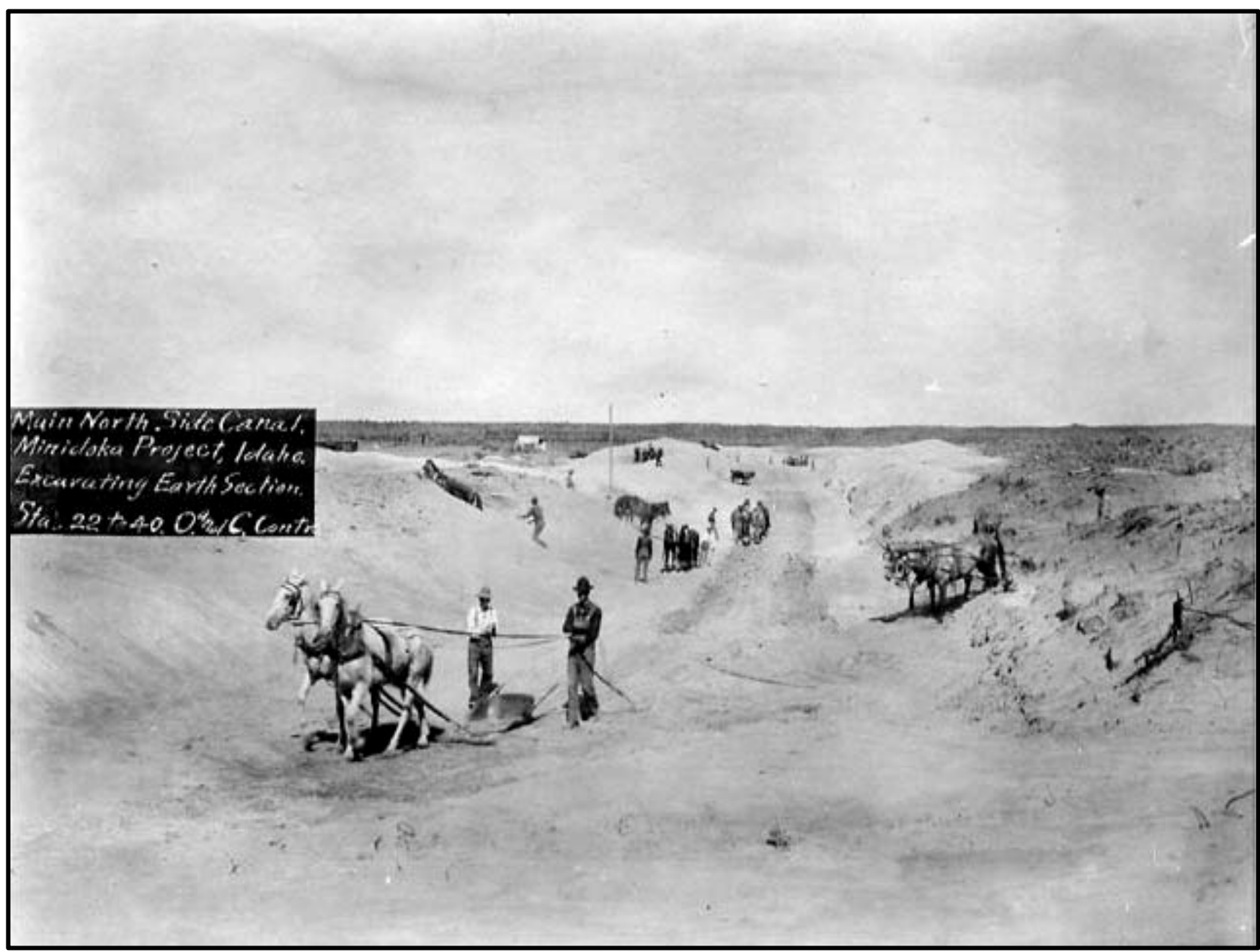


Authorization, Construction, and Turnover



Main North Side Canal, Excavating Earth Section, c.1905. Minidoka Project, Idaho. Reclamation Photo No. P17-100-4018.

Construction

The survey for the north side canal system was completed in 1904 and covered over 65,000 acres. Construction contracts were let out for bid in 1905 for the main canals and supporting structures with the hope that they could convey water for the 1906 growing season. Excavation commenced immediately upon approval. Reclamation furnished concrete, steel gates, and controlling machinery to all the contractors, and took over the construction of five structures in the canals and built them of wood to speed progress. In spite of this effort, the contractors did not complete their work until July 1907. The North Side Canal and structures were completed in July 1907. The 'A' canal system excavation involved the movement of 1,068,156 cubic yards moved primarily with fresnoes and was finished in 1906.



