



STATE HISTORIC
**PRESERVATION
OFFICE**

/ IDAHO STATE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LESSONS FROM THE PAST, FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

THE IDAHO HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

2026 - 2036





Governor Brad Little

We would like to thank Idaho Governor Brad Little, and his office, for their support in efforts to improve and protect the unique historic, cultural, and archaeological resources of Idaho.



IDAHO STATE
**HISTORICAL
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Thank you, Idahoans! Input from the public was instrumental in crafting the Idaho Historic Preservation Plan. The impressive amount of public participation is part of what makes this truly a plan for the entire State of Idaho. Thank you for your suggestions and help.

This plan was completed by Patricia Nilsson, AICP, whose commitment to historic preservation and to the people of Idaho is evident throughout the document. Through an inclusive and collaborative process, she significantly expanded public outreach across the state and ensured that diverse community voices were meaningfully incorporated into the development of statewide preservation goals for the next ten years.

This program receives federal funds for the identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap in its federally assisted programs. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Chief, Office of Equal Opportunity Programs, United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, MS-2740, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This publication has been funded in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior.

Costs associated with this publication are available from the Idaho State Historical Society in accordance with Section 60-202, Idaho Code.



72-100-92a_US Assay Office transfer, Idaho State Archives

Executive Summary

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, established a national policy to preserve the historic and cultural resources of the United States and created State Historic Preservation Officers and Offices (SHPOs) to implement the Act at the state level. In accordance with NHPA §101(b)(3)(C), each SHPO is required to develop and implement a comprehensive statewide historic preservation plan to guide effective decision-making related to historic property preservation.

The Idaho Historic Preservation Plan (IHPP) provides this guidance for preservation activities throughout the State of Idaho. The plan establishes goals and priority actions to support the identification, evaluation, protection, and stewardship of Idaho's historic and cultural resources. It serves a broad and diverse preservation community that includes federal, state, and local agencies; Tribal governments; nonprofit organizations; private businesses; local historic preservation commissions; property owners; and individual citizens.

Public participation is a central component of the statewide planning process and is essential to ensuring that the plan reflects public values, assesses the effectiveness of existing preservation programs, and identifies emerging needs and opportunities. For the 2026 IHPP, the SHPO implemented a comprehensive public outreach strategy designed to gather input from individuals, agencies, and organizations engaged in or affected by historic preservation activities in Idaho. Outreach efforts included a statewide, web-based public survey; seven public meetings held in communities across Idaho; and six focus groups representing stakeholders working in a range of preservation disciplines. These efforts provided multiple opportunities for meaningful participation and dialogue. A total of 659 individuals participated in the outreach process, including elected leaders and representatives from the Idaho State Historical Society Board of Trustees, federal and state agencies, local governments, Tribal partners, preservation organizations, and members of the public.

The Idaho Historic Preservation Plan synthesizes this public input into a strategic framework that identifies shared goals, priorities, and actions for the 10 year planning period ending in 2026. The plan is intended to support informed decision-making, strengthen partnerships, and promote coordinated preservation efforts statewide. Through its implementation, the IHPP advances the long-term stewardship of Idaho's historic and cultural resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

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Idaho State Historical Society Boise, Idaho

“The mission of the Idaho State Historical Society is to preserve and promote Idaho’s cultural heritage. Its vision is to inspire, enrich, and engage all Idahoans by leading the state in preserving, sharing, and using history and cultural resources relevant to today to inform and influence the future.”



IMPORTANT ACRONYMS

There are a number of significant acronyms throughout this plan listed below. Additionally, a more in-depth glossary is provided at the end of this plan.

ASI - Archaeological Survey of Idaho

CLG - Certified Local Government(s)

HPF - Historic Preservation Fund

ICRIS - Idaho Cultural Resource Information System

IHPP - Idaho Historic Preservation Plan

ISHS - Idaho State Historical Society

LEED - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

NHL - National Historic Landmark

NHPA - National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, recodified in Title 54 (54 USC 300101 et seq)

NPS - National Park Service

NRHP - National Register of Historic Places

MPD - Multiple Property Documentation

SHPO - State Historic Preservation Office

THPO - Tribal Historic Preservation Office

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

A Vision for Historic Preservation in Idaho

Idaho's historic, archaeological, and cultural resources represent the physical and tangible manifestations of our history; they reflect who we were, where we came from, and where we are now. They help shape our outlook for the future. As part of the statewide engagement for the development of this historic preservation plan, Idahoans were systematically asked for the first time how the loss of historic resources affected them. The majority of respondents stated they were affected emotionally; they feel connected to the place where they live. Further, with unprecedented growth in Idaho in recent years, many survey respondents said they feel unsettled by the rapid change. By protecting, preserving, and understanding these important resources, we span the past, present, and the future, not as separate events or periods, but as a continuing progression of Idaho's story. This provides a secure foundation upon which Idaho can thrive while maintaining a culture respectful of those who inhabited this area throughout our history.

The vision of this plan, *Lessons from the Past, Foundation for the Future: The Idaho State Historic Preservation Plan, 2026-2036*, is to take purposeful actions to create a culture in which Idaho's historic, archaeological, and cultural resources are recognized as important and relevant in the lives of Idahoans today, and in which all people in the state, residents and visitors alike, are actively engaging in preserving, sharing, and using these resources to inform and positively influence the future of the State of Idaho.

Purpose

The Idaho Historic Preservation Plan (IHPP) establishes the goals and priority actions for the historic preservation community throughout the State of Idaho. This community includes individuals and organizations at all levels, from federal and state agencies to local preservation commissions. It includes tribes, non-profit organizations, private firms, other government agencies, local governments, owners of historic properties, and individual citizens. With such a diverse set of interests, it is necessary to have a common framework for our efforts so that all who are engaged in preservation-related activities are better able to carry out the work necessary to bring the Plan's vision to reality.

African proverb: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

Term of This Plan

As with any effective planning document, state historic preservation plans need to be updated on a regular schedule to be effective and relevant—a lot can change over just a few years. Typically, state historic preservation plans should be updated every five (5) to ten (10) years. While many state historic preservation plans are intended to go through the updating process every five (5) years, the cycle for the update of the IHPP was initially disrupted by the COVID pandemic that started in March 2020, and further delayed by SHPO staff turnover. This plan is anticipated to be finalized in summer 2026 and be in place for 10 years.

Consistent with the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) Grants Manual §6(G)(2)(f), this plan establishes formal mechanisms for coordination with related state, federal, Tribal, and local planning efforts. The Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) coordinates implementation of the Idaho Historic Preservation Plan (IHPP) through memoranda of understanding (MOUs), interagency agreements, and established consultation processes with state and federal agencies, Tribal governments, Certified Local Governments (CLGs), and preservation partners. These mechanisms ensure that historic preservation priorities are integrated into broader planning initiatives and provide a structured framework for ongoing communication, shared decision-making, and alignment of preservation goals across jurisdictions.

Historic Preservation

Historic Preservation is a broad term that defines an effort to preserve, conserve, protect, and manage cultural resources of significant value to history and communities. Congress enacted the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in 1966 (as amended), for the first time making it a policy of the US government to preserve cultural resources in the United States. The NHPA created State Historic Preservation Officers/Offices (SHPO) in each state to help carry out the work of the Act. Individual states structure SHPOs differently and may create them as a sub-unit of larger agencies or establish them as independent agencies. The Idaho SHPO is a division of the Idaho State Historical Society (ISHS).

Each state has its own laws that further govern historic preservation activities. In the State of Idaho, the primary laws governing historic preservation are codified in several statutes in Idaho Code (IC).

These are:

- IC 67-6401: Preservation of Historic Sites. This statute authorizes local municipalities to create historic preservation programs.
- IC 18-7027 and IC 27-501: Idaho Antiquities Act of 1984. This section prohibits the disturbance of pre-contact human burials, or the possession of human remains or artifacts removed from a burial, unless the excavation is conducted by a qualified archaeologist with the prior approval of the ISHS and the appropriate Indian tribe.
- IC 67-6501: Idaho Local Land Use Planning Act of 1975. This statute in part, requires that local governments have a comprehensive plan, and that it includes a component for addressing special areas or sites, which includes Historic Preservation.
- IC 33-3901: Idaho Archaeological Survey. The Idaho SHPO maintains the Archaeological Survey of Idaho (ASI), a repository of information and artifacts about the archaeology of Idaho, both precolonial and historic.

A complete list of state statutes that touch on historic preservation is included in Appendix B.

Since the passing of the NHPA, historic preservation has become more widely recognized as an economic development tool, an environmental concern, an aesthetic and educational interest, and a mechanism to guide governmental and private actions in managing our cultural resources. In turn, over the past several decades, historic preservation has become a greater priority for the public on the local, state, and national levels.



Arco, Idaho

The National Register of Historic Places—created by the NHPA—identifies five different historic property types: buildings, structures, objects, districts, and sites.



“Buildings: A building is a structure created to shelter any form of human activity such as a house, barn, church, hotel or similar structure. Building may refer to a historically related complex such as a courthouse and jail or house and barn.

Caption: Bethel Missionary Baptist Church Pocatello, ID (NRHP #100007013)



“Structures: A structure is a work made up of an interdependent and interrelated parts in a definite pattern of organization. Constructed by man, it is often an engineering project large in scale.”

St. Joe CCC Bridge Avery, ID



“Objects: An object is a material thing of functional, aesthetic, cultural, historical, or scientific value that may be, by nature or design, movable yet related to a specific setting or environment.”

Yellow Stone Highway Marker, Franklin County, ID.



“Districts: A district is a geographically definable area, urban or rural, possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, building, structures, or objects united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development. A district may also comprise individual elements separated geographically but linked by association or history.”

Garden District, Coeur d'Alene, ID



“Sites: A site is the location of a significant event, a pre- or post contact occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the location itself maintains historical or archaeological values regardless of the value of any existing structure.”

US Assay Office Excavation, Boise, Idaho

Historic Preservation Fund

In 1977, the federal government created the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) to provide a funding source for States to carry out the work mandated by the NHPA. Offshore gas and oil lease revenues--not tax dollars--fund the HPF. The HPF funds preservation efforts through the distribution of grants to each state's and Territory's SHPO. The amount of HPF granted to each is first allocated by allotting each state an equal base amount established as the minimum required to operate and maintain a SHPO; and second, is distributed based on a formula that considers the state's population based on U.S. Census data, the total area according to U.S. Geological Survey data, and the number of historical residences over 50 years in age according to U.S. Census data.

The HPF grants are approved for use to cover the costs of salaries, studies, or necessary historic structure reports and engineering studies used to preserve cultural resources. A 1982 amendment to the Act requires that at minimum, ten percent (10%) of HPF funds awarded to the SHPO must be allocated as sub-grants to aid Certified Local Governments (CLGs) for local historic preservation efforts.

Historic Preservation in Idaho

There is a respectable and strong tradition of historic preservation in the State of Idaho, and a history of preservation-minded people and organizations working collaboratively to carry out important work. Historic preservation in Idaho has gained momentum over the last few decades due to the partnerships among organizations such as the SHPO, Preservation Idaho, the Idaho Heritage Trust, the Idaho Archaeological Society, and many local historical societies and Historic Preservation Commissions or CLGs.

These partnerships have been challenged by high turnover over the past 10 years within all of these organizations. Only two SHPO staff remain since this plan was last amended, and those retirements and departures have resulted in the loss of decades of institutional knowledge. This is happening throughout Idaho to our professional, avocational, and grassroots preservationists. Twenty percent (20%) of Idahoans are ages 20-34 and the SHPO and preservation partners will need to consider new perspectives to encourage and engage the younger generations to take an active role in historic preservation.

As was the case in most states, the early years of the National Register program in Idaho focused on high-profile properties to survey and list in the NRHP: downtown historic districts, important governmental buildings, residential areas with high-style architecture, etc. In the last decade, however, Idaho's program has begun to look beyond the obvious at more unique and individual sites, as the preservation movement has increasingly recognized a wider breadth of property types. Recent NRHP listings include: the Firebird Raceway in Emmett—the first purpose-built drag strip to be listed in the NRHP; the Miner's Hat in Kellogg—an example of roadside architecture; and the Brookover House—a mid-century residence in Boise. The coming years offer the opportunity to continue to seek out and list unique properties which have a different story to tell than those traditionally found in NR listings.

State Historic Preservation Offices' Roles and Responsibilities

State Historic Preservation Offices are staffed with historic preservation professionals who meet the Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards established in 1983. These Professional Qualification Standards set out the minimum education and experience required to be considered a historic preservation professional. More information on the Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualifications Standards can be found on the National Park Service website or in the federal code at 36CFR61, Appendix A.

By employing individuals who meet these qualifications, the Idaho SHPO has ensured that its staff has the expertise to carry out its federally mandated responsibilities, which include:

- conducting survey documentation of historic properties;
- maintaining an inventory of historic properties in Idaho;
- administering historic preservation-related federal assistance programs;
- identifying and nominating properties to the National Register of Historic Places;
- advising and assisting local, county, and state government entities, and the public in historic preservation matters;
- preparing and implementing the State Historic Preservation Plan;
- Providing assistance and guidance to property owners seeking to utilize federal rehabilitation tax incentives.
- providing public information, education, and training;
- working with local governments in developing historic preservation programs; and
- Consulting with federal agencies on federally funded, licensed, or permitted projects, to give local voice to federal action.

One requirement for the SHPO to receive the HPF grant is to provide and implement a Statewide Historic Preservation Plan (HPP). The Idaho SHPO represents the state and acts as a statewide steward for cultural resources across Idaho. SHPO staff advocate for, educate about, and encourage the prioritization of historic preservation through their daily work activities, workshops, conferences, field trips, training, educational programs/presentations, and on-line resources. The priorities set by the Idaho Historic Preservation Plan and Annual Work Plan reflect input from a wide variety of stakeholders and outline goals and objectives for agencies including SHPO as well as organizations and individuals supportive of historic preservation throughout the state.



Miner's Hat Kellogg, ID (NRHP #100007007)

The IHPP provides a foundation for the historic preservation community, state and local agencies, and all others interested in the preservation of Idaho to address preservation matters and to protect and manage cultural resources. Historic preservation is an ongoing commitment that requires assistance and collaboration to keep its communities growing, educating, and advocating for Idaho's old and new cultural resources.

National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) is the official listing of historic properties that are important to our nation's history and that are considered worthy of preservation. This honorific designation includes buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts significant to our history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. Resources may be of national, state, or local significance. For private property owners, National Register listing is honorific and does not affect ownership rights, up to, and including, demolition.

The Idaho SHPO administers the National Register program for the state. This includes nominating properties for listing, processing nominations, and assisting owners in preparing the nominations. Currently, there are 1,085 Idaho properties listed in the National Register ranging from individual properties to large districts containing hundreds of buildings or archaeological sites. Including those properties within districts, the total number of listed properties in Idaho is in excess of 7,000. A more detailed description and breakdown of Idaho's designated historic sites is included in the "Assessment of Resources" section of this plan.

