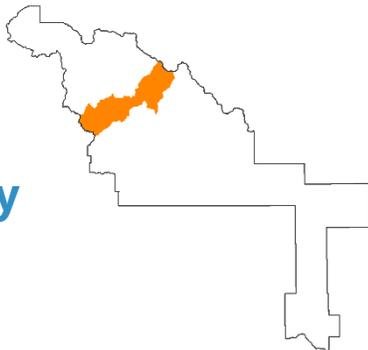


Rotary Plow Train on the Shoshone to Ketchum Line: Photo credit –The Community Library Center for Regional History



Iconic East Fork: Photo credit - Ernie Tate

Mid Valley



Historical Highlights

The iconic community of Triumph still shows historic roots from the mining boom days. And, in the foothills, discover one-of-a-kind Basque tree carvings from their solitary days shepherding in the Idaho mountains.

One of only 12 Pegram Truss bridges remaining in the United States is found in this subarea. Patented in 1885 by George Pegram, the unusual span design contains different upper and lower chord lengths, such that each panel is not square. Pegram became the Chief Engineer for Union Pacific in 1893. He states, "In 1894 it became necessary to replace the wooden bridges of the Oregon Short Line with iron bridges, and I rejoiced

at the opportunity to make extensive use of the Pegram truss."

Originally constructed in 1884 at the Snake River Crossing in Ontario, Oregon, the bridge was disassembled in 1914 and two spans were relocated to the Union Pacific Wood River Line: the "Gimlet" Truss Bridge spans the Big Wood River just south of the confluence of the East Fork, and the "Cold Springs" Truss Bridge is near the hospital (in the Ketchum/Sun Valley Subarea). These bridges served the Union Pacific from 1936 to 1981 bringing skiers on luxury trains to Sun Valley. In 1984, the Blaine County Recreation District converted the bridges to pedestrian use. In 1997, the bridges were placed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Fishing near the Gimlet Pegram Truss Bridge: Photo credit - Wikipedia

Historic Land Uses & Themes

Agriculture; Civilian Conservation Corps projects; commerce; community development; Forest Service administration; infrastructure; mining; outdoor recreation/tourism; resort development; settlement; townsite development; timber; and transportation

National Register of Historic Places

Properties and Districts

- 11 archaeological sites recommended eligible for listing to the NRHP
- 9 historic sites recommended eligible for listing to the NRHP
- 1 historic site listed on the NRHP; Gimlet Pegram Truss Bridge (1997)
- Several archaeological sites/historic sites potentially eligible either individually and/or part of a historic district; Ketchum to Stanley Stock Driveway; the Oregon Short Line Railroad AKA Union Pacific Railroad; the Sawtooth Park Highway (Hailey to Yankee Fork wagon road); Triumph area mines; the Greenhorn and Garfield Guard Stations

Representative Sites

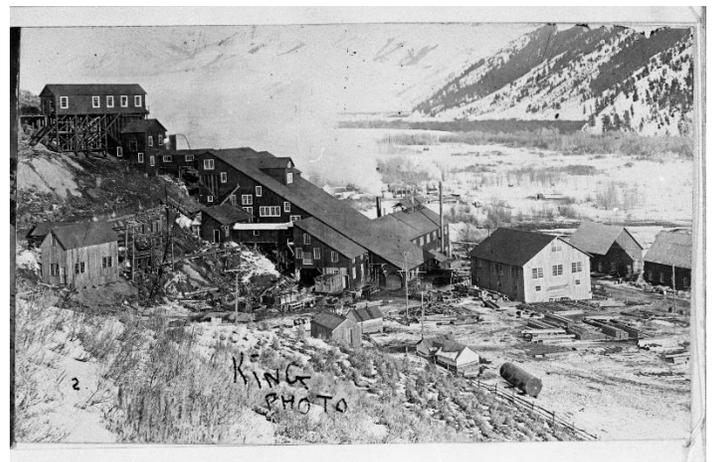
- Mizer Ditch and Comstock Canal
- Greenhorn and Garfield Guard Stations
- Gimlet Pegram Truss Bridge
- Sawtooth Toll Road/Park Highway/Scenic Byway
- Ketchum to Stanley Stock Driveway
- Oregon Short Line Railroad/Union Pacific Railroad
- Warm Springs Mining District, Triumph Mine and Tram network, the North Star Mine, Triumph townsite, and Triumph Road
- Deer Creek Road and ranches
- Hyndman Road area arborglyphs (Basque/ Peruvian tree carvings)



Basque carving: Photo credit – The Community Library Center for Regional History

Cultural Resources

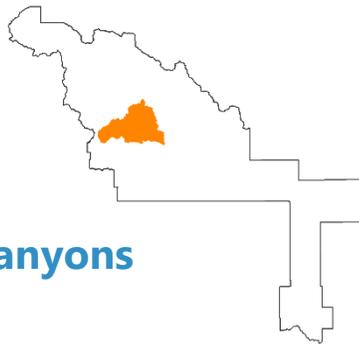
- 89 archaeological sites recorded on ASI forms; 71 historic, 4 multi-component, and 14 prehistoric
- 31 historic sites recorded on IHSI forms