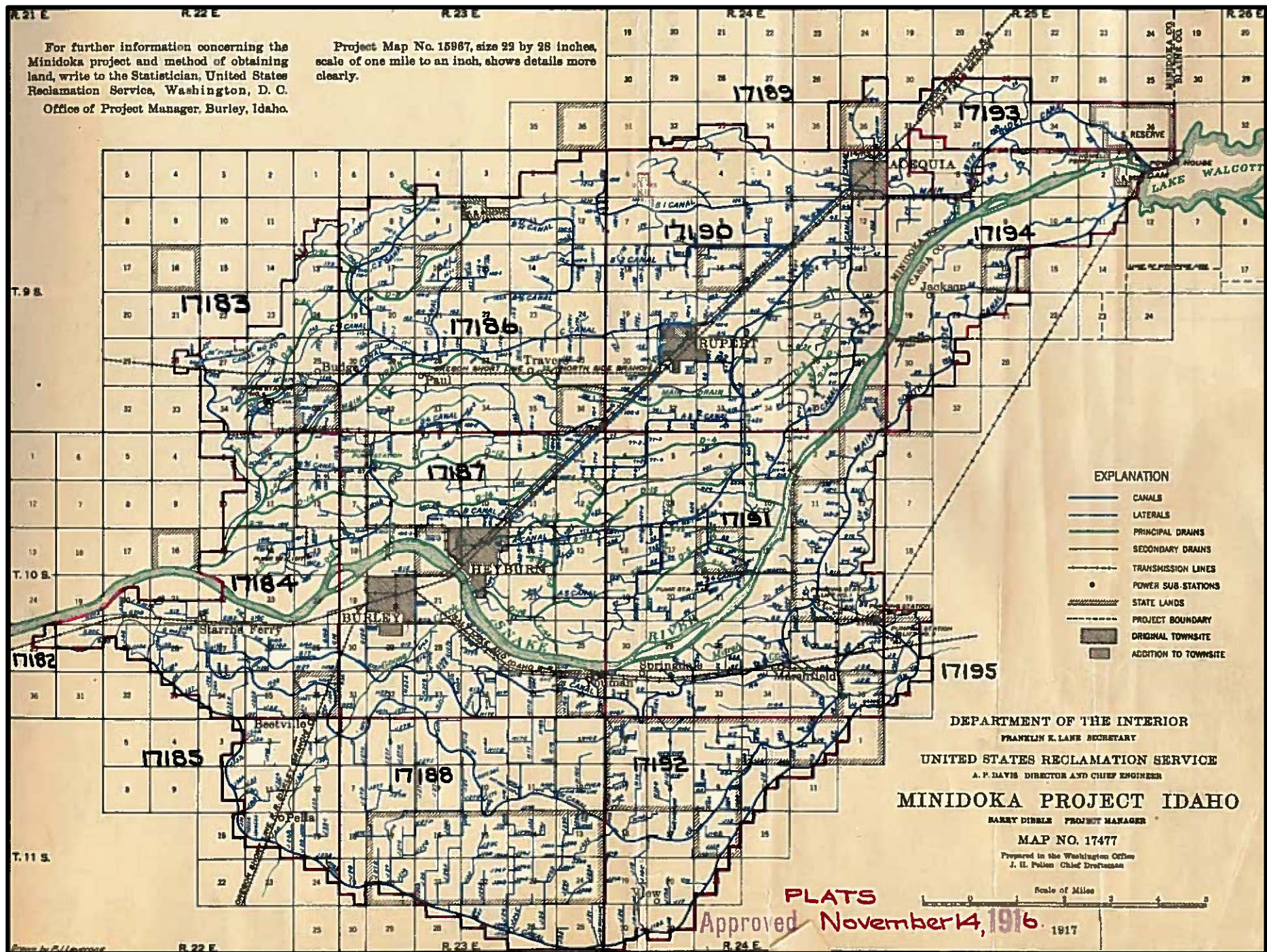
Bridge over North Side Canal at Dam Complex, 1918. HAER No. ID-16-129



Cultivated farms under the A-2 lateral near Rupert. August 15, 1910. Reclamation photograph 496.