For sites that have been determined to be eligible for listing in the NRHP, the process of listing the site can begin at any time, and can be initiated by the property owner, a historical society, a historic preservation commission, a government agency, or any other interested group or individual. Once the property is determined eligible, the first step is researching the property in depth to obtain all of the relevant history on the site. Once gathered, the preparation of the nomination form can begin. A completed nomination form is submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office and reviewed for completeness and accuracy. SHPO staff work with the nomination preparer, providing comments and feedback in an iterative process until a final draft is completed. Final drafts are sent to property owner(s), local government(s), and other interested parties for public comment. If the property owner, or a majority of owners in a proposed district, formally opposes the nomination, the nomination process ends (though the property may still receive a formal determination of eligibility from the Keeper of the NRHP). If, however, the owners support the nomination, the draft nomination is then forwarded to the State Historic Sites Review Board.

In Idaho, this Review Board is made up of individuals from across the state, and across various professional disciplines, and each of whom brings a different perspective to the review. Completed nominations are then forwarded, with the recommendation of the Review Board, to the National Park Service for review by the Keeper of the National Register. If the Keeper approves the nomination, the property is officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places and becomes a part of the State's, and the nation's, designated historic fabric.

Survey and Inventory

States are directed by the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) to conduct a comprehensive statewide survey of historic properties and to maintain inventories of those resources. This survey and inventory program is carried out in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification and Evaluation, which establish professional and methodological guidance for the systematic identification, documentation, and assessment of historic and archaeological resources. The purpose of this organized effort is to identify properties that may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), ensuring that local governments, the State, federal agencies, and the public have reliable, consistent information to support planning, project review, and preservation decision-making.

In early 2024, the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) launched the Idaho Cultural Resource Information System (ICRIS), a GIS-enabled application that provides public and stakeholder access to the SHPO's cultural resource database. ICRIS currently includes information on approximately 44,000 architectural and historic properties in Idaho's built environment and inventory data for roughly 57,000 recorded archaeological sites. Built-environment data are accessible to the general public through a guest portal; however, archaeological site information is considered sensitive and exempt from public records laws and is therefore restricted to professionally qualified users, consistent with federal standards and best practices for resource protection.

In addition to its federally mandated responsibilities, the SHPO is also home to the Archaeological Survey of Idaho (ASI), which was established by the Idaho Legislature in 1992 to promote the documentation, preservation, and interpretation of Idaho's pre-contact and early historic past through archaeological investigation. In coordination with ASI, the SHPO maintains the state's archaeological site and survey inventories in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and oversees the Western Repository, which serves as the official curation facility for archaeological collections recovered within Idaho.

Review and Compliance

The National Historic Preservation Act created the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP). The ACHP is an independent federal agency which oversees the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable use of the nation's diverse historic resources, and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy and issues. The ACHP is responsible for promulgating rules and regulations regarding Section 106 of the NHPA.

Section 106 of the NHPA and its associated regulations establishes specific responsibilities for all federal agencies that are involved in, approve, fund, or license projects that may affect the nation's historic properties. Federal agencies are required to use this formal consultation process to make a good-faith effort to avoid, minimize, or mitigate harm to historic properties. In effect, the law prevents federal agencies from impacting historic properties without the state and/or tribe's formal input in the process, thereby giving local voice to federal action. In addition, the law requires the federal agency to engage the public in identifying historic properties and in the consultation process for the proposed project.

The Section 106 process is best initiated in the early stages of a project so it can be part of the project planning and decision-making process. The ACHP defines a four-step 106 process in layman's terms:

1. The federal agency must gather information to determine whether there are properties in the area that may be affected by the project which are listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places (referred to as "historic properties");
2. Determine how any present historic properties might be affected by the project;
3. Explore measures to avoid or reduce harm ("adverse effect") to historic properties; and
4. Reach agreement with the SHPO/THPO (and the ACHP in some cases) on such measures to resolve any adverse effects or, failing that, obtain advisory comments from the ACHP; which are sent to the head of the agency.

Any federal agency that has undertakings which have the potential to affect historic properties must comply with the law and consult under Section 106. In Idaho, these include but are not limited to: the U.S. Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; Army Corps of Engineers; Federal Highway Administration (via the Idaho Transportation Department); and many others. The Idaho SHPO works with all federal agencies that participate in the Section 106 process. Annually, the SHPO consults on approximately 1,000-1,500 new federal projects.

The Idaho SHPO's ICRIS provides the portal through which federal agencies conduct Section 106 consultation. This spatially-enabled application has made the consultation process in Idaho significantly more efficient. The SHPO project response time has decreased by 81%, going from a median 16 days to just 3 days. SHPO also provides Section 106 guidance documents, training modules, and report templates on its website (Section 106 Project Review | Idaho State Historical Society).



Indian Mountain Fire Lookout Adams County, ID (NRHP #100007977)

Historic Preservation Planning

The American Planning Association describes planning as the process of working to improve the welfare of people and their communities by creating more convenient, equitable, healthful, efficient, and attractive places for present and future generations. Historic preservation planning is the application of this approach to historic preservation efforts at all scales, from the federal level down to neighborhood groups seeking to list their neighborhood in the National Register, and everything in between. The historic preservation planning process involves a rational and methodical approach which works to develop a shared vision and specific goals and priorities for the preservation of historic properties, including archaeological resources. Moreover, historic preservation planning will also ideally provide a clear and effective path to achieving these goals and reaching the overall vision.

Historic preservation planning in Idaho is comprised of a wide range of activities, including: the development of both this statewide comprehensive historic preservation plan, as well as local historic preservation plans for counties and municipalities; identification and development of historic contexts; management planning for specific cultural resources; and gathering and analyzing information about historic resources in order to identify and define priorities. Preservation planning is an ongoing activity subject to continuous modification and input and is closely related to all other program areas.



Mountain Home Grange Hall Latah County, ID (NRHP #100007014)

Tax Incentives

One of the most effective incentives to private sector investment in historic preservation projects is the federal investment tax credit program for rehabilitating certain historic properties. Owners of National Register-listed, income-producing properties who undertake substantial rehabilitation projects that meet accepted preservation standards can claim 20% of their rehabilitation costs in tax credits to be applied to their federal income tax liability. In past decades the program has generated over \$35 million in private investment in over 50 historic buildings around Idaho. Historic preservation projects that utilize federal tax credits encourage collaborative and creative design and engineering that incorporate the historic fabric of a property into a new use and modern development. Tax credit projects have aided Main Street organizations with the revitalization of downtowns and have brought heritage tourism to areas that are more rural.

Along with the tax credit program, there are other federal tax provisions regarding historic preservation easement donations. A historic preservation easement is a legal document through which a property owner retains title and use of a property but donates the right to alter the property without prior permission from the easement-holding organization. Future owners are also restricted from changing the property without prior approval throughout the life of the easement. Donors of a preservation easement may claim a charitable tax deduction for the preservation of specific aspects of a property in perpetuity.

In addition to the tax benefits, grantors may benefit from the donation of an easement through the guaranteed preservation of a building which an owner has spent considerable time and resources restoring. Easement donors also enjoy long-term professional assistance with technical preservation issues and stewardship by an organization with preservation knowledge and expertise.

Since the late 1970s, the Idaho State Historical Society has administered a Historic Preservation Easement Program and currently manages 13 properties in its easement portfolio, protecting 20 individual buildings. In 2024 the Idaho SHPO reviewed and revised its historic preservation easement policies and procedures to better reflect national best practices.

Idaho does not currently have a state historic preservation tax incentive. Heritage partner organizations hope to develop and implement a state program which would work in conjunction with the federal programs. Complimentary state credits in other states have been shown to encourage both increased historic preservation efforts and economic development opportunities throughout a state. As of 2024, efforts to encourage the Idaho Legislature to approve legislation that would create this additional incentive have been intermittent, limited largely by organizational capacity.

Certified Local Governments

Since the 1980 amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act created the program, the Certified Local Government (CLG) program has provided a means by which cities and counties can participate formally in historic preservation efforts. By establishing a local historic preservation commission and meeting certain minimum requirements, Idaho's cities and counties can become eligible for matching grants which can be used to pursue a wide range of historic preservation-related activities. Ten percent (10%) of the SHPO's annual HPF monies are redistributed as pass-through grants to the CLGs. Certified Local Government communities use these funds to carry out projects which reflect their own preservation priorities, such as: conducting surveys to identify historic properties; preparing nominations to the National Register of Historic Places; publishing brochures, posters, and walking tours highlighting historic properties; conducting educational workshops for historic building owners; developing architectural plans and specifications for historic building rehabilitation projects; and many other activities. As of 2024, there are 40 Idaho local governments certified under the program—25 cities and 15 counties.

Idaho's CLG program has had a proven track record of successful projects and the State Historic Preservation Office continues work to meet the growing needs of CLG communities through grant funding and technical assistance.



Rankin Auto Court Fremont County, ID

PART 2: ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCES, TRENDS, AND OPPORTUNITIES

Assessment of Resources

National Register of Historic Places Listed Sites

Idaho has a strong history of carrying out historic preservation efforts through a combination of private development projects, public/government agency actions, and dedicated grassroots endeavors. Among many other notable achievements, these efforts have resulted in the listing of a wide variety of historic resources in the National Register of Historic Places. Recent National Register listings, such as the Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Pocatello (a major center of local Civil Rights activity), the Miner’s Hat in Kellogg (a remarkable example of programmatic roadside architecture), and the Owyhee Motorcycle Club in Ada County near Boise (the first motorcycle racing-related facility listed in the National Register anywhere in the country), recognize many unique facets of the state’s history for future generations.



Owyhee Motorcycle Club, Ada County, Idaho (NRHP #100008236)

Any property listed in the NRHP is listed under one (1) or more of the 30 “Areas of Significance” categories identified by the National Park Service. In Idaho, Architecture is by far the most often cited, with over 78% of the listed properties including “Architecture” as one of their Areas of Significance. This high percentage is reflective of the emphasis on building design in the early years of the National Register program. The other most common Areas of Significance for Idaho’s listed properties are Explorations/Settlement, Commerce, Politics/Government, Social History, and Agriculture. See Figure 1 for a full breakdown of properties by Areas of Significance.

Unlike many other states, Idaho does not have a state register of historic places. Instead, properties are designated by a community as local landmarks and/or listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Area of Significance	July 2015		July 2024	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
AGRICULTURE	63	6.12%	64	5.89%
ARCHITECTURE	857	83.20%	848	78.08%
ARCHAEOLOGY	35	3.40%	39	3.59%
Pre-contact	24	2.33%	23	2.12%
Historic-Aboriginal	9	0.87%	10	0.92%
Historic-Non-Aboriginal	12	1.17%	12	1.10%
ART	14	1.36%	14	1.29%
COMMERCE	88	8.54%	89	8.20%
COMMUNICATIONS	6	0.58%	6	0.55%
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT	45	4.37%	49	4.51%
CONSERVATION	40	3.88%	44	4.05%
ECONOMICS	33	0.29%	3	0.28%
EDUCATION	53	5.15%	58	5.34%
ENGINEERING	27	2.62%	31	2.85%
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION	25	2.43%	35	3.22%
ETHNIC HERITAGE	32	3.11%	38	3.50%
Asian	10	0.97%	9	0.83%
Black	2	0.19%	4	0.37%
European	12	1.17%	12	1.10%
Hispanic	0	-	0	-
Native American	14	1.36%	13	1.20%
Pacific Islander	0	-	0	-
Other	0	-	1	0.09%
EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	90	8.74%	89	8.20%
HEALTH/MEDICINE	5	0.49%	5	0.46%
INDUSTRY	25	2.43%	26	2.39%
INVENTION	2	0.19%	2	0.18%
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	3	0.29%	4	0.37%
LAW	2	0.19%	2	0.18%
LITERATURE	1	0.10%	3	0.28%
MARITIME HISTORY	0	-	1	0.09%
MILITARY	18	1.75%	18	1.66%
PERFORMING ARTS	1	0.10%	1	0.09%
PHILOSOPHY	0	-	0	-
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	76	7.38%	82	7.55%
RELIGION	16	1.55%	15	1.38%
SCIENCE	4	0.39%	4	0.37%
SOCIAL HISTORY	64	6.21%	68	6.26%
TRANSPORTATION	38	3.69%	39	3.59%
OTHER	1	0.10%	1	0.09%

Since properties can be listed under one or more areas of significance, the “No.” column is the number of properties which include that area of significance, while the “Percent” column is the percentage of total listed properties which include that area. These numbers are as of July 2024.

Figure 1. Areas of Significance Cited in Idaho Properties Listed in the National Register of Historic Places

Areas of Significance

A review of significance for Idaho's National Register sites reveals that some areas of significance are more prevalent than others. The previous IHPP identified a lack of NR listings relating to areas such as ethnic heritage, women's history, and indigenous history. The public survey conducted as part of the previous plan identified five (5) areas in particular that the respondents felt were least understood in the context of Idaho history and its connection to historic places in the state:

- 50% of respondents said Native American history;
- 35% of respondents said Women's history;
- 32% of respondents said African-American history;
- 29% of respondents said Hispanic history; and
- 50% of respondent who said "Other" referenced Asian-American and/or Asian immigrant history.

These numbers reflect an interest on behalf of Idaho's citizens to know and understand more about the broader collective past of Idaho and suggest that more effort could be put into identifying and nominating properties associate with Idaho's various ethnic groups.

Since the adoption of the last IHPP an African American Civil Rights grant from the National Park Service provided for the development of a statewide context regarding Idaho's unique African American civil rights story. This context, along with crowdsourcing of information via social media, helped identify some previously undocumented sites across the state and facilitated a multiple property National Register nomination and the listing of two individual sites associated with Idaho's Black history. While there is room for expansion in these areas, documents like the African American Civil Rights context and the El Milagro context provide opportunities to expand the story of Idaho history via NR listings.

There are also a limited number of listings for properties associated with Idaho women. Some examples include the Portia Club in Payette (listed in 2010), Greenwood School in Jerome County (listed in 2020), and the Corilla J. and Orlando Robbins House in Boise (individually listed in 2020- previously listed in 1977 as part of a district). Additional NR listing of sites exploring women's history will better reflect the state's population and tell a wider story.

The 1992 amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act provided for the formal establishment of tribal historic preservation programs. With this development and with increasing tribal involvement in federal preservation programs, agencies and the State of Idaho are becoming more aware of historic resources of tribal significance. In Idaho, two of the five federally recognized tribes—the Nez Perce and the Coeur d'Alene--have established Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs) which provide opportunity to improve communication and collaboration to increase the understanding of Native American resources.

