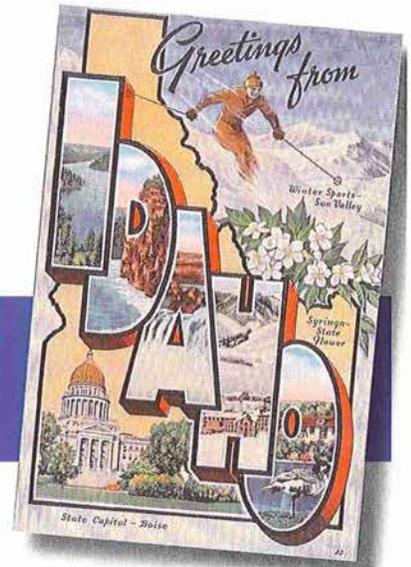
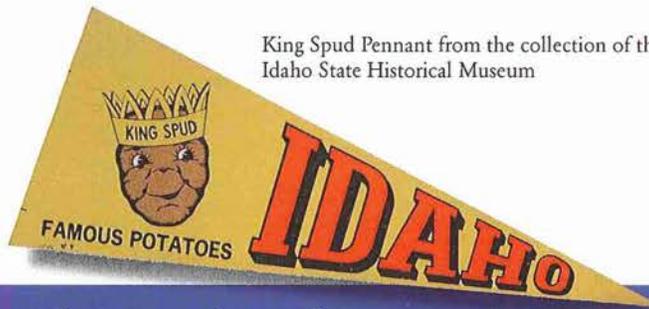




King Spud Pennant from the collection of the Idaho State Historical Museum

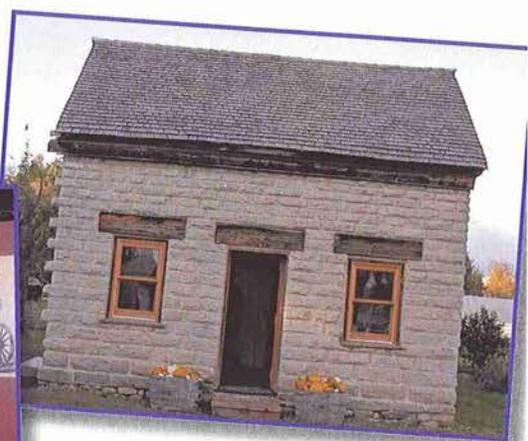


Essential Idaho:

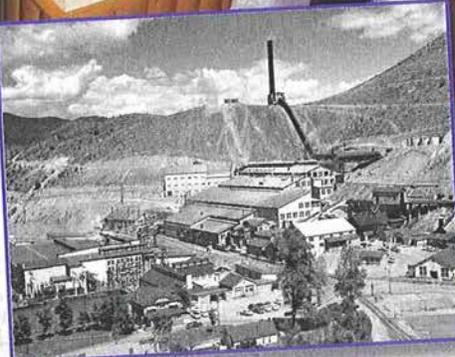
150 Things that Make the Gem State Unique



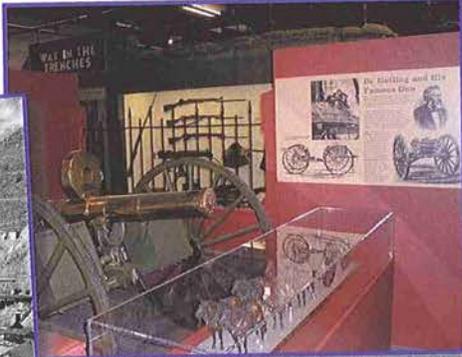
Hands-on learning at the Idaho State Historical Museum



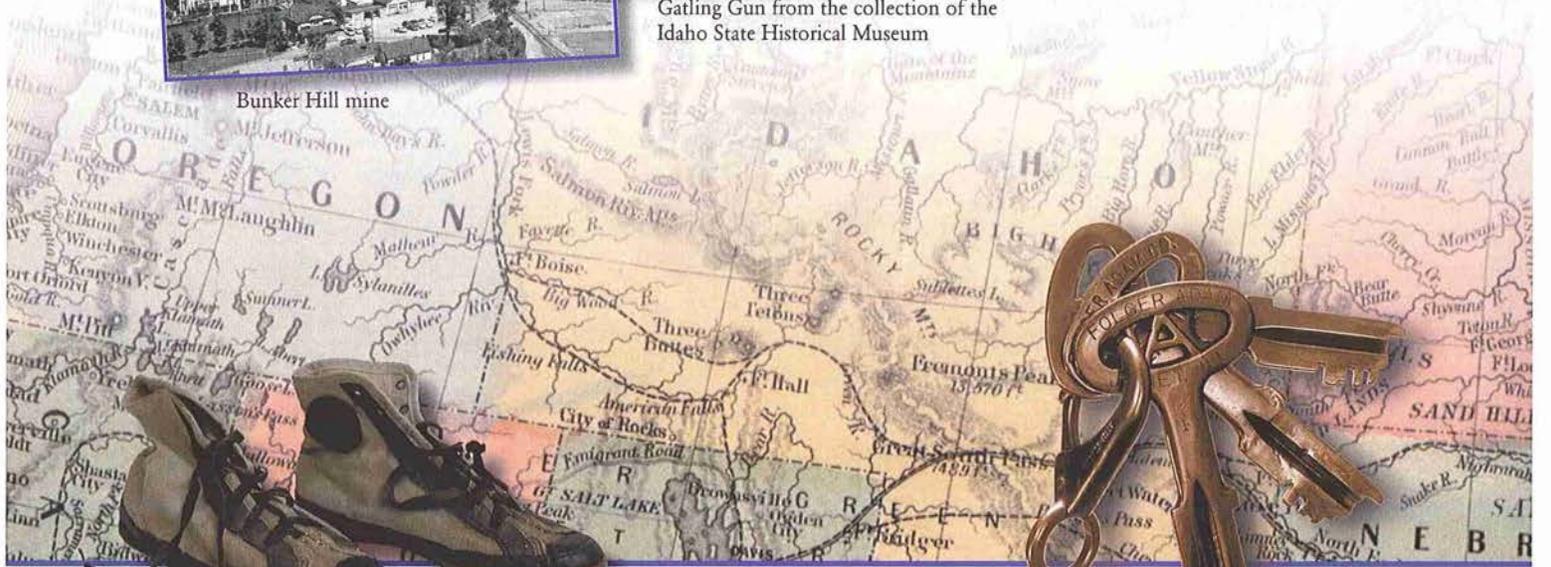
The Historic Doney House in Franklin, Idaho's first city