North Star Mine Stamp Mill. Photo credit – The Community Library Center for Regional History



*Shoshone Train Arriving at the Hailey Station: Photo Credit-
The Community Library Center for Regional History*



Hailey & Bellevue Canyons

Location and Context

In October, 1879, galena ore (an amalgam of silver, lead and zinc) was discovered in Galena Gulch west of Bellevue. Thus began the silver rush that brought thousands of prospectors into the Wood River Valley. Two of the valley's most productive mines, the Minnie Moore and Queen of the Hills, produced between \$10 and \$15 million in ore. In 1884, English investors bought the Minnie Moore for \$500,000. The miner's strike of 1884-85, took place over attempts of Galena Gulch mine owners to reduce wages from \$3.50 to \$3 a day.

Beginning in 1881, Hailey Hot Springs Resort in Democrat Gulch attracted residents and tourists for medicinal treatment and recreation, and provided hot water for Hailey's Alturas Hotel. Developed into a major destination in the late 1880s, the resort lasted until the hotel burned down in 1899. The majority of historic buildings remaining in Blaine County are found in the platted townsites of Hailey and Bellevue.

Historic Land Uses & Themes

Agriculture; Civilian Conservation Corps projects; commerce; community development; Forest Service administration; infrastructure; mining; outdoor recreation/tourism; resort development; settlement; townsite development; timber; and transportation.



1889 Promotional Drawing of the Hailey Hot Springs Hotel:
Photo Credit-The Community Library Center for Regional History

National Register for Historic Places Properties and Districts

- 6 archaeological sites recommended eligible for listing to the NRHP
- 10 historic sites recommended eligible for listing to the NRHP
- 1 historic district listed to the NRHP; Bellevue Historic District (1982)
- 12+ historic buildings located in the Old Hailey townsite including the *Blaine County Courthouse* currently listed on the NRHP (however most municipalities are not covered in this study or *data* provided in tables).



Hauling from the Minnie Moore Mine (Bellevue): Photo credit –
The Community Library Center for Regional History

Several archaeological sites/historic sites potentially eligible either individually and/or part of a historic district:

- Ketchum to Stanley Stock Driveway
- Oregon Short Line Railroad (subsidiary of Union Pacific Railroad)
- Sawtooth Park Highway (Hailey to Yankee Fork wagon road)
- Memorial Prospects at Democrat Gulch
- Edres Mine in Lees Gulch
- Liberty Gem Mine
- Hiawatha Canal
- Halfway Ranch AKA Eccles Flying Hat Ranch

Representative Sites

- Old Hailey townsite
- Bellevue Historic District (commercial core)
- Hailey Gold Belt (also known as the Camas District), Mineral Hill District
- Minnie Moore Mine
- Sawtooth Toll Road/Park Highway/Scenic Byway
- Basque encampments



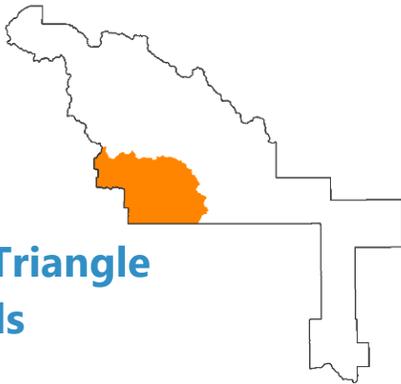
Basque Sheepherder somewhere outside of Hailey: Photo credit –
The Community Library Center for Regional History

Cultural Resources

- 48 archaeological sites recorded on ASI forms; 44 historic, 1 multi-component, and 3 prehistoric
- 45 historic sites recorded on IHSI forms



Ernest Hemingway on a Bird Hunt: Photo credit - Eye on Sun Valley



Bellevue Triangle & Foothills

Historical Highlights

The Kilpatrick brothers were railroad contractors who built the Wood River Branch of the Oregon Short Line Railroad in 1882 - 1883. They established a work camp where Picabo was later located, and used 3,000 men to build the track in both directions at the same time. To get through the swampy land between Picabo and Gannett, the Kilpatricks had to use willow branches tied together and hay bales to support the roadbed. This gave the name "Hay Spur" to a nearby railstop.

In 1883, the Kilpatricks obtained land for a ranch through which Silver Creek flowed. When Ernest Hemingway began spending time in Sun Valley after 1939, he fell in love with the hunting and fishing around Silver Creek. Bud Purdy, grandson of W. H. Kilpatrick and owner the family ranch, recalled that his friend Hemingway never acted like a celebrity, was considerate of others, always wanted someone else to take the first shot, and never drank while he hunted.

Historic Land Uses & Themes

Agriculture; mining; infrastructure; outdoor recreation/tourism; settlement; townsite development; and transportation.