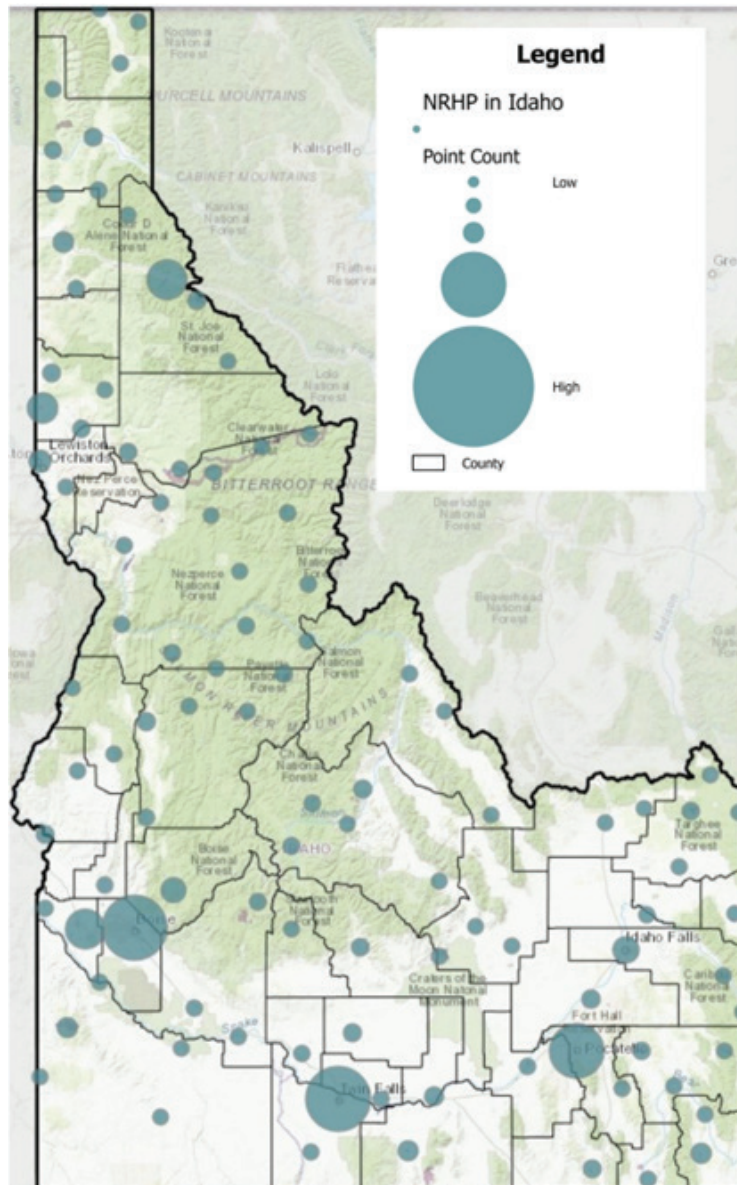
Geographic Distribution of Resources

Approximately half of Idaho's National Register-listed properties are located in the southwestern and south-central regions of the state; the northern and southeast regions of the state contain approximately one-quarter each. These skewed statistics reflect different factors. In general, major population centers tend to have more sites listed in the National Register than rural areas simply because of the larger pool of historic resources. As the population center of the state, the southwest region has the largest concentrations of buildings, and since the emphasis in the early years of the National Register program was on architecture, it is not surprising that this region is disproportionately represented.

Another factor is that full and comprehensive surveys of rural areas for all potential historic sites are rare. Urban surveys to identify eligible properties are more efficient and therefore more fiscally achievable than large rural studies; the latter tend to be more expensive to conduct and generally have far fewer eligible properties (in terms of raw numbers). Although there are vast regions of Idaho so rugged and inhospitable that they have virtually no historic buildings or structures, it is clear that long-range planning efforts should include increased survey work for the identification and nomination of historic resources in more rural areas of the state. Efforts made toward this end since the last IHPP include survey work completed by county-wide Certified Local Governments throughout the state. Much of the information regarding Idaho's built environment resources comes from CLG surveys like these in both urban and rural areas.



American Legion Malad Post 65 Malad, ID (NRHP #10009874)



National Register of Historic Place Listed Properties by location, 2024

In addition to working to improving the geographic distribution of new nominations, there are other aspects to existing survey/inventory work that should be addressed in coming years. Specifically, many of the existing surveys and inventories were conducted a number of years ago—sometimes three or more decades—and have not been updated in many years, if ever. Their utility today is therefore limited as many properties have no doubt been significantly altered or lost, especially given the significant recent growth and development in the state.

Similarly, in the case of archaeological surveys, many of the studies are decades old and/or were specialized for a particular project. Consequently, while the records indicate that a specific area may have already been surveyed for archaeological resources, the sites may need to be revisited to ensure survey information is still accurate and conclusions are valid.

Population

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Idaho's population in 2023 was estimated to be 1,964,726, an increase of almost 400,000 since 2010, and an increase of 125,609 since 2020. Further, one in sixteen Idahoans have lived in the state for three (3) years or less. Such significant growth and changes in Idaho's population will impact the State's historic resources, making, statewide historic preservation education critical.

In the short term, the influx of new residents to the state has the potential to bring new energy and new enthusiasm about Idaho's history and its historic resources. Because new residents often look for ways to learn about their new home, historic preservation organizations can capitalize on that by drawing increased attention to the state's resources, potentially attracting new supporters to their efforts. With new arrivals in the state, there is also the potential for new commercial businesses, large and small. New small businesses, in particular, typically look for space in existing commercial buildings. While some of these will inevitably be drawn to suburban strip developments, many will look to historic downtown cores. Communities and property owners may realize an uptick in demand which can provide new opportunities to rehabilitate and reoccupy underutilized historic properties in their downtown areas.

On the other hand, the increased demand for new housing and commercial construction, and the need for transportation network improvements, puts pressure on the existing building stock in several ways. For example, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, there were 188,914 housing units in 2013 built prior to 1970. In 2020, there were 183,244 (25%) built prior to 1970. In seven (7) years, approximately 5,670 pre-1970 housing units were razed.

As urban areas encroach into surrounding rural areas, farms and ranches transition to suburban tract housing, resulting in the loss of unknown numbers of historic agricultural buildings, historic landscapes, and archaeological sites. Areas with the most rapid population increases will be particularly impacted. These include: Ada County and Canyon County in southwest Idaho; Twin Falls County in south-central Idaho; Bonneville County, Jefferson County, and Bannock County in southeast Idaho; and Kootenai County, Latah County, and Bonner County in northern Idaho. All of these areas have a rich agricultural heritage and saw significant population increases between 2010 and 2020.

Economic Environment

While Idaho currently enjoys a modestly growing economy, economic trends are cyclical with periods of growth, stagnation, and decline. Each of these could have an impact on the state's historic resources. Growth may add pressure to demolish small historic buildings to make way for larger, new construction and in turn this new ground disturbances may affect archaeological sites. Economic stagnation often results in deferred maintenance and neglect of existing buildings. Economic decline has been seen to result in outright abandonment of structures.

Recreation and tourism demands are increasing in Idaho, from the growing number of new residents as well as from external visitors. According to the Idaho Department of Commerce, the tourism sector of "Arts, entertainment, and recreation" grew 39% in direct earnings between 2019 - 2023 and grew 12.8% in direct employment. Statewide, direct state tax receipts for all tourism sectors increased 34.7% during that same time period. Many surveys throughout the country consistently show that historic sites are among the most popular destinations for vacation travelers. As such, Idaho's communities have an opportunity to capitalize on this desire for heritage tourism by highlighting historic properties in ways that may draw tourism dollars into the local economy.



Hamilton, Boyd and Alta House Coeur d'Alene, ID
(NRHP #100007118)

Political Environment

Idaho is a politically conservative state, and this trend is expected to continue. For the past twenty years, government at all levels has been in a period of transition and redefinition primarily in the form of budgetary challenges and shrinkage. This may or may not affect historic resources directly, but there could be indirect impacts. In this context, if historic sites are going to be saved for future generations, the burden will fall more and more on private sector initiative.

At the federal level, the potential exists for government programs which affect historic resources to fluctuate. Direct support in the form of historic preservation grants, community development funding, and other programs may face declining funding levels. At the same time, states may see a shift toward more autonomy and flexibility within some federally funded programs.

With potential government downsizing, direct funding sources to preserve historic sites and to conduct other preservation activities may diminish. If so, there will be a need for more creative approaches to programs that support historic preservation and possibly greater collaboration with non-profit and private sector entities.

Disaster Planning

The greatest area of concern for Idaho is the potential for increased frequency and severity of drought. Much of Idaho is sparsely populated high desert or remote mountain terrain. Increased drought makes these areas especially susceptible to wildfires, which have the real potential to destroy historic and archaeological sites throughout the state.

Other environmental impacts to historic resources include: increased interest in weatherization and energy conservation programs which may affect building design, particularly window retrofits; Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility requirements and their potential to affect buildings; and the abandonment or major upgrades of historic school buildings and other public structures.

Increased interest in Leadership in Energy in Environmental Design (LEED) certification, as well as the “green” movement in energy conservation efforts, while ostensibly compatible with historic preservation principles, may also affect some historic resources.

Disaster Preparedness

The Idaho Office of Emergency Management coordinates disaster preparedness planning for state agencies and local governments. In their guide *Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans*, scant reference is made to historic and archaeological resources. Idaho counties have prepared All Hazards Mitigation Plans which also fail to account for impacts to historic and archaeological resources. SHPO will look for opportunities to work with various federal, state, and municipal partners to ensure that historic resources are given more consideration in disaster preparedness plans. In 2021, the SHPO updated guidance for cultural resource stewards titled *Planning for the Unexpected: Disaster Preparedness Guidance for historic Properties in Idaho*. This document outlines best practices for the management of important Idaho sites.

Transportation

Transportation changes continue to affect historic sites in several ways. Throughout the late 1990s and early 2000s, railroad abandonments in Idaho adversely affected important railroad related historic properties. Likewise, highway and other roadway infrastructure projects such as widening, bridge replacement, and other construction activity threaten historic resources. It is estimated that 18% of Idaho’s existing roads and 29% of bridges are in need of replacement. An increased awareness of sites and willingness of agencies, especially the Idaho Transportation Department, to plan for protecting those sites will be of continuing importance in the coming years with population growth throughout Idaho and the need for roadway improvements.

Opportunities

While the trends impacting Idaho's historic preservation efforts include a number of challenges, the State of Idaho also has a number of opportunities which have the potential to help make Idaho a leader in the field of historic preservation.

One such opportunity results from the fact that over 63% of the state is federally owned and/or managed. Because any projects involving federal funds, licenses, or permits require consultation and potential mitigation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the State of Idaho has a strong tradition of making use of this opportunity to ensure that large sections of the state are properly surveyed and documented as a result of agency projects. Mitigation for impacts to important cultural resources requires collaboration among the federal agencies, Idaho state agencies (primarily SHPO), and local municipalities, but has resulted in drastically expanding Idaho's known historic and archaeological resources. Going forward, the state will continue to take advantage of this opportunity and continue efforts to properly preserve additional historic and archaeological resources for future generations.

Idaho's substantial population growth in recent years also affords the state a significant opportunity—one that is already starting to show results. With a large population increase, Idaho has the potential to expand and strengthen its network of historic preservation-minded individuals throughout the state and across professions. Likewise, Idaho's projected increase in tourism over the next 10 years affords the state the opportunity to capitalize on the heritage tourism market, for which historic preservation is a central aspect.

Finally, since the previous plan was adopted, the natural rotation of staff at various historic preservation-related organizations throughout the state has resulted in a fresh influx of ideas and skills. Most notably, many of these recent additions to the historic preservation and archaeology communities bring with them a wide range of highly technical skills and ideas. These will be vital to bringing Idaho's historic preservation efforts into the next century.



Meridian Speedway Meridian, ID (NRHP #100008284)



Kellogg Boy Scout Cabin Kellogg, ID (NRHP #100007006)

PART 3: CRAFTING THE PLAN

Engaging the Public

Public outreach is an essential part of any planning process to measure public perception and desire, what efforts are successful and should be continued, and what efforts are not successful and/or could be improved. For this plan, the public outreach effort was designed to provide opportunities for individual citizens, agencies, and organizations to provide feedback on Idaho's role in historic preservation activities. Outreach efforts included a public, web-based survey, a series of seven public meetings held across Idaho, and six focus groups that represented stakeholders who work in various historic preservation arenas. A total of 659 individuals participated in the outreach efforts.

Opportunities to participate in public meetings and a public survey were well advertised by e-mail notifications to all Idaho cities and counties, an extensive distribution list to Certified Local Government partners, social media stories on the SHPO Facebook and Instagram accounts, announcements on the SHPO web site and in SHPO publications, as well as several traditional media stories with the SHPO outreach historian. SHPO staff temporarily amended their email signatures with an invitation to participate and a hot link to the survey.

Web-based Survey

A survey consisting of 22 questions was released in late March 2024 and remained open for five months. Five hundred forty-seven (547) responses were received and included at least one response from 35 of the 44 counties in Idaho. A detailed summary of responses can be found in Appendix C.

The survey questions were grouped into six general categories: who was taking the survey; what did they consider to be important about historic preservation; their familiarity with current available resources; what are their areas of concern; what support they feel is needed; and a set of questions that sought to ascertain how the loss of historic resources impacted them. The answers provided guidance to this plan by measuring public expectations for the investment of time and funding in various historic preservation initiatives of the State Historic Preservation Office.

Who took the survey?

The majority of respondents viewed themselves as citizens interested in Idaho's history. A large cohort were volunteers to local historical societies or museums, as well as employees of federal, state, or local government agencies. Just under half of the responses came from Idaho's most populous county, Ada County, followed by the other urbanizing counties in the state.

What did they consider to be important about historic preservation?

Most participants responded that it is important to leave a legacy for future generations of Idahoans to learn from and enjoy. Other benefits of historic preservation are that it improves our understanding of our past, helps retain community character, and provides opportunities for teaching about history and culture.

What are the current resources available?

Most respondents were aware of the services and programs provided by the SHPO, however one area that rated lower was awareness of assistance in applying for the federal historic preservation tax credit. At the local level, most were unsure if their community had a preservation planner or if an advocational archaeological group or local non-profit preservation organization exist.

What are the areas of concern?

With the high level of growth in Idaho, it is not surprising that the top four (4) areas of concern are: development pressures, tear-downs, and sprawl; the lack of awareness/lack of understanding of the value and fragility of historic resources; the lack of funding, both public and private; and inappropriate upgrades and treatments to historic properties. The areas these community respondents feel are most threatened include:

- downtowns and commercial buildings
- neighborhoods
- agricultural resources
- urban and rural landscapes
- archaeological sites (both pre-and post contact)
- recreational places such as parks and trails.

What kinds of support are needed?

A majority of respondents identified the need for a sustainable source of funding to help preserve and maintain historic places. Also important is the need for education of the public about the importance of preserving and using historic resources, as well as the education of decision-makers and others who influence the fate of historic properties, whether the built environment or archaeological resources.

The most effective tools for historic preservation identified by respondents include: grants for building rehabilitation/restoration; tax incentives for owners of historic properties; local historic preservation commissions; and public outreach and education.