Authorization

On November 17, 1902, Secretary of the Interior Ethan A. Hitchcock withdrew the irrigable land of the Minidoka Project from public entry. Surveys indicated the north side could be irrigated by gravity with canals. In December 1903, D.W. Ross reported to Reclamation, recommending immediate construction of the project. Ethan A. Hitchcock gave the Minidoka Project his approval on April 23, 1904, and allotted \$2.6 million to the Project.



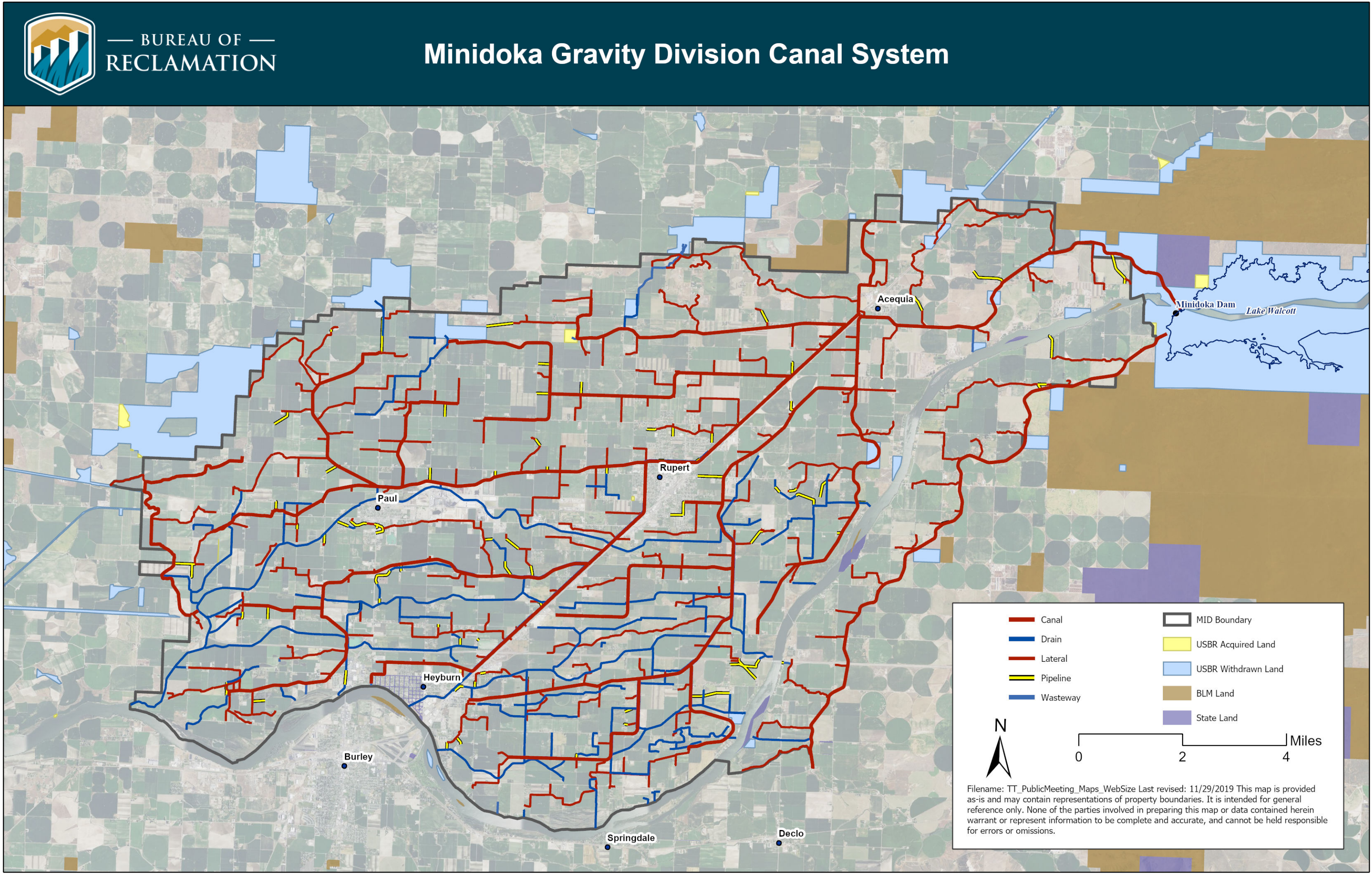
Map of Minidoka Canal System, 1917. Shows both Minidoka and Burley Irrigation Districts

