

BLACKFOOT SCHOOL DISTRICT #55

FACILITIES OFFICE
460 YORK DRIVE
BLACKFOOT, IDAHO 83221
Telephone 208-785-8832 Telefax 208-785-8834

September 25, 2003

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources
15 W. Center
Soda Springs ID 83276

Dear Department of Water Resources,

We are enclosing the following:

1. Four (4) notarized affidavits for the Wapello Water - Irrigation Date - #A27-04150. These are to replace the ones that were previously sent.
2. Three (3) notarized affidavits for the Blackfoot High School Water - Irrigation Date - #A27-4148.

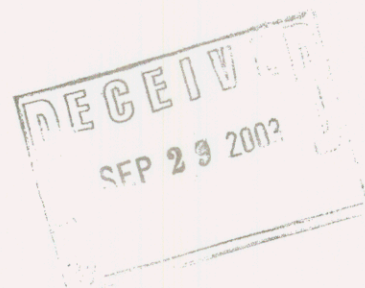
If you need further information, please contact me at the above address. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Chris L. Gardner
Director of Facilities

Enclosures



September 16, 2003

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources
15 West Center Street
Soda Springs ID 83276

Department of Water Resources,

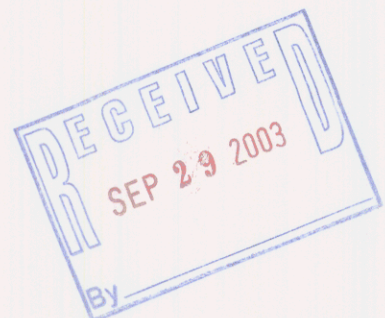
RE: Wapello Water - Irrigation Date - #A27-04150

I was the Principal at Wapello Elementary School from August 1982 through June 1984. In June of 1984, a pump was connected to the well in order to sprinkle irrigate the playground surrounding the school.

Sincerely,



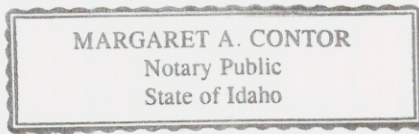
Martin Wallace



State of Idaho)
) S.S.
County of Bingham)

On this 24th day of September, in the year of 2003, before me Margaret A. Contor, a notary public, personally appeared Martin J. Wallace, personally known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

S
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Margaret A. Contor

Notary Public
Residing at Blackfoot, Idaho
My Commission Expires on August 3, 2007

Attachment

BLACKFOOT SCHOOL DISTRICT #55

FACILITIES OFFICE
460 YORK DRIVE
BLACKFOOT, IDAHO 83221
Telephone 208-785-8832 Telefax 208-785-8834

September 16, 2003

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources
15 West Center Street
Soda Springs ID 83276

Department of Water Resources,

RE: Wapello Water - Irrigation Date - #A27-04150

During the time I was Principal - Teacher at Wapello Elementary School from August 1986 to June 1989, I can attest to the fact that the well was being used to irrigate the land surrounding the school.

Sincerely,



Chris L. Gardner
Facilities Director

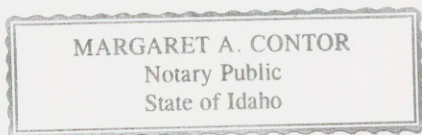
CLG:sjr



State of Idaho)
) S.S.
County of Bingham)

On this 24th day of September, in the year of 2003, before me Margaret A. Contor, a notary public, personally appeared Chris L. Gardner, personally known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

S
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Margaret A. Contor
Notary Public
Residing at Blackfoot, Idaho
My Commission Expires on August 3, 2007

Attachment

September 16, 2003

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources
15 West Center Street
Soda Springs ID 83276

Department of Water Resources,

RE: Wapello Water - Irrigation Date - #A27-04150

From August 1978 through June of 1991 I was a teacher at Wapello Elementary School. In June of 1984, I know that sprinklers were connected to the well to sprinkle irrigate the playground surrounding the school.