Rock Creek Ranch- Courtesy of Twin Falls Times News

National Register for Historic Places Properties and Districts

- 57 archaeological sites recommended eligible for listing to the NRHP
- 15 historic sites recommended eligible for listing to the NRHP
- 1 historic district is listed on the NRHP; the Bellevue Historic District (1982) which overlaps with the Hailey & Bellevue Canyons subarea
- 1 historic site is listed on the NRHP; the Henry Miller House (1975)

Representative Sites

- Goodale's Cutoff
- Timmerman Hill Stage Stop
- Glendale, Cove, Bypass and Baseline Canals
- Magic Reservoir, Dam and Ditch Rider's House
- Gannett and Picabo townsites
- Rock Creek Road and Ranch
- Barn at Spring Creek Ranch



Kilpatrick Brothers Sheep Shearing Plant: Photo credit – The Community Library Center for Regional History

- Rowley Ranch
- Oregon Short Line Railroad grade
- Sawtooth Toll Road/Park Highway/Scenic Byway
- Old US Highways 26 and 93
- Hailey-Kelton Road

Cultural Resources

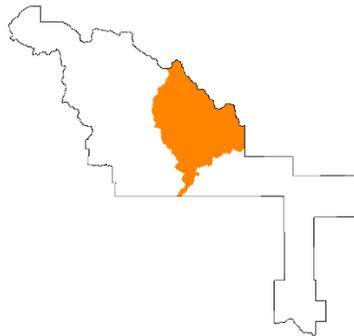
- 342 archaeological sites recorded on ASI forms; 131 historic, 49 multi-component, 135 prehistoric, and 27 proto-historic
- 55 historic sites recorded on IHSI forms



Timmerman Stage Stop: Photo Credit- Forsgren John Erik and Descendants



Dam at Fish Creek Reservoir: Photo credit- Pattys Photos



Little Wood

Historical Highlights

Queens Crown was sacred to the Shoshone-Bannock Indians who traveled the trail to the Camas Prairie for their annual camas root gathering activities and festival. Oregon Trail emigrants later journeyed a similar route along Goodale's Cutoff. Wagon trains followed lava so thick there was no other way to explain it but a living hell. Travel on the long stretches of lava wreaked havoc with even the most adventuresome, so to avoid it, wagon trains carved a path above in the hills east of Carey. These ruts are still visible today.

Like other mining camps in the region, the Little Wood District sprang forth quickly and died just as fast. Tram abutments, beehive charcoal kilns, mine portals and the Muldoon post office remain to tell the tale of mining days.

Sheep men followed miners. Lucille Friedman remembered how her father, Simon Moses Friedman brought the first bands of sheep to Wood River country¹:

"He didn't like indoor work at all. So he got enough money, he bought a band of sheep and brought them in here. And this was when the mines first started, along about 1886. He came up in here and he brought the first sheep into the Wood River Valley. He was [located] up in the Muldoon country there where the Laidlaws had that ranch. He had tried several times to get my mother to marry him....She hated the country....Finally he sold the sheep and bought the store here [Hailey]."

¹ (The Community Library's Oral History FRE 002)



Muldoon Charcoal Kilns: Photo Credit-The Community Library Center for Regional History

Historic Land Uses & Themes

Agriculture; mining; infrastructure; outdoor recreation/tourism; settlement; townsite development; and transportation

National Register for Historic Places Properties and Districts

- 1 historic site is listed on the NRHP; Fish Creek Dam (1978)
- 5 historic sites are eligible either individually or part of a potential historic district: US/SH Highway 26/93 and Old SH26/US 93 culvert; and three Little Wood River Irrigation District Diversion structures (main, east, and west)



Carey Band and First Blaine County Co-Op Building: Photo credit - The Community Library Center for Regional History