The sublateral system was estimated to include 140 miles of canal lines delivering 1 second foot for 40 acres to be delivered to each 80-acre farm unit. The sublaterals were originally to be built by contract, but a decision was made to construct them using government forces and a change in policy by the Chief Engineer resulted in the assignment of partial responsibility for the construction of these canals and ditches to the homesteaders. To accomplish this, Reclamation attempted to organize the settlers into small local districts, resulting in almost 400 districts being formed. The response was mixed. Some sublaterals were built to specification, some landowners refused to do the work, and some were built substandard. Work to fix the substandard sublaterals was complete in 1912. In the end, approximately two-thirds of the work was completed by the government and one-third by the settlers. The completion of Minidoka Dam in 1906 kicked off settlement in the Magic Valley as it was set up to deliver water for agriculture and industry. Four government projects towns were developed as a result of this project including Rupert, where the original headquarters were housed, Heyburn, Minidoka and Acequia.

Turnover

The Minidoka Project began before the formation of any official water users' associations. Residents moved quickly in organizing water users' associations. These user associations were combined into the the Minidoka Irrigation District (MID). On December 2, 1916, the Department of Interior entered an agreement with MID turning control of the Gravity Division over to the water users.

Documenting The Minidoka Gravity Division Historic District.



Methods:

The MGD is recognized as eligible since it was built in the 1905-1915 and turned over to the newly created MID in 1916 and significantly contributed to agriculture in Minidoka County, Idaho. Because all the features associated with the MGD will be transferred to MID, it needed to be fully recorded. To facilitate this process and because the MGD covers such a large area with repetitive features, Reclamation consulted on an alternative recording and fieldwork strategy to the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO):

- Up to a 10 percent targeted survey of linear features such as primary and secondary canals, drains and laterals as well as the deep well pumping areas;
- Full recording of any standing buildings such as Administration Buildings and Ditchrider Houses; and
- 100 percent survey of any blocks of land not previously surveyed or developed.

Fieldwork to record the MGD was completed September 24-26 , and November 21-22, 2019.

Historic Resource Types and Survey Coverage

Resource Type	Examples	Surveyed
Primary Canal	North Main Canal	Partial survey
Secondary Canals	A-, B-, C-, E, Canal 20	Partial survey of each facility
Tertiary Canals	Numbered laterals within the system	No. Not considered eligible and do not be recorded per SHPO Guidance
Primary Drains	Main Drain, Main Spill	Reconnaissance
Secondary Drains	D-9, D-14	Reconnaissance Survey
Tertiary Drains	D-3E, D-4A	No. Not considered eligible and do not be recorded per SHPO Guidance
Pumphouses	C-2 Lateral Scoop, 114 High Line Lateral, Boersch Lake Pump #'s 1 and 2	Yes (100%)
Administrative Yard	Administration Building, Shop, Storage	Yes (100%)



New turnout off of main canal into a lateral.