Sincerely,

Valerie Watson

Valerie Watson



State of Idaho)
) S.S.
County of Bingham)

On this 24th day of September, in the year of 2003, before me Margaret A. Contor, a notary public, personally appeared Valerie Watson, personally known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same.

S
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Notary Public
Residing at Blackfoot, Idaho
My Commission Expires on August 3, 2007

Attachment

September 16, 2003

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources
15 West Center Street
Soda Springs ID 83276

Department of Water Resources,

RE: Wapello Water - Irrigation Date - #A27-04150

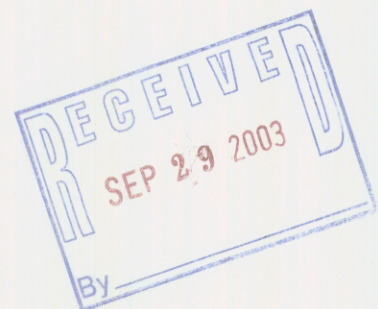
I am currently employed by the Blackfoot School District #55 in their Maintenance Department. My employment started in June 1979. I have been the Maintenance Supervisor from October 1, 1994 through May 2003.

I can attest to the fact that in June 1984 the Blackfoot School District began to irrigate the playground by pumping water from the well and sprinkling the land surrounding Wapello Elementary School.

Sincerely,



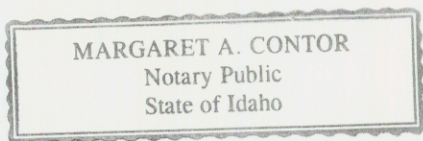
Ron Brown
Maintenance Department



State of Idaho)
) S.S.
County of Bingham)

On this 24th day of September, in the year of 2003, before me Margaret A. Contor, a notary public, personally appeared Ronald Brown, personally known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

S
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Margaret A. Contor
Notary Public
Residing at Blackfoot, Idaho
My Commission Expires on August 3, 2007

Attachment



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

15 West Center Street, Soda Springs, ID 83276

Phone: (208) 547-3993 Fax: (208) 547-3939 Web Site: www.idwr.state.id.us

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
Governor

KARL J. DREHER
Director

May 29, 2003

Sharon Riddle
Blackfoot School District 55
270 E. Bridge St.
Blackfoot, ID 83221

REF: Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA) Claim 27-4150

Subject: Evidence of priority.

Dear Sharon,

I received your fax in regards to Wapello Elementary School. Based on the documents you provided I would recommend that you amend your claim and change the priority date to 4-1-1921 instead of the 1950 date that is currently claimed.

I've enclosed an amended claim with the earlier priority date for signature. They do need to be signed in front of a notary and returned to me as soon as possible. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to call me at 547-3993.

Sincerely;

Cindy E. Bird
Adjudication Bureau

Enclosure: Amended Claim 27-4150



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

15 West Center Street, Soda Springs, ID 83276

Phone: (208) 547-3993 Fax: (208) 547-3939 Web Site: www.idwr.state.id.us

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
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May 29, 2003

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Blackfoot School District 55
270 E. Bridge St.
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Sincerely;

Cindy E. Bird
Adjudication Bureau

Enclosure: Amended Claim 27-4150

Stoddard Stars



Shooting For New Horizons

SCHOOL DISTRICT #55

I.T. STODDARD ELEMENTARY

"Home of The Stars"

460 York Drive

BLACKFOOT, IDAHO 83221

Phone 208-785-8832

Parent Link - 785-8888

Fax 208-785-8834

FAX TRANSMITTAL

DATE: 5-28-03 TIME: 4:07 p.m.

TO: Name Cindy E. Bird
Company Department of Water Resources
Fax # 208 - 547-3939

FROM: Name Sharon Riddle - Blackfoot School District #55

COMMENTS: Re: Water Right Number 27-4150 - Wapello Elementary
Would you please review the attached documents
and let me or Mr. Gardner know if this is
acceptable in establishing a priority date for
Wapello Elementary. Thank you for your help.

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING THIS PAGE 4.

Please call as soon as possible if you do not receive all of these pages.