Representative Sites

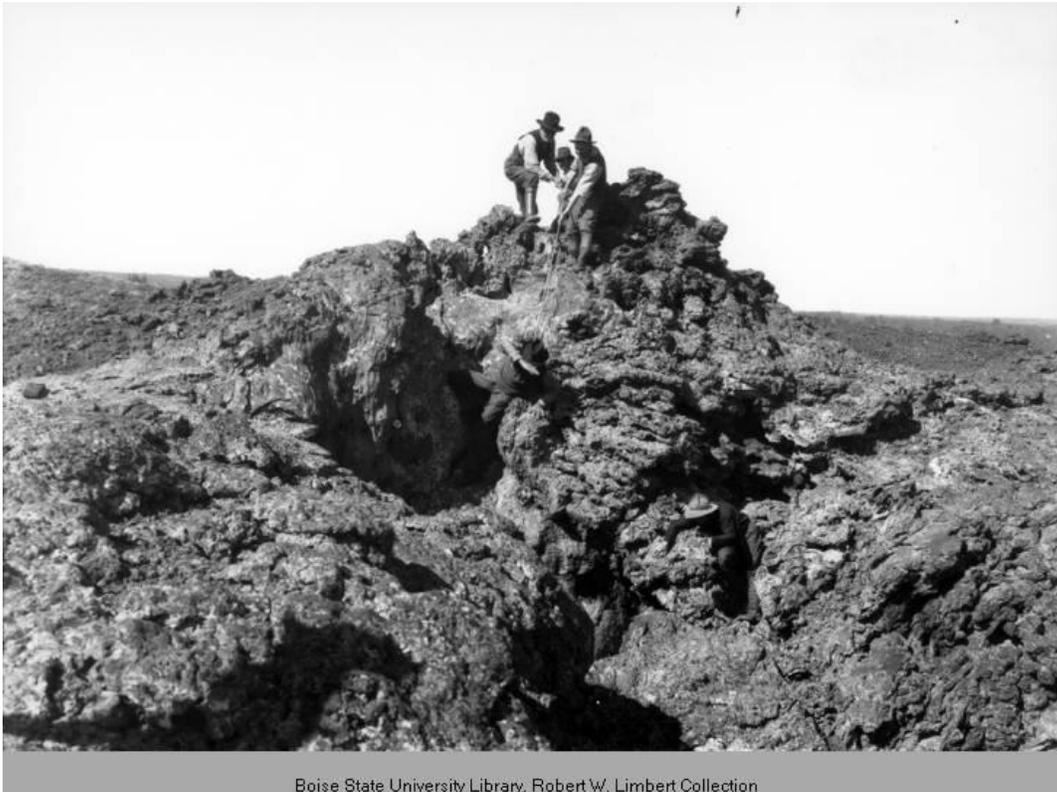
- Various buildings in the City of Carey
- Fish Creek Reservoir and Dam
- Muldoon townsite and charcoal kilns
- Tikura Railroad Station and townsite
- Little Wood River Campground
- Little Wood River Irrigation District canals



Specimen Panama Sheep at the Old Muldoon Townsite: Photo credit- The Community Library Center for Regional History

Cultural Resources

- 75 archaeological sites recorded on ASI forms; 16 historic, 1 multi-component, 57 prehistoric, and 1 protohistoric
- 17 historic sites recorded on IHSI forms



Boise State University Library, Robert W. Limbert Collection

Robert Limbert in a "Hair Raising Experience": Photo credit - Boise State University Special Collections

Craters and Yale

Historical Highlights

This remote, desolate wilderness is the ancestral homeland of the Shoshone-Bannock (The People). Their legend tells us the lava flows were formed long ago by a huge serpent that was miles long. The serpent lived along the channel of the Snake River and after lying asleep all winter left its bed and went to a large mountain in Craters of the Moon. There it coiled its immense body around the mountain and sunned itself until thunder and lightning passed over and angered the serpent. The serpent coiled itself around the mountain so tightly that the pressure became so great

the stones began to melt. Fire from the cracks and liquid rock flowed down the sides of the mountain and the serpent couldn't get away so it was killed by the heat and its body roasted in the hot rock. The fire burned itself out, the rocks cooled, and liquid rock became solid again. Today if one visits the spot he will see the ashes and charred bones where the mountain used to be.¹

The landscape portrays a story of long-term survival through its complex network of base camps, foot trails and water catchment basins, and the interconnected lava tubes and caves. The People augmented natural features with stone and sagebrush mat layers for cold storage of wild game meat such as bison. These were the first bison hunters of the Snake River Plain.

¹ *Indian Legends from the Northern Rockies* by Ella Clark (1966 University of Oklahoma Press)



*Descending into Bear Trap Cave:
Photo Courtesy of MotiIdaho*

Historic Land Uses & Themes

Agriculture; mining; infrastructure; outdoor recreation/tourism; settlement; townsite development; and transportation.

National Register for Historic Places Properties and Districts

- 150 archaeological sites determined eligible for listing to the NRHP
- 1 historic site eligible for listing to the NRHP



Washakie Shoshone Chief: Photo Courtesy of myyellowstonepark.com

Representative Sites

- Craters of the Moon National Monument
- Lake Walcott Wildlife Preserve
- Arco-Minidoka and Carey-Kimama Roads
- Hawley and Chyba railroad sidings
- Goodale's Cutoff

Cultural Resources

- 1,106 archaeological sites recorded on ASI forms; 250 historic, 63 multi-component, 770 prehistoric, and 23 proto-historic
- 5 historic sites recorded on IHSI forms