New control gates for the main spill off of the North Main Canal

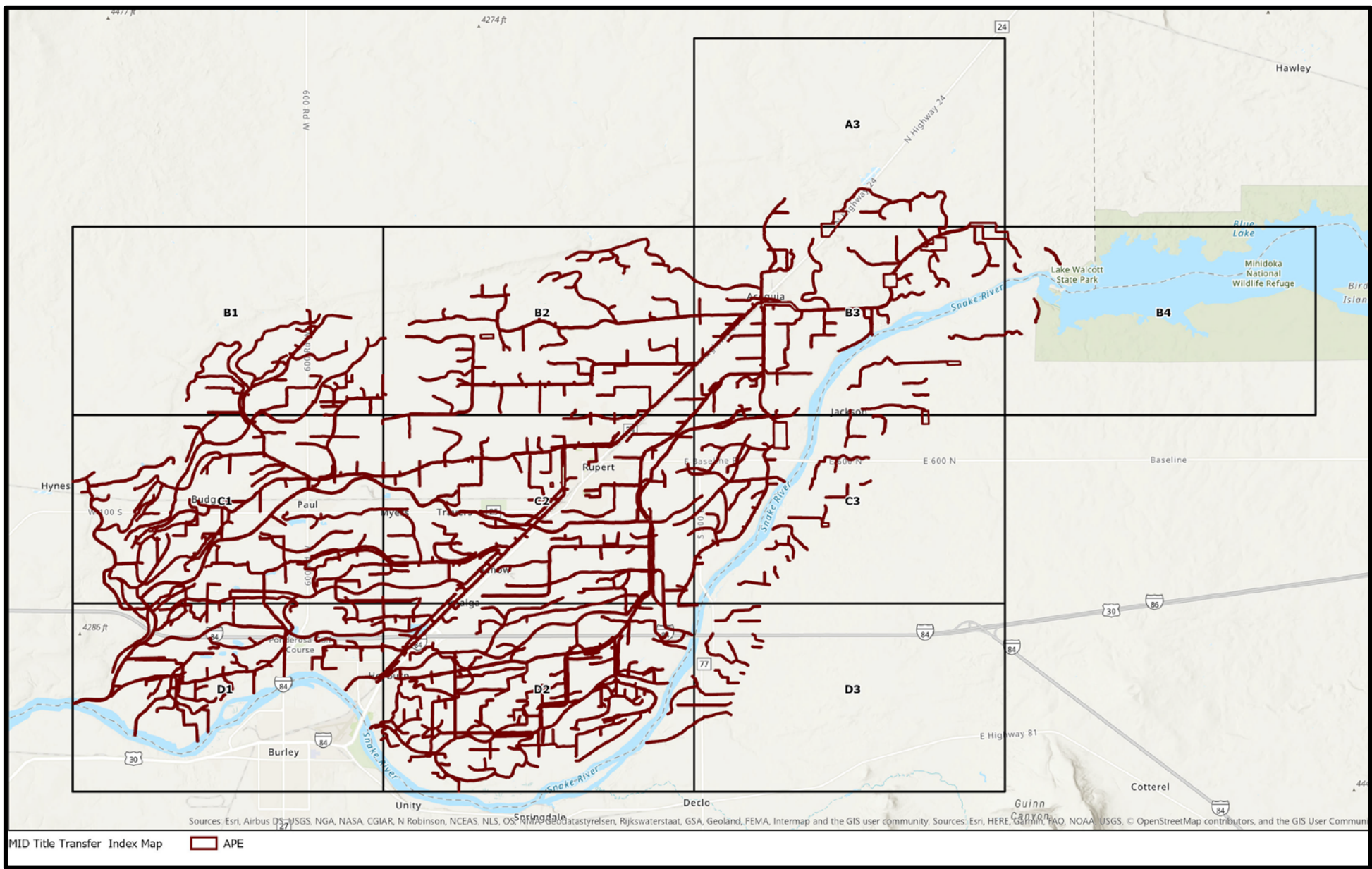
Changes

While the major canals of the system remain largely unchanged, many of the laterals have been removed, piped and or realigned over the past 100 years. Additionally, most of the control structures have been modified or replaced as part of ongoing operations and maintenance.

National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 Process

Step 1: Identify the area of potential effects (APE)

- The APE includes all facilities, lands, and easements to be transferred to MID



Step 3: Identify Cultural Resources

Use a combination of:

- Historic Records
- Previous Surveys and Investigations
- Field Survey
- Consultation with Tribes



Example of Historic Resources in the North Side Pumping District Pumping Division
Top row: Check structure on main spill, railroad crossing over B Canal, Pumphouse
Bottom Row: Scoop wheel, Canal 20 Pumphouse, MID Shop

Step 5: Consult with the SHPO on determinations of Eligibility.

- Preliminary determinations:
 - MGDHD is a significant for its contributions to agriculture in the Magic Valley and eligible for the National Register under Criterion A.
 - Individual buildings and structures may be eligible for listing in the National Register