AFFIDAVIT

The following affidavit is in reference to a well (No. 27-4150) at Wapello Elementary School located at 195 East 350 North, Blackfoot, Idaho.

I, Cloris Brown, attest that I compiled *History of the Wapello School*, which appears on page 60 in the book titled Bingham County History, published by Bingham County Centennial Book Committee, Blackfoot, Idaho (Library of Congress No. 85-72293). The following is an excerpt from this article, "In 1921, a well was drilled just south of the entrance and a hand pump was put in." My source of information was taken from *Histories of Viola Gerdes*.

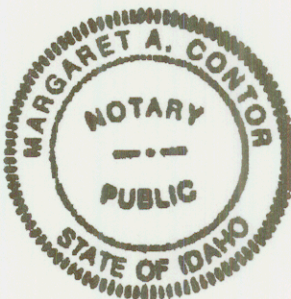
Cloris Brown

Cloris Brown
196 North 200 East
Blackfoot, Idaho 83221
(208) 785-2715

State of Idaho)
) S.S.
County of Bingham)

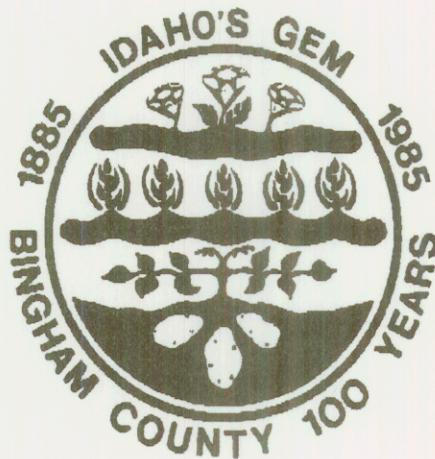
I, Margaret A. Contor, a notary public, do hereby certify that on this 28th day of May, 2003, personally appeared before me Cloris Brown, personally known to me, and that she signed the foregoing document, and that the statements therein contained are true.

S
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A
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Margaret A. Contor
Notary Public
Residing at Blackfoot, Idaho
My Commission Expires on August 3, 2007

BINGHAM COUNTY HISTORY



WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY
THE PEOPLE OF BINGHAM COUNTY
COMMEMORATING THE COUNTY'S 100th BIRTHDAY
1885-1985

Theme By Brent Staples
Logo By Sandra Finlayson

History Book Medallion by Jack Christ
Sketches By Mavis Peterson

Published By Bingham County Centennial
Book Committee, Blackfoot, Idaho.
Library of Congress No. 85-72293

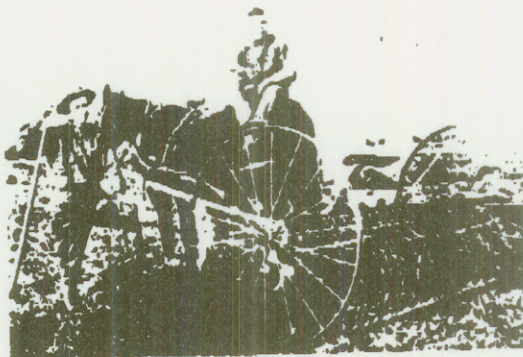
Printed by Taylor Publishing Company, Dallas, TX — USA
Publishing Consultant — David J. Head, Pocatello, Idaho.

Post Office in his home. The mail sack was thrown from the passenger train and people would call for their mail at his home. Later, Blackfoot Route #3 was established. Then it changed to Route #1, then Route #6 until the present county directory system. George and Walter Bithell were the first mail carriers for the area.

The following 10 to 15 years brought a number of new families and they became leaders in the community. The Ethan Allens, Scotts, Eno Jonathan Gerdes, Henry Felts, Frank Berlin, Charles Hancock, J.D. Jensen, John Q. Stone, Arthur Galeazzi, George Winslow, Elijah Clark and Elbert Call.

Clarence Neville, with the financial assistance of Lester Howard, was the first owner of the store in the community located just west of the tracks on Wapello Road.

Many staunch and true pioneers came in the following years. They were seeking better homes, more land, good water rights and a peaceful, quiet community in which to rear their families. *Compiled by Cloris Brown from histories of Laverne Stone*



Lloyd Johnston and Cliff Robertson using dump rake.