Public Meetings

Announcements were made through press releases and individual posts made on multiple social media platforms inviting the public to meetings held in Twin Falls, Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Lewiston, Coeur d'Alene, Caldwell and Boise attended by 85 people in total. At each meeting, attendees' historic preservation priorities were captured using display boards and comment forms. Attendees were given multiple dots to assign to their priorities from a large potential list on the display boards. This provided a clear visual understanding of issues of community importance. A more detailed compilation of the meeting input and comments can be found in Appendix D.

Similar to the results seen in the survey, the properties attendees typically felt were most threatened include downtown and commercial areas, agricultural resources, neighborhoods and recreational places. The most serious threats facing historic properties in the next 10 years as identified by participants include: development pressures, tear-downs, and sprawl; lack of both public and private funding.

The issues that attendees felt should be the top priorities for the statewide preservation community to address over the next ten (10) years are: the education of decision-makers and other who influence the fate of historic properties; education of the public about the importance of preserving and using historic resources; and identifying a source of sustainable funding to help preserve and maintain historic resources.

The top tools attendees felt are the most effective include: grants for rehabilitation or restoration of historic buildings; local historic preservation ordinances and enforcement; tax incentives for owners of historic properties; and training for government decision-makers.



Lowell Municipal Pool Boise, ID (NRHP #100008169)

Focus Groups

Seven focus groups were convened to gather input from representatives of important constituencies in the historic preservation arena: federal agencies, state agencies, Certified Local Governments, partner organizations, tribes, and the private sector (See Appendix D). Each group has a unique relationship with the SHPO. The discussion questions presented to each group attempted to measure the success of the current working relationship, areas of potential improvement, and what resources were needed to further historic preservation in Idaho.

Federal Agency Representatives

Representatives from eight agencies participated in a discussion of recent successes and challenges. Successes mentioned included collaborative efforts with local groups, and the implementation of the ICRIS rollout. Challenges include the need for improved collaboration among state agencies, tribes, and other partners. There was discussion about how improved consultation and communication can resolve these challenges. The Idaho National Laboratory volunteered that they have seen success after shifting from an insular to a collaborative model in their work, highlighting their efforts to build connections with stakeholders and the public through programs like the Ask an Architectural Historian program.

Agencies agreed on the importance of training regarding the coordination of lead agencies, as well as for assessing the integrity of cultural resources. There was a suggestion that development of county-level goals would help identify meaningful mitigation for project adverse effects, and that SHPO might support this effort as the coordinator of the Certified Local Government program.

A need to respond to the challenges resulting from climate change, particularly the impact of wildfires on historic and cultural resources, is a priority for these agencies, particularly the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, as significant land-management agencies in Idaho.

The agencies agreed on their need to be more proactive and suggested that the preservation community should prioritize their resources and focus on areas that are truly preservation-worthy. Promoting public appreciation for historic properties, rather than the perception that the Section 106 process is a roadblock, is necessary. Also, they recognized their need to be more proactive about staying informed about potential changes in preservation policies.

Certified Local Government Representatives Focus Group

Representatives from the cities of Boise, Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Sandpoint, Moscow, and Nampa participated in a CLG focus group, sharing success stories and challenges. Noted successes included the adoption of new preservation plans, designation of new historic districts and expansions of existing districts, and the creation of design guides and other materials for the owners of historic properties. One particular challenge faced by a few CLGs is the lack of qualified consultants to assist them in completing their HPF-funded projects. Several members of the group highlighted the need for increased education on available resources and grants. The group also expressed satisfaction with the support they receive from the SHPO staff and indicated they have had positive experiences with the new ICRIS database system.

Discussions also emphasized the importance of balancing growth and preservation and the value of collaboration and joint work with the local partners and SHPO. The group agreed on the need for future check-ins and the sharing of resources.

Tribal Partners Focus Group

Four tribal representatives discussed their hope to preserve landscapes and resources so that future generations can define their own culture and way of life. They felt the concept of historic preservation should be interpreted more broadly as cultural preservation, encompassing not just built environments and archaeological sites but also intangible elements of the culture. They expressed concern about the potential destruction of archaeological and cultural sites and the remarked on disheartening impact this can have on the tribe.

Recent successes were discussed, including: the collaboration with Idaho State Parks on a preservation project; the BLM removing rock climbing from the archaeological district at Massacre Rocks; and the effectiveness of a collaboration with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD).

However, problematic areas, such as communication with other agencies, and non-tribal communities' attitudes towards the tribe, were identified. The success of collaboration often depends on the staff and their openness to education and their understanding of tribes' traditional homelands.

A need for increased funding and staff was identified, as some projects are only able to be accomplished by creative partnerships which require human and financial resources. One participant noted that while their tribe has some funding for preservation goals, it is often focused on state or federal agency priorities, not tribal needs.

Private Sector Focus Group

The group included two architects, a private developer who previously utilized the historic tax credit program, and a Cultural Resource Management representative from Idaho Power. The group discussed elements of successful projects and the involvement of the public and Certified Local Governments. Many noted that the most successful projects centered around those following a historic preservation plan.

Throughout discussion it was noted that Idaho is losing a culture of craftsmen and is limited in individuals with the experience or qualifications to assist on projects. Additional outreach and training for contractors and other local partners is needed.

The group discussed how the private sector role in the future of historic preservation may change. There may be more pressure on historic preservation as it will be pitted against other needs, e.g. affordable housing. Local historic resources may become structurally unstable, which may result in demolition due to long-term neglect. The group stressed the need to develop a process to better identify vulnerable resources earlier.

State Agencies Focus Group

The participants discussed the lack of dedicated funding sources for historic resources in most states and the challenges this poses for preserving and managing historic structures. There have been successful projects that used U.S. Department of Energy grants for energy efficiency upgrades, particularly in public buildings. This strategy may have potential for future projects as well. The Idaho Department of Commerce is a valuable source of information on several grant programs and incentives available, such as the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Program, the Business Development Grant Program, and the New Market Tax Credit.

The agencies identified the challenge of having limited funding for preserving cultural and historical resources in Idaho as well as a need for increased training. Many participants expressed interest in training to better understand the agency's workings.

Partner Organizations Focus Group

Partner organizations identified several SHPO services as particularly valuable, including assistance with research and documentation; guidance on the federal historic tax credit program; and access to data through the Idaho Cultural Resource Information System (ICRIS). Partnerships with the SHPO were also described as providing stability to preservation projects and enhancing organizational credibility and legitimacy. Participants noted that SHPO staff serve as effective advocates for historic preservation, particularly through their presence and engagement at public events.

Organizations further emphasized the importance of working with the SHPO to ensure consistent and appropriate application of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification, Evaluation, Registration, and Treatment of Historic Properties, as well as the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards. Even organizations with in-house expertise indicated that SHPO review and coordination play a critical role in confirming that these federal standards are being applied correctly across survey, National Register, tax credit, and treatment-related activities.

Some organizations expressed the perception that SHPO engagement in archaeology is less proactive than in other program areas. While participants acknowledged that CLG grants have supported archaeological identification and evaluation efforts consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation, several noted that additional work could be accomplished if opportunities for collaboration with nonprofit organizations were more widely communicated. There was also a desire expressed for funding for archaeological research to return to levels seen in the past. Participants further voiced frustration that, while funding for research exists, agency capacity constraints and the demands of compliance-related activities can limit the ability to pursue proactive archaeological research initiatives.



Perrine Memorial Bridge Twin Falls, ID

SHPO Staff Focus Group

In addition to the external stakeholders' focus groups, the SHPO staff met together to discuss preservation issues as related to the statewide historic preservation plan. The main areas of focus included how to expand their work to include new proactive survey work to capture gaps in Idaho history which is hampered by existing funding and staff levels. With increased political and public support, a state law that would require evaluation of impacts to historical and archaeological resources from state-funded projects could result in the preservation of historic properties. Increasing incentives for private historic preservation efforts by adopting a state historic preservation tax credit that could complement the existing federal tax credit program would increase the number of rehabilitation projects utilizing the tax credits which would have economic benefits for communities across Idaho.

A broader and more stable foundation for preservation work could include developing a "revolving" fund to preserve significant resources, and the establishment of a university-level program in historic preservation that could increase the number of qualified public and private sector professionals within Idaho.

The group discussed potential improvements in communication and collaboration (both internally and externally) which could include annual meetings and trainings with different constituent groups, such as: annual meetings with federal agencies to discuss and get feedback about processes; better communications with the tribes, such as holding regular meetings to have conversations; holding regular CLG meetings for CLG representatives to get together and share their work. The availability of ICRIS data creates an opportunity for the SHPO to send updates to all users on a regular schedule.

The group discussed the need to expand the efficiency of ICRIS to include National Register nominations and determinations of eligibility and to digitally process Certified Local Government applications and paperwork.

Conclusions

Consistent with the last state historic preservation plan, the results of the public outreach overwhelmingly emphasized the need for more education for the public and public officials, and a desire for more funding resources. These needs and desires have directly influenced the Idaho Preservation Plan's goals and objectives going forward. The existing Idaho Heritage Partners already work collaboratively to advance historic preservation efforts throughout the state, and the information gained through the public engagement process will be used to guide those efforts.



Rexburg Stake Tabernacle Rexburg, ID (NRHP #74000745)

PART 4: THE IDAHO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

The Idaho Historic Preservation Plan establishes the priorities and goals for the historic preservation community throughout the State of Idaho. This community includes individuals and organizations of all types, at all levels, not just the State Historic Preservation Office and includes: tribes, nonprofit organizations, private firms, federal and state agencies, local governments, historic preservation commissions, owners of historic properties, and citizens interested in history or historic preservation. With so many different groups and organizations making up Idaho's historic preservation community, it is necessary to have a common framework for our efforts. The purpose of the IHPP is to ensure that all of these dedicated and passionate preservationists are better able to carry out the work necessary to bring the Plan's vision to reality. The Goals and Objectives of the IHPP are designed to be of use to all preservationists, whether they be an individual or part of a group or organization, and to help guide and focus their activities.

Goals and Objectives

As stated at the beginning of this plan, the guiding principle for the IHPP is to affirm the value of historic preservation in our communities as well as Idaho as a whole. The public input process identified a number of objectives, which have been organized into four (4) primary goals for historic preservation efforts throughout the state.

GOAL 1: Ensure that decision makers, at all levels, and the general public are informed and knowledgeable about historic preservation issues, practices, opportunities, and its value, and take an active role in historic preservation.

Objective A: Increase Idahoans' awareness of the value of cultural resources in the state through education, dissemination of information, survey, and planning.

Suggested Tasks:

1. Continually update appropriate survey information to ICRIS.
2. Distribute news of ICRIS updates on a quarterly basis to users and the public.
3. Maintain online educational resources targeted to specific audiences in Idaho, including the general public, CLGs, local historical commissions, nonprofits, tribes, and federal and state agency partners to be displayed on State Historic Preservation Office webpage.
4. Develop online training presentations for non-professionals and share the presentations with the Association of Idaho Cities, Idaho Association of Counties, web sites, and others.
5. Explore new opportunities to engage the public in historic preservation and archaeology through multi-faceted tools including print and digital components.
6. Find opportunities to work with higher education programs to develop course curriculum focusing on cultural resource management and historic preservation.
7. Encourage federal, state, and local agencies to create internships for emerging historic preservation professionals. Partner with tribes to bring awareness to tribal resources.
8. Identify stakeholders and partnerships necessary to facilitate an understanding of Traditional Cultural Properties to the community when and where appropriate.
9. Explore opportunities to increase efforts to survey state owned properties.

Objective B: Increase awareness and understanding of the National Register of Historic Places and its benefits.

Suggested Tasks:

1. Update the public on new listings in the National Register of Historic Places through the use of press releases and social media announcements.
2. Increase the number and variety of nominations to the NRHP.
3. Explore opportunities with federal agencies and/or tribes to increase the number of archaeological and built environment nominations to the NRHP.
4. Raise awareness about National Historic Landmarks in the state of Idaho, and work with the National Park Service to identify possible National Historic Landmark-eligible properties.
5. Develop new Multiple Property Documentation submissions and update existing documents to streamline the listing of Idaho properties in the National Register of Historic Places. (See Appendix F)
6. Increase the use of the Section 106 process to produce National Register nominations and Multiple Property Documentation as forms of mitigation for significant properties.



Panida Theater Sandpoint, ID (NRHP #8400100)

Objective C: Bring historic preservation to the forefront of community planning and economic development through the Certified Local Government and Main Street programs.

Suggested Tasks:

1. Review and update the CLG program protocols and procedures, including review and update the CLG Program Handbook to meet the needs of current and future CLG communities as necessary.
2. Encourage an increase in CLG engagement with local and state officials and legislative representatives.
3. Encourage collaborative efforts between CLG communities.
4. Strengthen CLG partnerships and connections with local economic development groups and Main Street programs.
5. Encourage increased CLG outreach efforts to inform citizens, with special attention paid to including all community populations, including seniors, and youth.
6. Assist in furthering CLG program knowledge by working with partners to host annual training programs.

Objective D: Better inform decision makers and citizens about the legal responsibilities and opportunities related to historic preservation and Idaho's cultural resources.

Suggested Tasks:

1. Ensure that local and federal partners are properly educated on Section 106 requirements through training and workshops.
2. Partner with government agencies in order to better integrate cultural resource data into land-use and management processes.
3. Explore opportunities to create a state cultural resources law to help preserve Idaho's historic places.
4. Work with federal, state, and local partners to define and develop appropriate, proactive, disaster preparedness plans to help ensure the protection of historic and archaeological resources statewide. Incorporate specific provisions in county All-Hazards Mitigation Plans.
5. Develop regional and state mitigation priorities list.
6. Explore more historic preservation mitigation measures such as off-site efforts, mitigation banking, bricks and mortar, etc.

Objective E: Explore opportunities to build SHPO staff and capacities to expand programs and program areas.

Suggested Tasks:

1. Conduct a survey of Idaho local, state, and federal governments to assess desired level of service from SHPO.
2. Work with ISHS Administration to develop a medium to long term plan for increasing SHPO staff to better meet customer needs and desires.



Hammett School Hammett, ID (NRHP #100010906)

GOAL 2: Continue to utilize current and future historic preservation best practices and the development and adoption of new and emerging technologies.

Objective A: Improve existing information systems in order to assist partners and stakeholders to efficiently locate, document, and protect historic and cultural resources.

Suggested Tasks:

1. Maintain an active social media presence and share posts with social media accounts of Idaho cities and historic preservation interest groups and employ the use of other forms of media including PowerPoint, website, newsletter, etc., for communicating and sharing information with members of the public.
2. Maintain a list of programs and presentations from partners around the state, which will be accessible to all interested parties.
3. Include National Register listings and tax credit projects into ICRIS.
4. Include ASI curation catalogs and documentation in ICRIS.
5. Enhance partners understanding and utilization of ICRIS to ensure they have all the cultural resource information for their respective communities/agencies to encourage historic preservation activities.
6. Encourage communities to develop a guide on how to incorporate historic preservation data and policies in local comprehensive plans.