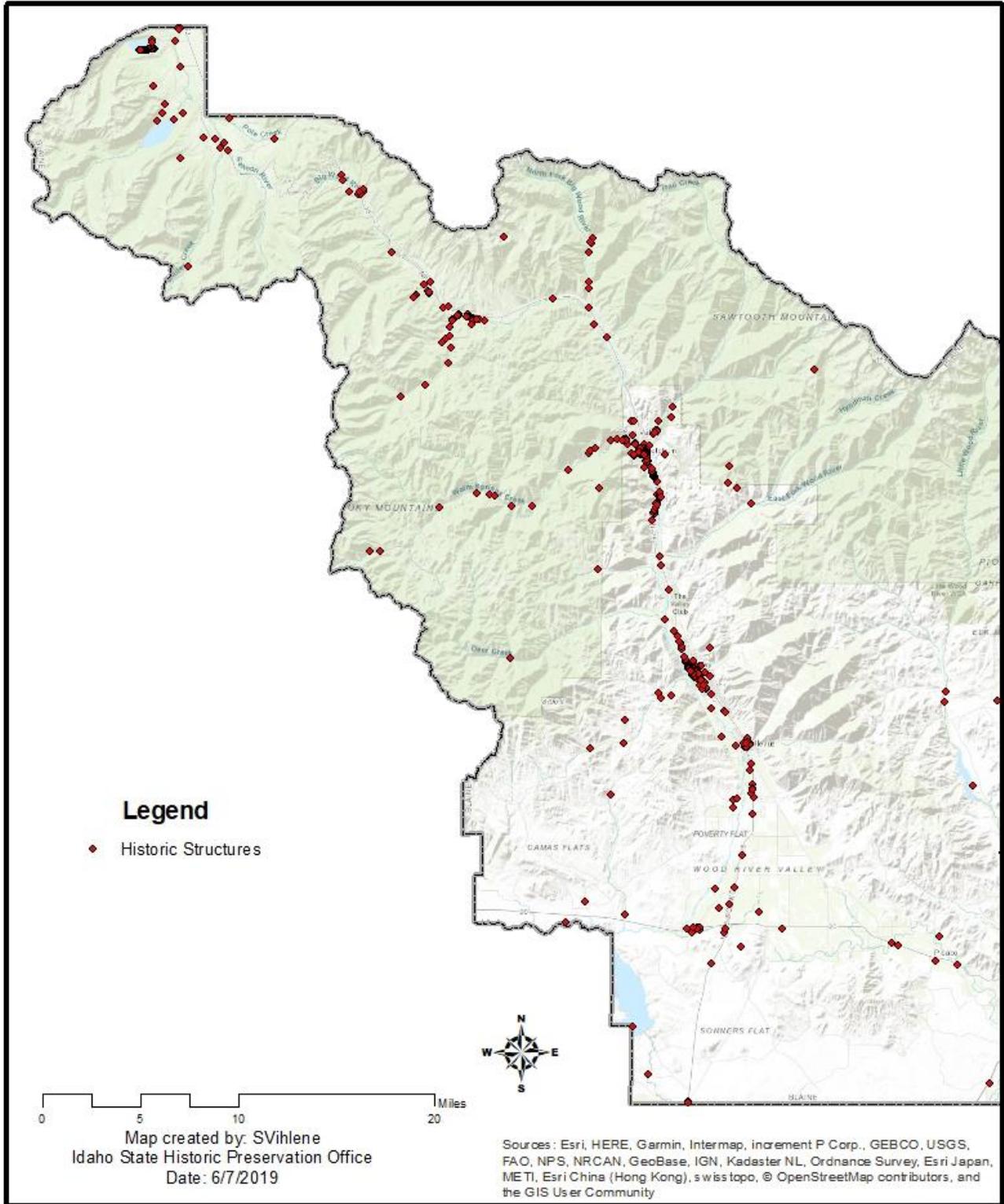
This subarea is exceedingly rich in archaeological sites, with as many as the other subareas combined. Prehistoric land use patterns suggest successful human adaptation to climatic changes during the Holocene geological period which began around 12,000 years ago. Baker Caves I, II, and III are adjoining lava tube caves located in the Wapi Lava Flow. These caves were excavated during the mid-1980 by the Bureau of Land Management to prevent loss of important archaeological data from public looting. Radio carbon and obsidian hydration dates suggest the caves were occupied around 1,400 years ago then again about 900 years ago. Baker Caves are one of about a dozen prehistoric cold storage sites on the Snake River Plain that were used to store bison meat throughout the year.



*Explorer Robert Limbert at the 'Trench Mortar Flat'
Splatter Cone: Photo Courtesy of Boise State University Collections*