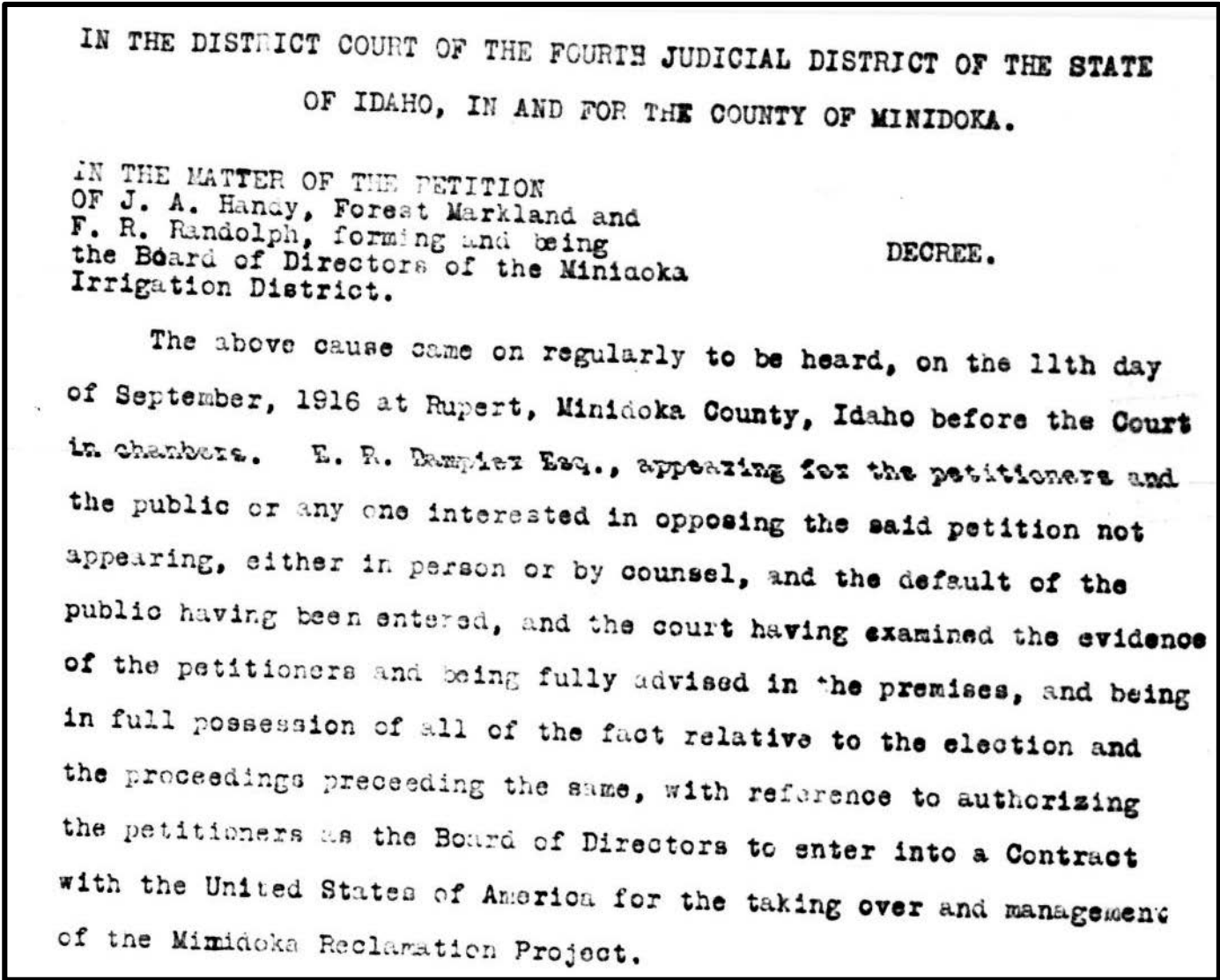
Borsch Lake Pumphouse, built 1916.

Step 8: Resolve adverse effects through use of an Memorandum of Agreement.

- Agreement between Reclamation, State Historic Preservation Officer, MID

Step 2: Identify Consulting Parties

- State Historic Preservation Officer
- American Indian Tribes
 - Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
- Public
 - Including Historic Societies



Court recording for the turnover of operations and maintenance to MID, September 18, 1916

Step 4: Evaluate Resources for Eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

- Minidoka Gravity Division Historic District
- Individual Resources within the MGDHD:
 - Administration buildings
 - Canals
 - Pumphouses
- No non-MGDHD resources recorded during survey

Step 6: Consult with the SHPO on Finding of Effect.

- Often combined with Step 5.
- Preliminary Finding:
 - Adverse effect to the Pumping Plant

Step 7: Determine method to avoid or resolve adverse effects to historic properties.

- Preliminary mitigation plan for adverse effects to the MGDHD:
 - Create a public history document highlighting:
 - History of the MGD
 - History of MID
 - Contributions to Idaho History
 - Using:
 - Historic documents on file at Reclamation and MID
 - Historic photographs
 - Other primary sources
- Develop online resources using above resources to reach out to public about their history
- Hold public meetings to discuss history of the MGD and make people aware of new resources.