GOAL 3: Ensure that historic preservation efforts throughout the state are aware of and have access to sufficient and sustainable sources of financial and technical support.

Objective A: Improve communities' ability to leverage multiple resources for funding.

Suggested Tasks:

1. Notify CLGs of matching grant opportunities.
2. Encourage the incorporation of historic preservation efforts into local, county, and state infrastructure and economic development project development.
3. Explore potential local and national funding sources, including non-profits, government grants, and corporate sponsors.
4. Develop a resource guide for regional and statewide technical assistance and trades people.
5. Increase the communities' awareness of opportunities for Section 106 mitigation to assist with historic preservation projects.



Buhl Main Post Office Buhl, ID (NRHP #89000130)

Objective B: Increase the number of Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program applications in the State of Idaho.

Suggested Tasks:

1. Increase awareness and outreach efforts for the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program through collaboration with historic preservation partners.
2. Coordinate with CLGs and Main Street communities and pursue additional partners to disseminate information about the program and its benefits.
3. Explore opportunities to promote access to the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program through outreach and education.



First Security Bank Idaho Falls, ID

Objective C: Develop and enact an Idaho State tax incentive program to work in conjunction with the Federal Historic Tax Incentive program.

Suggested Tasks:

1. Convene heritage partners in Idaho to develop a strategy to advance this Objective.
2. Develop an initial program concept based on existing programs in other states tailored to Idaho's needs.
3. Produce informational handouts and presentations on the proposed program.
4. Work with the Governor's office and key members of the State Legislature to refine and advance legislation.

GOAL 4: Continue to ensure that archaeological documentation and materials are appropriately maintained and curated within the Archaeological Survey of Idaho (ASI).

Objective A: Improve efficiency and effectiveness of the ASI.

Suggested Tasks:

1. Encourage standardization among ASI facilities.
2. Expand availability of online forms for curatorial and repository processes.
3. Encourage utilization of existing collection for education and research purposes.
4. Work to maintain accuracy and organization of data associated with the ASI.



Union Pacific Depot Shoshone, ID (NRHP #75000636)

Objective B: Increase public education and outreach related to the ASI using ICRIS.

Suggested Tasks:

1. Increase the use of ICRIS as a research tool to be utilized by speakers and educators at various conferences and venues.
2. Work with Idaho colleges and universities to expand the reach and effectiveness of ASI.
3. Educate Idaho colleges and universities on the availability and utilization of ICRIS.

Implementation Plan

High Priority (1–3 Year Execution)

1. Enhance ICRIS functionality by adding a new project type that supports the development of Programmatic Agreements and enables tracking of associated stipulations and compliance outcomes. This enhancement will improve transparency, efficiency, and long-term management of complex undertakings. (Goal 2.A)
2. Complete Multiple Property Documentation Forms (MPDFs) for Mid-Century resources, Irrigation systems, and Automobile-related landscapes. These documents will facilitate the evaluation and listing of associated resources statewide while providing essential historic context. Each MPDF responds to a demonstrated need for improved interpretation and understanding of Idaho's diverse historic landscapes. (Goal 1.B.5)
3. Provide technical assistance to applicants during Phase 1 of the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit process, including projects such as the Rex Theater in Orofino and the Payette Lakes Inn in McCall. Early-stage guidance will improve application quality and increase project success. (Goal 3.B.1)
4. Partner with higher education institutions, including Boise State University and the University of Idaho, to develop and integrate historic preservation coursework into existing academic programs, strengthening the future preservation workforce in Idaho. (Goal 1.A.6)
5. Collaborate with Certified Local Governments (CLGs) to host preservation trainings in conjunction with the Commission Assistance and Mentoring Program (CAMP) administered by the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC). These trainings will strengthen local capacity and consistency in preservation practice statewide. (Goal 1.C.6)

Medium Priority (3–5 Year Execution)

1. Enhance Idaho-specific National Register guidance through coordinated efforts by the National Register Coordinator and SHPO staff. Updated and accessible guidelines will support locally driven projects and improve consistency in evaluating National Register-eligible resources. (Goal 1.A)
2. Coordinate annual tax credit training sessions with CLGs, increasing statewide awareness and understanding of the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit program. Trainings will be offered in conjunction with CAMP hosted by NAPC. (Goal 3.A.2)
3. Improve ICRIS functionality for linear resources by enabling tracking of contributing and non-contributing segments. This enhancement will support more accurate integrity assessments and long-term planning for roads, canals, trails, and other linear historic resources. (Goal 2.A)
4. Develop online training videos covering major preservation topics such as survey methodology, ICRIS use, and Section 106 review. These resources will provide accessible, on-demand education for partners and the public. (Goal 1.A.3)
5. Coordinate with state repositories to update database management and standardization of agreements and forms. (Goal 4.A.4)

Low Priority (5–10 Year Execution)

1. Create National Register nomination tracking within ICRIS to support project development, editing workflows, and integration with existing survey and inventory data. This tool will improve efficiency and institutional knowledge over time. (Goal 2.A.3)
2. Expand outreach and consultation with Idaho Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs) to coordinate National Register listings of built-environment resources on tribal lands. Initial efforts will include consultation with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes regarding the Fort Hall Agency Historic District and the Fort Hall Community Meeting Hall. (Goal 1.B.3)
3. Enhance ICRIS to incorporate and centralize ASI collection data and provide access to researchers at each of the State repositories. (Goal 4.B)

Priority Level	Timeframe	Action Item	Description	Related Goal
High	1–3 Years	ICRIS Programmatic Agreement Project Type	Add a new project type within ICRIS to support the development of Programmatic Agreements and to track associated stipulations and compliance outcomes, improving transparency and long-term project management.	2.A
High	1–3 Years	Multiple Property Documentation Forms (MPDFs)	Complete MPDFs for Mid-Century resources, Irrigation systems, and Automobile Landscapes to facilitate evaluation and National Register listing of related resources statewide while improving interpretation and contextual understanding.	1.B.5
High	1–3 Years	Phase 1 Tax Credit Assistance	Provide technical assistance to applicants during Phase 1 of the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit process, including projects such as the Rex Theater (Orofino) and Payette Lakes Inn (McCall), to improve application quality and project outcomes.	3.B.1
High	1–3 Years	Higher Education Partnerships	Partner with Boise State University and the University of Idaho to develop and integrate historic preservation curriculum into existing academic programs, strengthening Idaho’s future preservation workforce.	1.A.6
High	1–3 Years	CLG & CAMP Trainings	Partner with Certified Local Governments to host preservation trainings in conjunction with the Commission Assistance and Mentoring Program (CAMP) administered by the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC).	1.C.6
Medium	3–5 Years	Idaho-Specific National Register Guidelines	Enhance state-specific National Register guidance through coordinated efforts by the National Register Coordinator and SHPO staff, ensuring materials are accessible and supportive of locally driven preservation projects.	1.A
Medium	3–5 Years	Tax Credit Awareness Trainings	Coordinate annual training sessions with CLGs to increase statewide awareness and understanding of the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit program, offered in conjunction with CAMP hosted by NAPC.	3.A.2
Medium	3–5 Years	Linear Resource Enhancements in ICRIS	Improve ICRIS functionality to track contributing and non-contributing segments of linear resources, supporting more accurate integrity assessments and long-term planning.	2.A
Medium	3–5 Years	Database Coordination & Standardization	Coordinate with state repositories to update database management practices and standardize agreements and forms, improving consistency, accessibility, and long-term records management.	4.A.4
Medium	3–5 Years	Online Training Videos	Develop online training videos covering major preservation topics such as survey guidance, ICRIS use, and Section 106 review, providing accessible, on-demand educational resources.	1.A.3
Low	5–10 Years	National Register Tracking in ICRIS	Create a system within ICRIS to track National Register nomination submissions, supporting project development, editing workflows, and integration with survey and inventory data.	2.A.3
Low	5–10 Years	THPO Outreach & Consultation	Expand consultation with Idaho Tribal Historic Preservation Offices to coordinate National Register listings of built-environment resources on tribal lands, including initial consultation with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes regarding Fort Hall resources.	1.B.3
Low	5–10 Years	ASI Collection Data Integration	Enhance ICRIS to incorporate and centralize Archaeological Survey of Idaho (ASI) collection data and provide controlled access to researchers at each of the State repositories, improving coordination, data integrity, and research access.	4.B



Stanrod-Daniels (Yellowstone Hotel) Pocatello, ID (NRHP #82002505)

PART 5: PRESERVATION HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2016-2022 PLAN

“Preserving Our Past; Enriching Our Future” has provided direction to SHPO work since it was adopted in 2016. That plan represented a fresh approach to the challenges facing the SHPO, therefore, it is appropriate to celebrate some of the accomplishments that came out of it and how those accomplishments reflect the previous plan’s goals.

Significant accomplishments are listed below each plan goal:

GOAL 1: Ensure that decision makers, at all levels, and the general public are informed and knowledgeable about historic preservation issues, practices, opportunities, and its value, and take an active role in historic preservation.

- The Idaho Heritage Conference was held in 2017 and in 2022 with attendees numbering over 200.
- Idaho hosted three, regional Commission Assistance and Mentoring Programs (CAMP) in 2019. CAMP is a training program offered by the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions.
- SHPO outreach staff presented at several annual conferences of the American Planning Association Idaho Chapter.
- Multiple articles and television segments on SHPO programs and activities have been printed and broadcast.
- The SHPO moved to a hybrid format for the Historic Sites Review Board thus allowing more public participation from around the state.
- The African-American Civil Rights in Idaho Multiple Property Documentation was completed and led to the listing of two NRHP sites, one in Pocatello and one in Boise.
- The 2020 theme for Historic Preservation Month, “A Woman’s Place”, acknowledged the profound and dynamic impact women have on the places where they live, work, and recreate by highlighting seven historic places where women have influenced who we are as Idahoans.

- When a historic building was threatened with demolition, the city of Coeur d'Alene and its residents furthered their preservation efforts. They initiated public outreach, nominated the building to the NRHP that resulted in its listing, formed a historic preservation commission, became a CLG, and adopted a preservation plan.
- The number of Certified Local Governments increased 17%, from 34 to 40.
- The SHPO staff has emphasized and prioritized in-person conversations with all CLGs in Idaho, making dozens of in-person visits in the previous five years.
- The CLG grant manual was updated.
- Section 106 mitigation for the loss of a historic Twin Falls agricultural labor camp included the issuance of a dual-language (English and Spanish) historic context for the site and the installation of dual language interpretative markers.

GOAL 2: Take the appropriate steps to help historic preservation efforts transition into the 21st century through the use of current and future best practices and the development and adoption of new and emerging technologies.

- In January 2024, the Idaho SHPO launched its Idaho Cultural Resource Information System (ICRIS). The spatially-enabled enterprise-wide application provides a portal through which parties can more efficiently conduct Section 106 consultation with the SHPO. Via ICRIS, average SHPO response time for Section 106 submissions has decreased from 16 days to 3 days.
- Publicly accessible pages on ICRIS include a list of ongoing Section 106 consultation projects so the public can more easily engage with federal projects that may impact them or their community.
- The SHPO has produced and posted on its website, ICRIS video tutorials to assist users and answer frequently asked questions.
- SHPO developed an on-line interactive map of NRHP sites containing links to the nomination documents making the program readily accessible to interested parties in Idaho and beyond.
- The SHPO Facebook and Instagram social media accounts are robust. As of 2024, the Idaho SHPO social media following totaled 8,379 followers across the platforms. An annual March Madness-like competition incorporating historic properties in Idaho has resulted in significant statewide engagement.



St. John Lutheran Church Idaho Falls, ID (NRHP #100009872)

GOAL 3: Ensure that historic preservation efforts throughout the state are aware of and have access to sufficient and sustainable sources of financial support.

- SHPO received funding and a new full-time position from the Idaho Legislature for Section 106 compliance projects.
- SHPO signed agreements with the United States Forest Service, Idaho Transportation Department and Idaho National Laboratory for each to partially fund a term position for Section 106 reviews to help expedite projects.
- The funding package to develop ICRIS included the SHPO legacy earned revenue, approximately \$150,000 of state funding, and federal cost-share agreements with USFS and BLM.
- Multiple significant downtown revitalization projects--the Avery Hotel in Boise and Hotel Bonneville in Idaho Falls--utilized federal historic preservation tax credits with support from SHPO staff.
- In 2018-2019, the SHPO and other preservation partners endeavored to find support for creation of a state historic preservation tax credit program through meetings with the governor, Speaker of the House, and the Senate pro term. However, this effort was disrupted by COVID.

GOAL 4: Continue to ensure that archaeological resources and documents are accorded permanent curation in accredited facilities in the State of Idaho.

- ISHS completed the digitization of over 45,000 legacy reports which are now available to qualified users through ICRIS.
- ASI worked with the Boise State University Internship program as well as other University and K-12 outreach event programs on curation and the Section 106 process.
- In May 2024, the approximately 1,500 boxes of the Western Repository were moved to a new home—a more physically and environmentally secure vault which will ensure better long-term protection for the collection of artifacts.



Bidwell Hotel and Apartments, listed in the Green Book between 1959 and 1966 Pocatello, ID

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GLOSSARY

Archaeology A subfield of anthropology that focuses on a broad and comprehensive understanding of past human culture through its material remains.

Cultural Heritage Involves the preservation of the physical heritage of living societies, including their buildings, structures, sites, and communities. It includes the protection of landscapes that societies transformed through agricultural and industrial development. It embraces material culture, including artifacts, archives, and other tangible evidence. “Cultural heritage preservation” also encompasses the transmission of intangible aspects of a society, such as oral traditions, music, and community rituals.

Cultural Resource(s) also including “Historic Properties” Is a physical remnant of one’s cultural heritage such as a building, site, structure, object, or district evaluated as having significance.

Documentation Information that describes, locates, and explains the significance of a historic property.

Eligible Ability of a property to meet the National Register criteria.

Historic Property A property listed in, or eligible for listing in, the NRHP.

Idaho Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month Is a month-long (every May) commitment to educating, advocating, and sharing information regarding the preservation of cultural resources in Idaho.

LEED Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design is a “green” building certification program that recognizes best practices and best strategies for buildings that focus on sustainability through reducing their carbon footprint and using less energy, etc.



First Federal Savings and Loan Moscow, ID

Multiple Property Documentation

A document used for writing contexts based on a specific group of historic properties related by a common theme, general geographical area, and/or period of time for the purpose of National Register documentation and listing.

National Historic Landmark A historic property evaluated and found to have significance at the national level and designated as such by the Secretary of the Interior of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

National Register of Historic Places The official national list of those properties considered important in our past and worthy of preservation.

Pre-contact In Idaho is the preceding 14,000 years before 1805.

Preservation Includes the identification, evaluation, recordation, documentation, curation, acquisition, protection, management, rehabilitation, restoration, stabilization, maintenance, research, interpretation, conservation, and education and training regarding cultural resources.

Section 106 The section of the National Historic Preservation Act that requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings/actions on cultural resources.