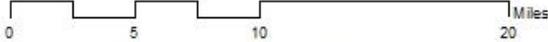
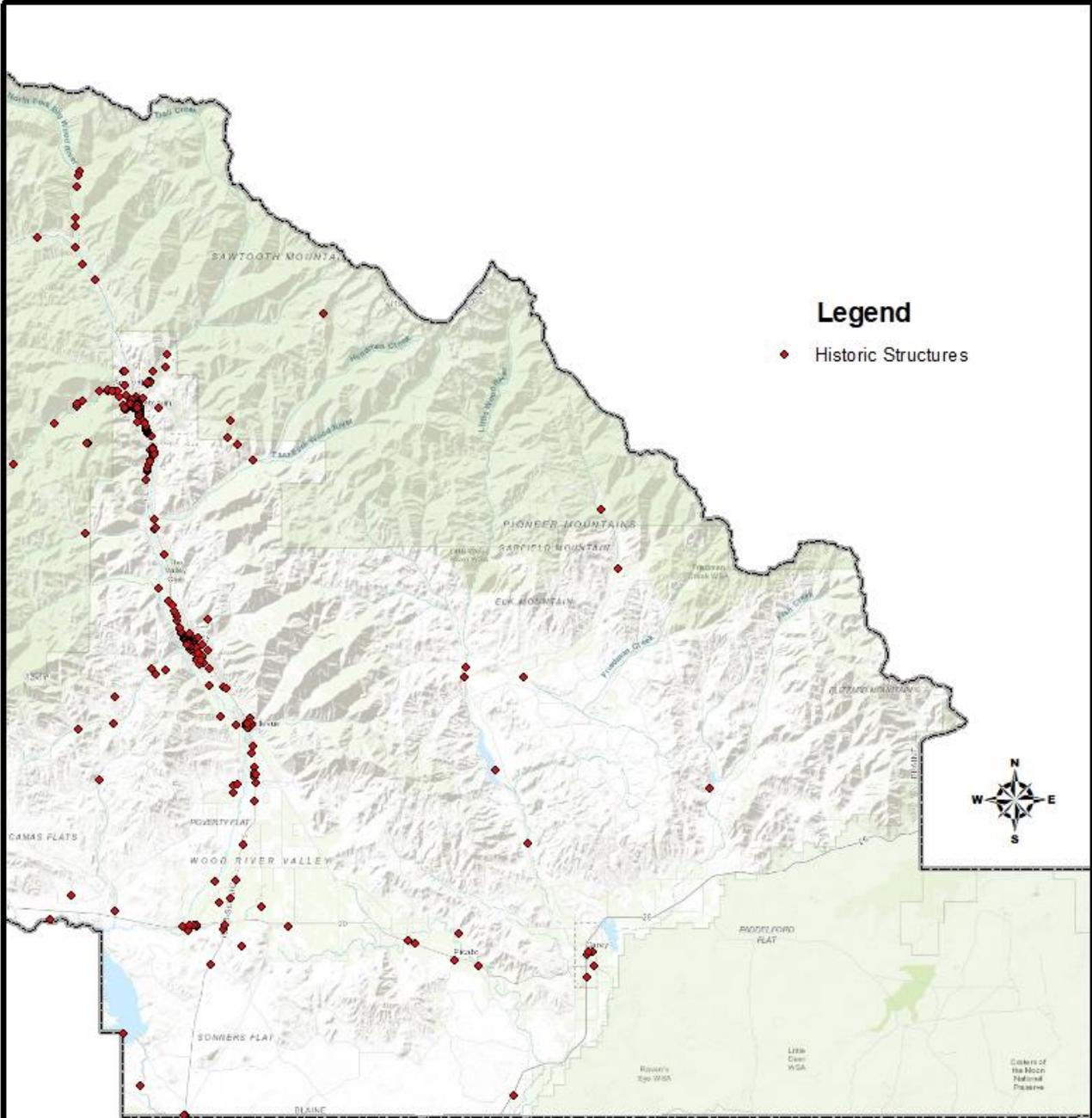
Blaine County Cultural Resources

Northwest Blaine County



Blaine County Cultural Resources

Central Blaine County



Map created by: SVihlene
 Idaho State Historic Preservation Office
 Date: 6/7/2019

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Appendix - Chapter 9. Special Areas and Sites

Historic Preservation Framework

National

For federally managed lands, a series of laws beginning with the Antiquities Act of 1906 as amended govern the protection of archeological sites and historic properties. The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, provides the basis for historic preservation at the state level and on federally managed lands including private land holdings that require a federal permit or funding. Section 106 of the NHPA covers a broad range of projects including construction, renovation, repair, or rehabilitation; ground disturbances, and changes to the area's visual character.

Two other key acts that protect cultural values on federally managed lands are the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) of 1979, as amended and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990, as amended. Both ARPA and NAGPRA aim to protect archaeological sites from damage from illegal activities and the treatment, repatriation, and disposition of Native American human remains and related sacred items. The variety of federal legislation has resulted in strong management and protection plans for cultural resources identified on federal lands.

For private property, the National Park Service, on behalf of the Federal government manages the National Register of Historic Places, (NRHP) an official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects deemed worthy of preservation for their historical significance. While National Register listings are mostly symbolic, their recognition of significance provides some financial incentive (primarily tax incentives) to owners of listed properties. Protection of the property is not guaranteed. During the nomination process, the property is evaluated in terms of the four criteria for inclusion on the NRHP; Criteria A-D. Criterion A requires the historic property to have an association with an event significant in history. Criterion B relates to historic properties that portray the lives of persons significant in our past. Criterion C is a category for distinctive characteristic of a type, style or period, method of construction, or the work of a master. Criterion D recognizes historic properties that have yielded or have the potential to yield important information about prehistory and history. Historic properties under the NRHP are categorized under one of five types: buildings, sites, objects, structures and districts. Successful listing on the National Register does not affect private use of the property, including remodeling, and even demolition.

State

Idaho has multiple laws protecting historical, cultural, architectural, and Native American sites on state and private land. See Appendix for complete Statute references.

Idaho State Historical Society and Idaho State Historic Preservation Office

The Idaho State Historic Preservation Office encourages the preservation, documentation, and use of cultural resources and educates the public about the importance of Idaho's cultural heritage. The Office is staffed by trained historic preservation professionals who assist in the nomination of sites to the National Register of Historic Places and manage the Certified Local Government Program.