HISTORY OF THE WAPELLO SCHOOL

The first school in the vicinity of Wapello was the "Fox School" located one-fourth mile north of the Wapello railroad crossing and west of the highway and canal. Kerosene lamps were used to light the building and a wood-burning stove was used for heat. The first desks had tops made from one by twelve inch boards and the seats were made from two by fours. Each desk and seat were made to accommodate two pupils. Later on school desks were used which were hinged and had to be raised.

The first teacher, Mr. M.D. Andrus, began teaching in this school in 1897. There were not too many families in this locality at that time, but those living here had large families. The children from the Kimball area also came here to school. Mr. George W. Bithell told of being the only pupil in the first grade. Mr. Andrus would often take him on his lap and teach him his lessons. This school later became known as the "Kimball School."

In those days the children walked to school on well-beaten paths through the sagebrush. They walked in groups because coyotes roamed around and were often seen near homes in those early years.

In 1902, the school's name was changed to "Hardscrabble School".

In 1904, Lester Howard donated a corner of his farm for a school and a red brick building was built on this ground just slightly west of our present school. Barely two years had passed when a fire broke out and burned the building so quickly the students barely had time to save their clothing and lunches. The old "Hardscrabble School" was then moved to the northeast corner of the school ground.

In 1911, there were 115 pupils so a new two-room school was built and is the south half of the old building that now stands. In 1915, two more rooms were added to the north. It had a large bell tower and the children enjoyed giving the rope a tug to hear the bell ring high above. Each room was now heated by a large coal-burning stove. It was still necessary to carry water to the school. In 1921, a well was drilled just south of the entrance and a hand pump was put in. In or about 1923, a furnace type stove was installed. The yard was still bare ground except for a little grass along the ditch. In 1928, electricity came to the area and a little later a pressure water pump was installed and restrooms were added.

In 1960, another addition was built on to the east side, adding classrooms, a lunchroom and kitchen. The old building was painted to match the new building. About 1963, the windows in the old building were filled in to conserve heat. *Compiled by Cloris Brown, from Histories of Viola Gerdes*

foot Stake. In 1903, Wapello and Kimball were combined Howard Branch of the Basalt Ward, Blackfoot Stake. The P. John Wheeler.

In 1910, the branch was divided into the Kimball and Wapello. Services were held in a one room school located on the tracks. The trustees asked them to discontinue. Then they began holding services in the homes of various members. There weren't enough chairs, so planks were used from one chair to another and a blanket was used to make them more comfortable.

In 1911, it was decided that they would build a new chapel. It was 50 ft. x 50 ft., costing approximately \$1000 and built by the men of the community. In 1911, on a cold, snowy Sunday, 76 people held the first meeting. In May, 1912, this building burned. It had only been used for a few months. Another chapel was begun and completed by 1914 at a cost of \$1000. The building was remodeled, renovated and modernized during the years. One of the biggest improvements came in 1940, when water was bought and installed a water pressure system. Until this time, water from the homes for services and socials in milk cans, was brought in buckets from Esther Scott's home.

The chapel underwent an extensive face lifting in 1950, at a cost of \$1000, including a carpeted Relief Society room, with drapes donated by Past President, Matilda Stone. More class room restrooms were also added. An entrance and foyer were added. The stage was changed to the opposite end of the hall. The outside was built with brick.

This building was used until 1971, when our new and improved building was completed.

Ground breaking was held on Monday, September 8, 1970. In 1971 the first meeting was held in this new building. *Compiled by Cloris Brown, from Histories of Laverne Stone*

WAPELLO SECOND

On March 12, 1978 the Fourth, Seventh, Eighth and Wapello wards were called to a special meeting at which time the boundaries were changed and new wards were formed. One ward would be known as Wapello Second, Blackfoot Idaho Stake. The general was everything east, including Harmony Acres, to the Blackfoot River.

With two wards using the building it soon became apparent that the building needed to be remodeled. During October 1979 to October 1980 the Blackfoot Stake Center with Eighth Ward while the work was done by Cannon Construction.