Traditional Cultural Property A property that is important to a living group or community because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs that 1) are rooted in that community's history, and 2) are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community. Examples of TCPs are traditional gathering areas, prayer sites, or sacred/ceremonial locations that are related to important community traditions. These places may or may not contain features or artifacts.

USGBC The United States Green Building Council is a nonprofit organization that promotes sustainability in how buildings are designed, built, and operated.



Minidoka Dam and Power Plant Minidoka County, ID (NRHP #74000746)

APPENDICIES

APPENDIX A: STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND HISTORY CENTERED ORGANIZATIONS IN IDAHO

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is an independent federal agency which promotes the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable use of our nation's diverse historic resources, and advises the President and the Congress on national historic preservation policy.

Idaho State Historical Society is a state agency whose mission is to preserve and promote Idaho's history. It is comprised of the Idaho State Museum, the Idaho State Archives, the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office and the Historic Sites Program, including the Old Idaho Penitentiary.

Contact:

2205 Old Penitentiary Road, Boise, Idaho 83712

208-334-2682

www.History.idaho.gov/contact/

Idaho State Historic Preservation Office is a division of the Idaho State Historical Society and is tasked with managing the programs of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Contact:

210 Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83702

208-334-3861

www.history.idaho.gov/shpo/

Idaho Archaeological Society is a statewide nonprofit organization founded in 1971 with a mission to preserve, educate, and encourage the study of Idaho's antiquities.

Contact:

P.O. Box 1976, Boise, Idaho 83701

idahoarchaeology.org

Idaho Association of Museums promotes and aids the enrichment and advancement of museums as educational centers, agencies of research, cultural centers, and the ultimate public repositories for objects having cultural, aesthetic, scientific, and historical significance.

Contact:

c/o Museum of Rexburg

35 N. 1st E, Rexburg, Idaho 83440

idahomuseums.org

Idaho Heritage Trust was established as a lasting legacy of the Centennial Celebration of 1990 to preserve the historic fabric of Idaho for our State's Bicentennial in 2090 through a program of grants and technical assistance

Contact:

211 W. State Street, Boise, Idaho 83702

idahoheritagetrust.org

Idaho State Archives and Research Center are a unit of the Idaho State Historical Society which provide public access to records of fiscal, administrative, legal, cultural and long-term research value to the citizens and government of Idaho. ISA preserves a large and unique collection of materials that relate to the history of Idaho and the West, including photographs, books, maps, manuscripts, oral histories, and government records.

Contact:

2205 Old Penitentiary Road, Boise, Idaho 83712

208-334-2620

history.idaho.gov/contact/

National Main Street Center, or Main Street, is a national organization dedicated to community revitalization based on the principle that historic preservation can build strong communities and contribute to enhancing community character. States may choose to participate in the program or not. The Idaho Main Street Program is housed in the Idaho Department of Commerce.

Contact:

Main Street Program - Idaho Department of Commerce

700 West State Street (P.O. Box 83720), Boise, Idaho 83720

208-334-2470

National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage. Along with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, is the federal agency that funds, directs, and oversees the programs of the State Historic Preservation Offices.

Contacts:

National Park Service Headquarters

1849 C Street, NW, Washington,

DC 20240

202-208-6843

nps.gov

Pacific West Regional Office

333 Bush Street, Suite 500, San

Francisco, CA 94104-2828

415-623-2100

National Trust for Historic Preservation

(NTHP) is a national nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve historic places that reflect American culture and history.

Contact:

600 14th Street NW, Suite 500,

Washington, DC 20005

800-944-6847

savingplaces.org



Blackfoot Main Post Office Blackfoot, ID (NRHP #89000128)

Preservation Idaho is a state-wide nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving Idaho's historic places through collaboration, education, and advocacy.

Contact:

P.O. Box 1495, Boise, Idaho 83701

208-424-5111

preservationidaho.org

APPENDIX B: LAWS GOVERNING HISTORIC PRESERVATION

There are many laws at both the federal and state levels related to historic preservation and archaeology. A comprehensive listing of all of these laws, and their subsequent amendments and subsections, would be voluminous. It is important for the implementation of this plan, however, to have a basic understanding of some of the most significant federal and state laws. As such, this appendix provides some brief information on the most important laws. More information on each can be found on the National Park Service or Advisory Council on Historic Preservation websites (federal laws) or on the State of Idaho Legislature website (Idaho Statutes).

FEDERAL LAWS

1. National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966

The NHPA is the cornerstone of federal historic preservation policy and created the framework for preserving historic properties in the U.S. It requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions on historic properties and provides for the listing of properties in the National Register of Historic Places.

Citation: National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. §§ 300101 et seq. (formerly 16 U.S.C. § 470)

Key Provisions:

- **Section 106:** Requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions on properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).
- **Section 110:** Establishes responsibilities for federal agencies to inventory and manage historic properties under their jurisdiction.
- **National Register of Historic Places:** Creates the process for listing and recognizing historic properties.
- **Chapter 3023:** Outlines State Historic Preservation Programs, including the responsibilities of State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs), regulations, program evaluation, and contracts and cooperative agreements.

2. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1970

NEPA requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions before making decisions. This includes consideration of cultural resources and historic properties as part of the environmental impact analysis.

Citation: National Environmental Policy Act of 1970, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 et seq.

Key Provisions:

- Requires federal agencies to assess the impacts of their actions on historic and cultural resources.
- Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) must include analysis of historic preservation considerations.

3. Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) of 1979

ARPA provides the legal framework for the protection of archaeological resources on public lands and Indian lands. It prohibits the excavation, removal, damage, or defacement of archaeological sites on public land without a permit.

Citation: Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, 16 U.S.C. §§ 470aa-470mm

Key Provisions:

- Prohibits unauthorized excavation or removal of archaeological resources on federal and tribal lands.
- Establishes penalties for the destruction or illegal trafficking of artifacts.
- Requires permits for archaeological excavations.

4. American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA) of 1978

The AIRFA protects the rights of Native American tribes to practice their traditional religions, including access to sacred sites and the protection of religious practices tied to historic and cultural resources.

Citation: American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1996

Key Provisions:

- Guarantees Native Americans access to sacred sites.
- Protects religious practices, including ceremonies linked to specific historic or cultural sites.

5. Preservation of American Historic Places Act (1960)

This Act, which was a precursor to the NHPA, provided the first federal initiative for the identification and protection of historic properties. It established the framework for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which aids in the preservation of historic places.

Citation: Preservation of American Historic Places Act of 1960, Pub. L. No. 86-669, 74 Stat. 507



6. Cultural Property Implementation Act (CPIA) of 1983

Romance Theater Rexburg, ID

The CPIA implements the 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export, and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. It facilitates the repatriation of cultural property and protects historic artifacts from being illicitly removed from their countries of origin.

Citation: Cultural Property Implementation Act, 19 U.S.C. §§ 2601-2613

Key Provisions:

- Protects cultural property from illegal export or import.
- Establishes procedures for the repatriation of stolen or looted cultural objects.

7. Historic Sites Act of 1935

The Historic Sites Act of 1935 established the National Park Service (NPS) as the official body to manage historic sites and properties in the U.S. It also led to the creation of the National Historic Landmark program.

Citation: Historic Sites Act of 1935, 16 U.S.C. §§ 461-467

Key Provisions:

- Establishes a national policy for historic preservation.
- Authorizes the NPS to preserve and protect historic sites.
- Creates the National Historic Landmark (NHL) designation.

8. Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (Historic Tax Credits)

This program, managed by the National Park Service and the Internal Revenue Service, offers tax incentives to encourage the rehabilitation of historic buildings for income-producing purposes.

Citation: Tax Reform Act of 1986, 26 U.S.C. § 47 (Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit)

Key Provisions:

- Provides federal tax credits for the rehabilitation of certified historic buildings.
- Offers a 20% tax credit for rehabilitation projects meeting certain standards.

9. The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990

NAGPRA addresses the rights of Native American tribes and lineal descendants regarding the repatriation of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and cultural patrimony held by federal agencies and museums.

Citation: Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. §§ 3001-3013

Key Provisions:

- Requires federal agencies and museums to repatriate human remains and cultural objects to Native American tribes.
- Establishes a process for the identification, protection, and return of cultural materials to indigenous peoples.

10. Antiquities Act of 1906

Citation: 16 U.S.C. §§ 431–433

Date: June 8, 1906

The Antiquities Act of 1906 is one of the first federal laws aimed at preserving historic and pre-contact sites. It grants the President the authority to designate national monuments on federal lands to protect objects of historic, scientific, or cultural significance.

1. Presidential Power to Designate National Monuments:

- The President can establish national monuments on federal lands to preserve historic, pre-contact and scientific objects.
- The act provides for the protection of these monuments from destruction, excavation, or injury.
- Citation: 16 U.S.C. § 431

2. Criminal Penalties for Destruction or Damage:

- The act prohibits the excavation, injury, or destruction of historic landmarks, ruins, or objects situated on federal lands.
- Individuals found violating the law may face fines and/or imprisonment.

Citation: 16 U.S.C. § 433

IDAHO STATE LAWS

Idaho Code 18-7027: Prohibits the disturbance of pre-contact human burials, or the possession of human remains or artifacts removed from a burial, unless the excavation is conducted by a qualified archaeologist with the prior approval of the State Historical Society and the appropriate Tribe.

Idaho Code 27-501: Assigns responsibilities to the agency for consultation, determination of appropriate actions, and providing for reinterment of human remains that have been disturbed.

Idaho Code 33-39: Provides for the creation of an Idaho Archaeological Survey and designates the State Archaeologist as director.

Idaho Code 67-41: States that the agency (Idaho State Historical Society) shall:

- Identify, preserve, and protect sites, monuments, and points of interest in Idaho of historic merit (67-4114)
- Protect archaeological and vertebrate paleontological sites and resources on public land (67-4119)
- Govern the agency and administer the powers and duties required to preserve and protect any historical record of the history and culture of Idaho (67-4123). This section was amended in 2009 to provide a definition of “historical record” as “any record, artifact, object, historical or archaeological site or structure, document, evidence or public or private writing pursuant to the provisions of title 9, Idaho Code, relevant to the history of the state of Idaho.”
- Encourage and promote interest in the history of Idaho (67-4126(2))
- Collect, preserve, and exhibit artifacts and information illustrative of Idaho history, culture, and society (67-4126(3))
- Identify historic, architectural, archaeological, and cultural sites, buildings, or districts, and to coordinate activities of local historic preservation commissions. (67-4126(14))

Idaho Code 67-46: Gives authority to the agency to carry out the preservation and protection of the state’s historic, archaeological, architectural, and cultural heritage resources. This section of code also authorizes municipalities to create historic preservation commissions, establish design review for historic districts, and carry out other historic preservation efforts at the local level.

Idaho Code 67-65: The Idaho Local Land Use Planning Act of 1975 requires a local government’s comprehensive plan to include a component for “Special Areas or Sites.” There must be an analysis of areas, sites, or structures of historical, archaeological, or architectural significance within the jurisdiction of the governing board.

APPENDIX C: PUBLIC SURVEY RESULTS

The survey consisted of 22 questions and took approximately 10 minutes to complete. 547 responses were received.

Question 1: Please describe yourself and your connection to Idaho's heritage:
choose the response(s) that *BEST* describe you

280	Citizens interested in Idaho's preservation	29	Cultural resource manager or consultant
156	History enthusiast and/or heritage tourist	26	Professional architect, engineer, or planner
137	Member of historical society, library, museum, arts organization, historic preservation commission, Main Street organization, or not-for-profit organization	25	Professional historian
99	Government employees (local, state, or federal)	25	Professional archaeologist
89	Volunteer for historical society, library, museum, arts organization, historic preservation commission, Main Street organization, or not-for-profit organization	15	Professional architectural historian
76	Community advocate	12	Student (at any level)
63	Educator (at any level)	10	Realtor or property developer
61	Owner of a historic property	9	Elected official (local, state, or federal)
60	Staff of historical society, library, museum, arts organization, historic preservation commission, Main Street organization, or not-for-profit organization	6	Representative of cultural or ethnic group
41	Avocational historian	6	Tribal Member
37	Other		

Question 2: In which county do you reside OR work with historic properties:

258	Ada	5	Clearwater	1	Jerome
39	Canyon	5	Idaho	1	Lemhi
29	Kootenai	4	Minidoka	1	Owyhee
29	Twin Falls	3	Custer	1	Power
22	Washington	3	Gooding	1	Shoshone
21	Bannock	3	Oneida	0	Adams
21	Latah	3	Madison	0	Bear Lake
19	Bonneville	2	Benewah	0	Caribou
13	Nez Perce	2	Valley	0	Cassia
12	Blaine	1	Boundary	0	Clark
11	Elmore	1	Butte	0	Lewis
7	Bingham	1	Camas	0	Lincoln
7	Bonner	1	Franklin	0	Teton
6	Boise	1	Fremont	0	Payette
6	Gem	1	Jefferson		

Question 3: Why is it important to you to preserve Idaho's heritage?

Check all that apply

418	Leaves a legacy for future generations to learn from and enjoy
392	Improves our understanding of the past
364	Retains community character
352	Creates educational opportunities for teaching about history and culture
346	Demonstrates respect for our ancestors and culture
251	Makes for livable communities and improves quality of life
197	Reduces sprawl and saves farmland and open space
193	Environmental benefits
150	Creates opportunities for economic development
129	Brings tourism dollars to communities

Question 4: How strongly do you agree with the following statement?

"Idahoans throughout the state recognize Idaho's historic properties through efforts in historic preservation and archaeology activities."

56	Strongly agree
152	Agree
211	Somewhat agree
57	Somewhat disagree
37	Disagree
14	Strongly disagree
20	I don't know

Question 5: How strongly do you agree with the following statement:

"My community or county (where I reside or work) recognizes its own historic properties through efforts in historic preservation and archaeological activities."