Tribal Historic Preservation Office

There are five federally recognized tribes with reservation lands in Idaho; the Couer'd'Alene, the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, the Nez Perce, the Shoshone-Bannock, and the Shoshone-Paiute. Under Section 101(d) of the National Historic Preservation Act each tribal government can designate a Tribal Historic Preservation Office and establish a Tribal historic preservation program. At this time, the Nez Perce and Coeur d'Alene Tribes have Offices. The Shoshone-Bannock have an active Language and Cultural Preservation Program headquartered out of their Fort Hall Office.

Idaho Heritage Trust

The Idaho Heritage Trust is a license-plate endowment program that provides grants and technical assistance to local governments in preservation efforts. This program helped preserve the unique stained-glass windows in Hailey's Emmanuel Episcopal Church.

Preservation Idaho

Preservation Idaho is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting Idaho's heritage, with a focus on Boise. The place efforts on barn preservation and have several southern Idaho tours. Several barns in Blaine County could be eligible for preservation efforts, although more information is needed to make a determination. Well-known barns in Blaine County include the Galena Cowboy Barn, Sun Valley Barn, Reinheimer Barn and Rock Creek Ranch Barn.

Special Historical Notes

(The following paragraphs are by John W. Lundin, john@johnwlundin.com)

RAILROAD INTO THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY

In 1881, Union Pacific decided to build a connection from its transcontinental line to the Northwest. It was still operating under its original 1864 charter from Congress that only authorized it to build a rail line from Omaha, Nebraska to California. It incorporated a subsidiary in Wyoming, to build its Northwest connection, by the "shortest route to Portland," and named it the Oregon Short Line Railroad (OSL). Between May 1881, and November 1884, a new line was built from U.P.'s main line at Granger, Wyoming, through the Snake River Basin in Idaho, connecting at Huntington, Oregon, to a line being built east from Portland by Henry Villard's Oregon Railroad and Navigation Company. The Wood River Branch was built from Shoshone to Hailey between 1882 and May 1883, to access the Valley's mines. Hailey was its intended terminus, but in 1884, the line was extended to the Philadelphia Smelter located north of Ketchum, to provide direct train access to the facility that processed most of the ore mined in the Valley and surrounding mining districts.

The Oregon Short Line remained a subsidiary of the Union Pacific until the 1920s, when it was integrated into Union Pacific, and OSL routes became Union Pacific routes.

KETCHUM AREA MINING

Ketchum was one of several mining communities established in 1880, as the silver rush brought thousands of miners into the Wood River Valley seeking their fortunes. The city was named after David Ketchum, who explored the area in 1879. The Philadelphia Smelter opened just north of the town in fall 1881, on a bench where Warm Springs Creek enters the Big Wood River. It cost \$500,000 provided by investors from Philadelphia, and became the ore processing center of the Wood River Valley and surrounding mining districts. Ore was hauled by Ketchum Fast Freight ore wagons to the smelter for processing from the mines around Challis over Trail Creek summit, from the Sawtooth Valley over Galena Summit, and from the Smoky mining districts over Dollarhide Summit. The Oregon Short Line Railroad was extended from Hailey directly into to the Philadelphia Smelter in 1884. Mining in the Valley shut down during the International Silver Depression that lasted from 1888 to 1898. A local newspaper said the Wood River Valley was “deader than a lime fossil.” Although some mining was restarted in the 1900s, the industry never reached the levels of the glory days of the 1880s.

HAILEY’S CROY CANYON

Canyons outside Wood River Valley cities played important historic roles as transportation corridors, mine locations and water sources. The road through Croy Canyon (originally called “Croy’s Canyon”), west of Hailey, was the main connection between the Wood River Valley, Camas Prairie and points west. Food from Camas Prairie, delivered through Croy Canyon, sustained valley residents. The canyon was the location of a number of important mines (Red Elephant, Croesus, Mayflower, Camas Gold Belt); now abandoned mining towns, Bullion (at the head of Bullion Gulch), Gilman (at the mouth of Bullion Gulch), the Gold Belt townsite, and Doniphan (in the Camas Gold Belt); and farms and ranches. In 1887, plans were made to build the Gold Belt Railroad from the Oregon Short Line depot in Hailey, through Croy Canyon to the Canyon’s mining towns, then continuing to Camas Prairie and possibly the Smoky Mining Districts. Beginning in 1881, Hailey Hot Springs Resort in Democrat Gulch attracted residents and tourists for medicinal treatments and recreation, and provided hot water for Hailey’s Alturas Hotel. In the early 1880s, Dr. Miller’s hospital, located near the springs, used the “invigorative and curative qualities” of its water to treat patients. Hailey Hot Springs was developed into a major destination resort in the late 1880s, lasting until the hotel burned down in 1899.

BELLEVUE’S CANYONS - MULDOON AND GALENA GULCH

Bellevue, known as the “Gate City” of the Wood River Valley during its silver rush days, was supported by two canyons.