A few ward members were transferred into the Eleventh Ward. In 1981 then on November 1982 all members of the south side of the Blackfoot River were either transferred to the Fourth or the Eleventh Ward. New boundaries would include the north side of Rich Lane, Tanner Lane and the south side of Weeding Lane east to Firth.

FIRTH

In 1885, a thirty-three year old Englishman named Lester Firth moved to Bingham County where he farmed and raised livestock. He was an active part in the building of the community — its development, educationally and otherwise.

In 1905, Lorenzo Firth and his wife, willed a plot of land (hence the town's name). Being concerned for the education of his children, he also gave 1 1/4 acres for the purpose of a one room school. A room was added. And still later the four room brick building standing south of the present elementary.

The first bridge across the Snake River was built around 1885 and had been made by boats.

The first grocery store in Firth was owned by a man by the name of Butte. Emma Firth clerked in this store. John Drew a man named Belcher. Carl and Axel Nelson, sons of Ole named Andrews owned a department store; it was later owned by daughter Bina and her husband, Wardell Clinger.

Mr. Thorstenburg operated a store in the Corgatelli building. Thomas Firth and Roy Womack were clerks in this store. Firth and his son, Fern, bought Mr. Thorstenburg's interest in this store. There was a harness shop in this building, and also Shockey and his wife operated a store in this building.

Joe Dye operated a store next to the Corgatelli building. The blacksmith shop was first operated by a man by the name of George Wernette built part of the present shop and operated it for many years. He sold it to Carl Granburg. (Carl built a potato processing plant not successful because it could not operate by being pulled. The owner was Mr. Buersouer; then Ole Beus, Ed Hall, Sunowner.

Hurt and Hutchinson built the large brick building which housed offices, a dance hall, theater, bar, cafe, meat market. There was, at one time, a First National Bank in Firth. It became the drug store operated by Mr. and Mrs. Earl V.



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

15 West Center Street, Soda Springs, ID 83276

Phone: (208) 547-3993 Fax: (208) 547-3939 Web Site: www.idwr.state.id.us

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
Governor

KARL J. DREHER
Director

Blackfoot School District No. 55
270 East Bridge Street
Blackfoot, Idaho 83221

April 23, 2003

Re: Evidence of Priority

Claim No.(s) A27-04148 & A27-04150

Dear Claimant (s):

The Idaho Department of Water Resources has begun its water right review in Basin 27. The Notice(s) of Claim identified with the number shown above, has been filed in the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA). The Notice indicates water usage is based on "Beneficial Use". Water rights of this type are established by the historical use of water, dating back to when water was first used for the purpose claimed, at or on the place of use identified on the Notice. The date the water was first put to use, known as the priority date, has not been confirmed by a license, Decree, or Permit. For this reason, proof must be provided supporting the priority date. **As the claimant, you are responsible for submitting the necessary proof to support the priority date.**

It is important that each element of the Notice be substantiated. For instance, regarding claims for irrigation, the evidence should tend to show that diversion works were in place, that they were capable of diverting the claimed diversion rate, and that the diverted water was beneficially used on the entire claimed place of use on or before the claimed priority date.

For your reference, I have enclosed the pamphlet entitled "Evidence of Priority". The pamphlet describes the types of evidence required and suggests which documents will fulfill this requirement. While I encourage you to read the entire pamphlet, I direct your attention to the two sections entitled "What Kind of Evidence is Required" and "Some examples of Documents Which May Be Evidence of the Priority Date".

It is our goal to recommend historical water rights within the Snake River Basin as accurately as possible.

.....
The Department cannot recommend the court decree the Notice if no evidence of a priority date is submitted.
.....

Please submit the documentation supporting the priority date by May 23, 2003, referencing all documents with the corresponding Notice number. If you have any questions not covered by this letter, please feel free to contact me at 547-3993.

Respectfully,

Cindy E. Bird
Adjudication Bureau

Enclosure: Brochure on "Evidence of Priority"
Adjudication Claim Report