74	Strongly agree
193	Agree
179	Somewhat agree
41	Somewhat disagree
22	Disagree
11	Strongly disagree
25	I don't know

Question 6: In your community or county, which historic properties do you believe are the most threatened?
Choose six (6)

359	Downtowns and commercial buildings	137	Schools	38	Other
281	Neighborhoods	126	Government properties and public buildings	32	Industrial properties
250	Agricultural resources	120	Cemeteries and burial grounds	32	Summer and winter resort communities
242	Urban and rural landscapes	111	Theaters		
223	Archaeological sites (both pre- and post contact)	105	Churches and religious buildings and sacred sites and places		
173	Recreational places, parks, trails	83	Bridges		
139	Transportation related resources	38	Mining resources		

Question 7: In your community or county, what do you believe are the most serious threats facing historic properties in the next 10 years? Choose four (4)

403	Development pressures, tear-downs, and sprawl	137	Big box superstores driving out local businesses
363	Lack of awareness/lack of understanding of the value and fragility of historic resources	79	Infrastructure improvements, cell towers, power lines, etc.
297	Lack of funding, both public and private	71	Recreational impacts
203	Inappropriate upgrades and treatments to historic properties	39	Natural disasters
181	Lack of interest	34	Influence of TV programs/inappropriate use or exploitation of sites
172	Lack of legislation or ineffective legislation to protect resources/ lack of appropriate enforcement	33	Industrial and agricultural practices
149	Lack of awareness of laws protecting historic resources	32	Metal detecting, looting, vandalism
141	Owner neglect and disinvestment	28	Other

Question 8: What issues should be top priorities for the statewide preservation community to address over the next 10 years? Choose three (3), Check all that apply

303	A source of sustainable funding to help preserve and maintain historic places	185	Advocacy/lobbying for new preservation legislation and funding
292	Education of the public about the importance of preserving and using historic resources	171	Community/neighborhood revitalization planning and implementation
258	Education of decision-makers and others who influence the fate of the built environment as well as land containing archaeological resources	112	Better online information about historic places and how to care for them
191	Better or more precise laws to protect threatened resources and/or expansion of legal protection for resources	89	Creation of new local preservation groups to broaden the preservation movement
188	Development of an administrative code with rules, policies, procedures, and penalties to put "teeth" into existing legislation	13	Other

Question 9: Which four (4) of the following preservation tools do you feel are the most effective and realistic approaches for preserving Idaho's historic properties? Choose four (4)

355	Grants for building rehabilitation/restoration	141	Grants for historic resource planning
260	Tax incentives for owners of historic properties	123	Community/property surveys and National Register nominations
222	Local historic preservation commissions	98	Preservation workshops/conferences
220	Public outreach and education	91	Federal historic preservation regulations
170	State historic preservation laws and regulations	69	Low-interest loans
167	Local historic preservation commissions	67	Easements
157	Training for government decision-makers	42	Public meeting advocacy

Question 10: Prior to taking this survey, were you aware that the Idaho State Historical Society (SHPO) has staff and programs to do the following:

Assist property owners with listing resources in the National Register of Historic Place and the State Register



Provide Certified Local Governments with grants for preservation and archaeological activities



Assist owners of income-producing historic properties with applications for rehabilitation tax credits



Conduct surveys to identify and document historic properties and archaeological sites



Provide educators and the general public with historic preservation-related materials and speakers



Question 11: Prior to taking this survey, were you aware that the Idaho State Historical Society (SHPO) has staff and programs to do the following:

Review federal projects for their effects that may damage or alter local historic places and archaeological sites



Maintain a statewide database of historic resources (including archaeological sites and all types of historic buildings, structures, and other resources)



Provide information to the public through a website



Question 12: Do you know if your community or county is served by any of the following entities?

Local or county historic preservation commission



Local non-for-profit preservation organization

257	Yes	114	No	176	Unsure
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Local or county historical society/museum

469	Yes	29	No	49	Unsure
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City historic preservation planner

195	Yes	172	No	180	Unsure
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Avocational archaeological group

77	Yes	202	No	268	Unsure
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Local economic development/Main Street organization/community development corporation

274	Yes	119	No	154	Unsure
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Statewide preservation advocacy group

299	Yes	106	No	142	Unsure
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Question 13: What training, information, or education topics would be the most useful to you and your community in its preservation efforts?

348	Information on financial incentives for preservation and archaeology
300	Historic Districts and how they affect you and your community
289	What owning a historic property may mean (National Register versus local ordinances and design review)
261	Rehabilitation of historic masonry or woodwork
231	Energy efficiency and weatherization in historic buildings
214	Stewardship of archaeological sites
207	Training on laws protecting resources
194	Information on local preservation commissions
158	Rehabilitation of historic windows
153	National Register of Historic Places nomination process
126	Federal review process for federal projects that may impact historic resources
61	Lead paint removal and safe work practices

Question 14: Given your perception of the state of preservation in Idaho today, please choose the top 6 goals from the list below that you feel are the most relevant for the Idaho SHPO and its partners to focus on in the coming years?

299	Encourage historic preservation as an economic development tool
282	Strengthen the role of historic preservation in local planning and community revitalization
275	Build awareness about the connections between historic preservation and sustainability
256	Increase efforts to identify and protect historic properties
233	Create and enhance partnerships making it easier for government partners to integrate preservation into existing planning processes
216	Create and strengthen historic preservation laws through state legislative action
206	Create and expand opportunities for collaboration among Idaho communities, organizations, and cultural groups
204	Strengthen and expand existing financial incentive programs and work to develop new incentives and funding sources
203	Increase government decision-makers' understanding of and support for historic preservation and archaeology
202	Reverse the decline of main streets and downtown commercial areas
194	Expand the identification and designation of Idaho's historic properties for use in planning, education, public information, and protection
167	Provide training and programs to increase understanding of historic preservation
131	Develop statewide historic contexts covering various historic themes to assist researchers and consultants in evaluating the significance of historic properties throughout the state
102	Increase collaboration with other entities with similar missions
88	Strengthen preservation efforts for infrastructure resource types (i.e. canals, roads, signage, non-building)

15. What would you like to see accomplished through your top goals?

There were 337 comments in response to this question. The majority of the responses emphasized education and the need for increased preservation of historic resources as their biggest concerns.

16. Please add any other goals or priorities you think should be considered.

There were 198 comments in response to this question.

Funding, education, and increased preservation of historic sites represented the majority of the responses.

17. How do you access information about history and preservation?

318	Local historic preservation commission/historic district/local government websites and announcements
297	Internet search engines
288	Local historical society/non-profit/museum membership newsletters and emails
284	Local media
260	Social media
169	Friends and family
166	State or Federal government agencies
146	State and national media
39	Other
38	School
13	I have not/do not access information about history or preservation

18. What historic place(s) do you think help tell the story about you or your community? (e.g. a specific building, site, neighborhood, landscape, object, etc.) and, what is it about this place(s) that makes it important to you?

There were 363 responses to this question. The most frequent responses were Old Boise, Cataldo Mission, the State Capitol, Oregon Trail, the Old Penitentiary, and historic train depots.

19. How emotionally connected do you feel to the place where you live?

270	Very connected
153	Connected
107	Somewhat connected
12	Not at all connected

20. What makes you feel connected or disconnected to the place you live?

There were 419 responses to this question. The most frequent responses include the length of time they and their family have lived in Idaho, historic buildings in their neighborhood and/or town, the familiarity of the landscape, and knowing the history of their home and neighborhood.

21. Has a place you cared about been lost.

362	Yes
144	No

22. If you answered “yes” to the previous question, how did it make you feel when the place you cared about was lost?

There were 323 responses to this question. The overwhelming majority answered sad, empty, devastated, and other negative emotions.



Romance Theater Rexburg, ID

APPENDIX D: SUMMARY OF FOCUS GROUP MEETINGS

Federal Agency Representatives (July 24, 2024): Bureau of Land Management (BLM), United States Forest Service (USFS), National Park Service (NPS), Bureau of Reclamation (BLM), U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD), U.S. Department of Agriculture (Rural Development) (USDA-RDA), U.S. Department of Energy (Idaho National Laboratory) (DOE-INL), Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

- BPA has had success working with local groups which led to the resolution of adverse effects.
- BPA has on-going work on the transmission line programmatic agreement for broader programmatic mitigation.
- NPS discussed the challenges they faced with the Lava Ridge project in Idaho, particularly in assessing visual effects and the integrity of historic properties.
- BPA and USFS shared success stories about the implementation of the ICRIS rollout and a programmatic agreement for Rural Development, respectively.
- BPA and USFS also discussed ongoing challenges, including the need for better collaboration among state agencies, local governments, tribes, and other partners.
- NPS emphasized the importance of improved tribal consultation and more education and training opportunities.
- BLM highlighted the success of the historic preservation poster and the need for further public outreach.
- INL discussed the shift from an insular to a collaborative model in their work, highlighting their efforts to build connections with stakeholders and the public through programs like the Ask an Architectural Historian program.
- SHPO asked about additional resources that could support their work in historic preservation, with USFS suggesting the development of an Idaho site stewardship program and INL advocating for clear objectives and alignment with state goals. NPS agreed with INL's points and added the need for training in coordinating lead agencies and assessing the integrity of cultural resources.
- USFS proposed the idea of using county-level goals for mitigation in their projects, which SHPO's Certified Local Government coordinator supported.
- BPA suggested providing training to local groups to help them engage in the preservation process more effectively.
- SHPO mentioned ongoing internal efforts to collaborate with local government representatives and empower them to speak up for their needs.
- BLM proposed a proactive approach to preservation, suggesting that the preservation community should prioritize their resources and focus on areas that are truly preservation-worthy. They also expressed concern about the potential impact of the infrastructure bill, which aims to bypass the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). SHPO and BPA agreed with BLM's approach, emphasizing the importance of a proactive, rather than reactive, preservation strategy.
- BPA highlighted the need to engage field operators and maintenance personnel in preservation efforts.
- USDA shared a vision of promoting appreciation for historic properties and ensuring that the Section 106 process is not seen as a roadblock and a vision for a more educated approach to historic property preservation, emphasizing the importance of collaboration with colleagues.
- DOE proposed a proactive approach to stay informed about potential changes in preservation policies.

Certified Local Government Representatives Focus Group (July 22, 2024): Cities of Boise, Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Sandpoint, Moscow, and Nampa

- Moscow shared the success story of the district expansion of the Fort Russell historic district originally listed in 1981. Completed in 2017, the expansion doubled the size of the district and improved its logical boundary following 3rd Street. One highlight was the crucial role of the Historic Preservation Commission and the consultant for the project. Also mentioned was that they learned a lot about reconnaissance surveys and the process, which has helped them in their current work with the University of Idaho on a potential historic district on campus.
- SHPO asked about any lessons learned from the consultant experience, to which Moscow responded that they learned to document all accessory structures and to be prepared for unexpected challenges during winter.
- The group discussed the adoption and implementation of historic preservation plans in various communities, including Idaho Falls, Pocatello, Boise, and Sandpoint.
- Several members of the group highlighted the need for increased education on available resources and grants, as well as the challenges posed by a shallow consultant pool in Idaho.
- The group also expressed satisfaction with the support they receive from the SHPO staff and positive experiences with the new ICRIS database system.
- Idaho Falls and Boise discussed their efforts to expand the city's historic preservation plan to include the entire city, focusing on affordable housing and smart growth.
- Boise noted that they have received political support for their initiatives, including the rewriting of the zoning code.
- Sandpoint shared how their community has embraced growth while striving to preserve community character.
- Moscow emphasized the importance of education and outreach about historic preservation, highlighting the lack of local historic districts and the focus on maintaining architectural integrity.
- SHPO suggested the creation of a booklet outlining best practices for property owners, which could be considered for a CLG grant application. Moscow mentioned that they are developing similar guidelines for their district.
- Pocatello shared that their downtown design updates had been approved by the city council and emphasized the importance of re-framing historic preservation as a resource rather than a set of arbitrary rules.
- Sandpoint expressed the importance of preserving historic buildings in Idaho, highlighting the need to share the positive aspects of preservation. Pocatello agreed, emphasizing the importance of balancing growth and preservation.
- Idaho Falls is focusing on making historic homes livable spaces.
- Boise expressed interest in preserving modernist architecture.
- The group emphasized the value of collaboration and joint work, with the SHPO highlighting the importance of collaboration. The group agreed on the need for future check-ins and the sharing of resources.

Tribal Partners Focus Group (July 23,2024): Shoshone-Bannock, Shoshone-Paiute, Coeur d'Alene, Kootenai, and Nez Perce

- The Nez Perce representative expressed hope for the tribe to preserve landscapes and resources for future generations to define their own culture and way of life. SHPO clarified that the concept of historic preservation should be interpreted more broadly as cultural preservation, encompassing not just built environments but also archaeological resources and intangible elements of the culture. The Nez Perce and Shoshone-Bannock representatives agreed, emphasizing the importance of preserving the tribe's cultural practices and the archaeological evidence of their people. They expressed concern about the potential destruction of sites and the disheartening impact this can have on the tribe.

- The Nez Perce representative shared a recent success story of collaboration with state parks on a preservation project, while the Shoshone-Bannock representative highlighted another victory with the BLM to remove rock climbing from the archaeological district at Massacre Rocks.
- The group discussed the need for better communication and partnerships between various agencies and tribal groups.
- The Nez Perce representative highlighted the effectiveness of their collaboration with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), citing their quick response to concerns and respect for the tribe, particularly in cultural resource issues. However, they also noted problematic areas, such as communication with other agencies and non-tribal communities' attitudes towards the tribe.
- The Shoshone-Bannock representative agreed, adding that the success of collaboration often depends on the staff and their openness to education and understanding of the tribe's ancestral lands.
- The Shoshone-Bannock representative and the Kootenai representative shared that their programs are primarily funded by the tribe and the U.S. Department of Energy, but additional funding is often project-specific. They also noted a lack of general funding and staffing as significant challenges.
- The Nez Perce representative added that while their tribe has some funding for preservation goals, it is often focused on agency priorities, not tribal needs.

Private Sector Focus Group (July 19, 2024): Five private Historic Preservation consultants participated.

- The group discussed elements of the successful Bown House project including involvement of the public, CLG involvement and advocacy that eventually turned around the property owner.
- Nampa has a good planning program.
- The University of Idaho effort to create a campus historic district was helped by being a priority on campus and recognized it needed to be phased.
- In northern Idaho, there are multiple projects in process- the Roosevelt Inn and school in Coeur d'Alene, creative city planning efforts to provide incentives of reduced requirements for preservation projects, and the completion of the preservation plan by the City of Coeur d'Alene in 2019.
- The most successful projects have a preservation plan that provides structure and helps with fundraising over time. It helps to take small steps over time.
- The South Boise Trolley Station was a project that showed that sometimes small buildings can have a big impact. Good partnerships helped to save and interpret the building.
- The Schick-Ostolasa barn was successful long-term due to teamwork and communication.
- Other successful projects discussed included the Boise Basque Block, the Moscow High School project, and the Capitol restoration.
- Lessons learned that were shared by the group included: It's good to get ahead of projects vs. 11th hour saves; more money is needed for projects and for planning; engineers and architects don't respect older buildings - they don't care to be creative or save anything, and education beyond advocates is needed.
- Community outreach and funding needed. There isn't enough technical work in Idaho that can help train others.
- Idaho is losing a culture of craftsmen. Contracts can have a requirement to have an on-site person who can train the contractors.
- Existing technical information is not user friendly.
- SHPO can help jumpstart or leverage other programs through CLG grants. Other states have a statewide nonprofit that can run the Main Street program, historic barn program, etc. All of these programs could lift other boats.
- State historic tax credit is needed.

- More outreach to eastern Idaho is needed. Others stated that they've seen how outreach has had a positive impact with the local CLG and historical societies.
- The group discussed how the private sector role in the future of historic preservation may change. There may be more pressure on historic preservation as it will be pitted against other needs, e.g. affordable housing. Resources may become structurally unstable and result in demolition by neglect. Need a way to identify vulnerable resources earlier.
- Historic preservation needs to enter as a value proposition in redevelopment. Public preferences don't always align with preservation needs.
- Need to develop a community value in preservation.
- Preservation education is a "hamster wheel" in that it needs to be continuous.
- It was noted that Nampa is already surveying a 1970s neighborhood.
- SHPO has been the last line of defense in crises.
- Additional outreach to contractors doing work with homeowners is needed.