Galena Gulch, one mile west of Bellevue, is where the discovery of galena ore (an amalgam of silver, lead and zinc) in October 1879, began the silver rush that brought thousands of prospectors into the Wood River Valley. Two of the valley’s most productive mines, the Minnie Moore and Queen of the Hills, located in Galena Gulch, produced between \$10 and \$15 million in ore. In 1884, English investors bought the Minnie Moore for \$500,000, and in 1892, a British company planned to acquire the Queen and additional properties for 235,000 English Pounds. The miner’s strike of 1884-85, took place over attempts of Galena Gulch mine owners to reduce wages from \$3.50 to \$3 a day.

Muldoon, in the Little Wood Valley 18 miles northeast of Bellevue, prospered during the silver boom beginning in 1881. In April 1882, the investors who owned the Philadelphia Smelter in Ketchum built a smelter in Muldoon that included two 40-ton smelters and an electric light system like its Ketchum sibling. Muldoon was supplied from Bellevue over Brown & Campbell’s stage road, and by a wagon road to the railhead in Blackfoot in Eastern Idaho. At its peak, Muldoon had a population of about 1,500, with a livery stable, stores, saloons, houses and a hotel.

BELLEVUE TRIANGLE

Bellevue Triangle is the area south of Bellevue between the Big Wood River/Highway 75 and Gannett Road, north of Highway 20. Goodale's Cutoff, an alternate route of the Oregon Trail, ran in the south part of the triangle through Camas Prairie, rejoining the main trail at Rattlesnake Station (Mountain Home). The intersection of Highways 75 and 20, is known as Timmerman Junction, named after John Timmerman, an early settler. In the early 1880s, there was a stage stop at Timmerman junction for John Hailey's Utah, Idaho and Oregon Stage Company, that connected the Wood River Valley to the transcontinental railroad at Kelton, Utah, and Boise. The area north of Timmerman junction, known as Spring Creek, was the first part of the Wood River Valley settled by farmers because of the abundance of water and good land. Farms there provided food to towns in the valley. John Hailey, for whom the town of Hailey is named, had a homestead just south of Highway 20, east of Stanton Crossing where Highway 20 crossed the Big Wood River. In 1884, the Brown brothers dug a canal from a point south of Hailey that brought 10,000 inches of water from the Big Wood River to Bellevue and their farms in the Triangle. It has been known as the Brown Brothers and Miner Ditch, the Miller Packard ditch, and the Cove Canal. The Bellevue Triangle has been crisscrossed by irrigation canals in modern times.

SILVER CREEK AND PICABO

Silver Creek, located south of the Bellevue triangle, is fed by a network of artesian springs with water originating from the Big Lost River. Its slow-moving water has a nearly constant year-around temperature, providing a nearly perfect habitat for trout and the aquatic insects on which they feed, and the surrounding wetlands attract a variety of water fowl. Silver Creek has long been a favorite of fishermen and bird hunters.

The town of Picabo, located near Silver Creek, was formed by the Kilpatrick brothers, railroad contractors who built the Wood River Branch of the Oregon Short Line Railroad from Shoshone to Hailey in 1882 - 1883. They established a work camp halfway between Shoshone and Hailey, where Picabo was later located, and used 3,000 men to build the track in both directions at the same time. In 1883, the Kilpatricks obtained land for a ranch through which Silver Creek flowed, where a railroad station was established called Picabo, a Minnesota Indian word meaning shining water or bright shining water. In 1917, the Kilpatricks, formed the Picabo Land Company to sell parts of their ranch, a town was platted, and 4,000 acres of land was offered at \$70 per acre, including water rights, in a Land Opening held on July 17, 1917.

Sun Valley acquired two ranches on Silver Creek in 1940 and 1941, forming the Sun Valley Ranch for use by its guests. In 1976, Sun Valley's next owner, Bill Janss, sold the 479-acre area to the Nature Conservancy and the Silver Creek Preserve was established. The Preserve was expanded, and by 2017, the Conservancy owned 851 acres along Silver Creek and protected 12,600 acres through conservation easements acquired from neighboring farms. Silver Creek remains a treasure for the Sun Valley area as an outdoor resource.

CRATERS OF THE MOON

Craters of the Moon National Monument was established on May 2, 1924, by U.S. President Calvin Coolidge, to "preserve the unusual and weird volcanic formations". It is located in the Snake River Plain, a volcanic area created by a series of cataclysmic caldera-forming eruptions starting around 15 million years ago. Craters of the Moon was caused by a migrating hotspot, now located under Yellowstone Caldera in Yellowstone National Park. This hot spot was under the Craters of the Moon area 10 to 11 million years ago, but as the North American Plate migrated southwestward, it ended up under Yellowstone. The oldest flows in the Craters of the Moon Lava Field are 15,000 years old, and the youngest about 2000 years, according to USGS geologists, but the volcanic fissures at Craters of the Moon are considered to be dormant, not extinct, and are expected to erupt in less than a thousand years.