State Agencies Focus Group. (July 18, 2024): Idaho Transportation Department (ITD); Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR); Office of Energy, Mineral Resources; (OEMR); ISHS Historic Sites Review Board (HSRB); Idaho Commission on the Arts (ICA); Idaho Department of Commerce (Commerce); Idaho Humanities Council (IHC)

- OEMR proposed a training session for ICA to better understand the agency's workings.
- Others also expressed interest in this training, noting its potential benefits for new staff and the programs team.
- IDPR shared their positive experiences with the new process and the staff at the OEMR.
- IDPR, SHPO, ITD, and ICA discussed the lack of dedicated funding sources for historic resources in most states and the challenges this poses for preserving and researching historic structures.
- ITD shared that they are required to mitigate any adverse impact on historic resources, often through funding for archaeological excavations or other projects.
- ICA pointed out that tax incentives, a major mechanism for historic preservation work in the private sector, do not work for public agencies.
- The IHC clarified that they do not fund bricks and mortar work but provide grants for research and exhibitions to raise awareness for the importance of historic structures.
- OEMR discussed the agency's recent focus on energy efficiency upgrades, particularly in public buildings, funded by grants from the U.S. Department of Energy, and the potential for future projects.
- Commerce then discussed the funding issue, highlighting that private buildings couldn't be funded with public dollars, but there were opportunities with publicly owned or nonprofit-owned buildings. They mentioned several grant programs and incentives available, such as the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Program, the Business Development Grant Program, and the New Market Tax Credit. They also suggested starting with energy improvements for older buildings, as there are incentives and funding available.
- IHC discussed limited funding for preserving cultural and historical resources in Idaho. They mentioned the National Endowment for the Humanities' preservation and access department but noted no Idaho projects have utilized these grants.
- SHPO suggested amplifying future grant opportunities through the State Historic Preservation Office's contact list.

Partner Organizations Focus Group (July 19, 2024): Idaho Heritage Trust (IHT), Preservation Idaho (PI), Weiser Architectural Preservation Committee, and Idaho Archaeological Survey (IAS).

- The group shared that they value their partnerships with the State Historic Preservation Office. They believe the staff does an amazing amount of work with limited resources yet are responsive to the organizations when a need arises. They witness the SHPO working closely with other state agencies as needed.
- The services that are of most value to the partner organizations are the assistance with research and documentation, information on the federal historic tax credit program, and ICRIS data. Partnerships with the SHPO provide a sense of legitimacy to the organizations' projects which enhances their reputation. The SHPO staff are great advocates for historic preservation when they attend events. While some organizations have experts, they always work with the SHPO to affirm the Secretary of Interior Standards. It was mentioned that archaeological research used to be funded more frequently, and it is hoped this funding can return to past levels.
- Organizations stated that SHPO does less proactive work in archaeology, yet it was noted that CLG grants have funded some proactive research but they could do more if they knew how to work with nonprofit organizations. Participants expressed some frustration that there is money for research, but agencies are too busy with compliance activities. The group discussed the need to get the SHPO in a more proactive stance on current issues, such as energy exploration on public lands. Participants asked if there should be a process by which mitigation measures are determined and then distributed so there is a more equitable distribution of mitigation payments.
- Participants expressed the need to train local leaders at the state IAC and AIC conferences on historic preservation needs and current work to nurture support.
- Another issue is the high level of staff turnover at agencies which hampers the ability to develop a bottom-up approach to report activity that may be detrimental to historic preservation.
- The use of CLG grants to fund more diverse projects was proposed as a measure of success. The funding is fully expended each year and SHPO receives more requests than it can fund.
- The group discussed that success can be measured by membership, the network of contacts around Idaho, and how to reach more people with advocacy messages. Also, more teeth in local and state laws could increase their effectiveness in outreach and educational awareness by citizens.

SHPO Staff Focus Group (August 6, 2024):

The group discussed the type of support or resources that would most benefit their work:

- New MPDs and also updates to existing MPDs to capture more timeframes/resources
- Political Support
- State 106 law, state laws that are pro-preservation
- State preservation tax credit
- State funding
- Field survey is lacking and our autonomy as a SHPO to prioritize our own survey is a missing component. A survey coordinator would help. Right now, we are reliant on federal agencies or CLGs to choose where they want to survey but we don't get to choose where/when survey happens.
- More preservation funding in general, like an emergency fund to help fund projects that need funding right away.
- Preservation program at an Idaho university
- More qualified consultants
- More qualified architectural historians at the federal level

The group discussed potential improvements in communication and collaboration (both internally and externally):

- Various annual meetings and trainings with different constituent groups, such as: annual meetings with federal agencies to chat about processes; better communications with the tribes, such as holding regular meetings to have conversations; holding regular CLG meetings for CLG representatives to get together and chat with each other.
- Strategically using CLG grants to target communities to host CAMP trainings from NAPC. As we host that CAMP, we can bring along other ISHS agency partners to do regional trainings in their specialty (museum, archives, etc.).

Appreciate ability in ICRIS to directly communicate with ICRIS users. SHPO can send out updates through the email list – newsletter, SHPO news, grant announcements, etc. The group discussed what new goals should be included in the updated preservation plan to address emerging challenges in historic preservation:

- Ability to process NR nominations and determinations of eligibility through ICRIS
- Ability to digitally process CLG grant applications and paperwork (whether through ICRIS or other grant software)
- Drought and the impact of fire to cultural resources need Idaho-specific guidance.
- The impact of AI for reports, NR nominations, etc. should be evaluated. What will it produce and what will be acceptable?
- How do we dig deeper into a site's history to get at hidden history? Not just addressing Criterion C in survey but also looking into Criteria A & B. How can we increase NR nominations from these resources?
- Large scale energy projects are game changers for Section 106 reviews. How do we address that?
- Need to create a mitigation map or list. When mitigation comes up, we should already have ideas for the area and what projects could focus on. "Regional mitigation wish list" can be pulled from local preservation plans.
- Establish a mitigation bank.

The group discussed vision of the future of historic preservation in Idaho and the role of the SHPO:

- A State Tax credit for Historic Preservation that mirrors the federal credit would provide for a more robust program in Idaho.
- Without more financial support and buy in, the future of preservation might not be great.
- A state equivalent of the Section 106 review.
- More name recognition and clarity re the SHPO and what do we do. How are we different from the rest of the agency? Will need more outreach.
- Revolving fund to help fund acquisition, protection (easement), sale.
- Move Main Street program to SHPO to be able to accomplish more.
- More urban renewal agencies to be funding preservation projects.
- More staff availability to do outreach – to universities, groups, etc.
- A paid internship
- More coordination of data exchange amongst agencies/institutions/repositories, include archaeological information input into ICRIS – such as a module created in ICRIS to manage collection information including loan agreements.

APPENDIX E: INPUT FROM PUBLIC MEETINGS

In your community or county, which historic properties do you believe are the most threatened? Choose six (6)	Twin Falls	Pocatello	Idaho Falls	Caldwell	Lewiston	Coeur d'Alene	TOTAL
Agricultural resources	4	1		3	5	13	26
Archaeology sites	0		5	6	4	3	18
Bridges	0		3	3	1	2	9
Churches and religious buildings and sacred sites & places	1		5	3	4	7	20
Cemeteries and burial grounds	4		0	1	2	6	13
Downtowns and commercial buildings	0	2	6	8	4	14	34
Government properties and public buildings	0	1	4	1	3	7	16
Industrial properties	0	1	2	0	3	0	6
Summer and winter resort communities	0		1	0	0	4	5
Mining resources	0			0	0	1	1
Neighborhoods	2	2	2	5	2	11	24
Recreational places, parks, trails	4	1	0	6	1	16	28
Schools	3			2	2	8	15
Theaters	1	1	1	0	3	2	8
Transportation related resources		0	2	0	2	6	10
Urban and rural landscapes	4	2	0	6	2	16	30

What issues should be the top priorities for the statewide preservation community to address over the next 10 years?	Twin Falls	Pocatello	Idaho Falls	Caldwell	Lewiston	Coeur d'Alene	TOTAL
Advocacy/lobbying for new preservation legislation and funding	2	2	1	1	1	6	13
Better or more precise laws to protect threatened resources and/or expansion of legal protection for resources	1		1	4	1	5	12
Better online information about historic places and how to care for them	3	1			2	0	6
Community/neighborhood revitalization planning and implementation	3	1	4	1	2	5	16
Creation of new local preservation groups to broaden the preservation movement	0		2		1	2	5
Development of an administrative code with rules, policies, procedures, and penalties to put "teeth" in existing legislation	0			1	0	9	10
Education of decision-makers and others who influence the fate of the built environment as well as land containing archaeological resources	3	1	7	7	4	9	31
Education of the public about the importance of preserving and using historic resources	3	1	2	5	5	9	25
A source of sustainable funding to help preserve and maintain historic places	1	1	7	5	2	13	29

Which 4 of the following preservation tools do you feel are the most effective and realistic approaches for preserving Idaho's historic properties?	Twin Falls	Pocatello	Idaho Falls	Caldwell	Lewiston	Coeur d'Alene	TOTAL
Community/property surveys and National Register nominations	2		1	1	3	2	9
Easements	0		3	2	2	4	11
Federal historic preservation regulations	0	1	1	6	0	1	9
Grants for building rehabilitation/restoration	2	1	6	2	1	12	24
Grants for historic resource planning	1	1	3	3	2	3	13
Local historic preservation commissions	3		4	1	3	6	17
Local historic preservation ordinances and enforcement	3	2		1	3	16	25
Low-interest loans	0		3	1	0	3	7
Preservation workshops/conferences	3		1		1	0	5
Public meeting advocacy	0				0	1	1
Public outreach and education	1	1	4	5	3	5	19
State historic preservation laws and regulations	0			2	1	3	6
Tax incentives for owners of historic properties	5	1	4	5	4	15	34
Training for government decision-makers	2	1	2	4	4	9	22

Comments:

Twin Falls:

- Thank you for all that you do to promote and preserve our historic and cultural resources around Idaho, one of the most frustrating things about preservation is the lack of understanding of the benefits of preservation. Also, misunderstanding laws associated with the National Register is huge, too, among citizens, councilmen, and local officials. More opportunities for community education through things like workshops and speakers may help.
- The State Historic Society has recently acquired additional land and a home built in 1917 at the Rock Creek Station/Stricker Homeside. What is your timeline in restoring this building, and I am hoping it will be restored during my lifetime. Ha-ha.

Lewiston:

- Would like to see more educational outreach of Idaho history to public and schools. Example: last log drive, 4th graders rendezvous at fairgrounds yearly big event, stopped no longer done.
- Program of Outlaws of Idaho stories of past history.
- Train station clock building in Boise
- Nimiipoo (Nez Perce) history
- Port of Lewiston - tourists
- Rocks-Gems of Idaho: rock hounding opportunities. Possible to work up educational program that could be provided to public at fairs, schools, craft shows, rodeos, etc.
- Thank you for your hard work. I am embarrassed and ashamed at the small turnout for event. It is important to share our past with future generations. History tells the story of our past.
- When you see the buildings of yesteryear, remember the occasion with family, friends and history of building no one can take away the happy feeling except dementia.
- Feel really blessed to live in Idaho and am proud of our state. Looking at Boise, Pocatello and Coeur d'Alene, Kellogg with mine have all done outstanding job in their cities - should be proud. Enjoy visiting these places. Again, thanks for your hard work.

Boise:

- What historic place(s) do you think tell the story of Idaho?
 - Ustick town site (3)
 - Boise Bench
 - Mid-century development
 - Historic districts in Boise
 - Dams and canals
 - Train depots
 - Idanha Hotel
 - Freak Alley
 - Carnegie Library (with the help of many "founding mothers")
 - Philippi Street was the stagecoach road from Silver City.
 - Cemeteries (show historic social structure)
 - Historic theaters
 - Lowell & South Pools

Tell me about a place you cared about that was lost. How did it make you feel?

- New ICCU building on Idaho Street is out of place.
- Central Addition - now soulless high rises
- Family farm - 10 Mile & Cherry was bulldozed for housing in 2018. I miss the harvest.
- The Foster Building - I loved the curve from the railroad tracks.
- The old school buildings on the Bench.
- Boise Bench schools - save Monroe and Owyhee
- All of our historic bridges
- Ustick Merc - I felt sad because I had memories of the merc with my kids.
- Ustick Bank - sad
- The old schools. Pity they couldn't be repurposed.
- Packing shed on Ustick - sad
- The old Natatorium. Many happy making memories
- Vinegar plant on Ustick - sad
- Apple orchards - sad
- Ustick Merc - sad

What historic place(s) do you think help tell the story about you or your community?

- Ustick town site (4)
- Lowell & South Pools in Boise
- Hyde Park
- Capitol
- Historic churches and homes
- The Depot
- Carnegie Library (2) - the importance of literacy for the masses
- Train Depot (2)
- Basque area
- 8th Street
- Robie Creek Road
- Levi's Alley
- Train Depot - I feel it anchors the entry into Boise
- The Bench
- Vista & Overland - the Hoppie building
- Boise House

APPENDIX F: IDAHO MULTIPLE PROPERTY DOCUMENTATION FORMS TO DEVELOP AND UPDATE

This list does not represent the only Multiple Property Documentation forms which may be accepted by the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office but is instead a prioritized list to prompt interest and discussion.

New Multiple Property Documentation Forms to Develop:

- Agricultural Resources in Idaho
- Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Idaho
- Basques in Idaho
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Idaho
- Dam Facilities in Idaho
- Early 20th Century Residential Areas in Idaho
- Fraternal Organizations in Idaho
- Higher Education in Idaho
- Historic Built Environment of the USFS in Idaho
- Idaho's Automobile Landscape
- Interwar Architecture in Idaho
- Irrigation in Idaho
- Latinos in Idaho
- LGBTQ+ in Idaho
- Medical Facilities in Idaho
- Midcentury Architecture in Idaho
- Native American Historic Resources in Idaho
- New Deal in Idaho
- Public Institutions in Idaho
- Recreation in Idaho
- Snake River Archaeological Resources
- Stone Construction in Idaho
- Sundberg & Sundberg in Idaho
- Timber Industry in Idaho
- Transportation in Idaho
- Wayland & Fennell/CSHQA Architects in Idaho
- Women's History in Idaho

Existing Multiple Property Documentation Forms to Update:

- County Courthouses in Idaho MPS
- Lava Rock Structures in South Central Idaho TR
- Metal Truss Highway Bridges of Idaho MPS
- Public School Buildings in Idaho MPS
- Tourtellotte and Hummel Architecture TR
- US Post Offices in Idaho 1900-1941 MPS



Pocatello Historic District Pocatello, ID (NRHP #82002505)



Slagle Barn Latah County, ID



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