Bunker Hill mine



Gatling Gun from the collection of the Idaho State Historical Museum



Polly Bemis' Tennis Shoes- visitors will explore the life of one of Idaho's most unique and beloved residents



IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Essential Idaho: 150 Things that Make the Gem State Unique **Exhibit Sponsor Proposal**

Idaho's premier history organization, the Idaho State Historical Society, will mark March 4, 2013 as the 150th anniversary of the creation of Idaho Territory with a special exhibition called *Essential Idaho: 150 Things that Make the Gem State Unique*. Never before has a major exhibition been planned featuring such a wide range of themes and compelling Idaho stories. The three-thousand square foot exhibit will include a dynamic mixture of historical artifacts, images, and media.

In order to create this special commemorative exhibition, nominations of the people, places, and events shaping our state were solicited from the public, museums, historical societies, and Idaho tribes. Using those nominations, a statewide committee of well-known and respected Idaho historians met to explore potential exhibit themes. We now have our "Essential Idaho 150" and are keeping them closely under wraps until our opening day. Here is a sneak preview of a few exhibit topics:

Polly Bemis – An Idaho icon, Polly Bemis was a Chinese American pioneer who lived on the Salmon River. From the Museum collection see Polly's tennis shoes.

US 95 North-South Highway – Fondly nicknamed Idaho's Goat Trail, U.S. Route 95 is a north-south highway near the western border of the state, stretching over 538 miles from Oregon to British Columbia. The Leata was a 1970s energy car invented in Sandpoint, Idaho. It could save a motorist a few gallons of gas traveling down the goat trail.

Franklin – This was Idaho's first established town site, founded in 1860 by Mormon pioneers who mistakenly thought they were still in Utah.

1910 Fire – This devastating fire, one of the largest in American history, raged across three million acres of virgin timberland in northern Idaho and western Montana. The Pulaski, a tool developed by an Idaho forest ranger who survived the fire, will be on exhibit.

Potatoes – Idaho is famous for potatoes and they were actually introduced to the state by missionary Henry H. Spalding.

Mining – The gold rush created Idaho as a territory. Miner's candlesticks from Silver City will be exhibited.

State Seal - The painting of the state seal by Emma Green is another unique item slated for exhibit. Idaho's is the only state seal designed by a woman.

Craters of the Moon – This unearthly landscape created by volcanic activity is one of the best-preserved flood basalt areas in the continental U.S.

Plus one hundred and forty-two more unique Idaho stories!

What is the Idaho State Historical Society?

Past people and events have shaped every aspect of our lives — our land, our communities, our government, and our culture. Driven by our mission “to preserve and promote Idaho’s cultural heritage,” the Idaho State Historical Society (ISHS) is a trusted guide through our state’s fascinating history. ISHS is an extraordinary system of cultural and historic resources comprised of the Idaho State Historical Museum, State Archives, State Historic Preservation Office, and Historic Sites Program.

ISHS preserves and provides access to irreplaceable state-owned historic collections including 250,000 historic artifacts, 1.75 million photographs, 26,000 maps and architectural drawings, 60 historic buildings, 20,000 archaeological artifacts, and more. The Research Center at the Idaho State Archives is where everyone, including family historians, students, and educators, can access information about Idaho’s rich history.

Today’s Idaho Has Its Roots in Our Territorial Past

The twenty-seven year territorial era was the most important period in Idaho history in terms of shaping the state we know today. Do you drive on Idaho’s main highways? Did you attend Idaho public schools? Do you have irrigation water rights? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you are living with the result of decisions made during Idaho’s territorial period.

Preserving and Exhibiting Idaho’s Heritage

The exhibit will be located in the Idaho State Historical Museum, founded in 1907, now managing a comprehensive collection of over 250,000 objects. These include signature items representing arms and armament, clothing and textiles, Idaho industries, transportation, recreation and many aspects of home life. Rich native tribal materials and other items from Idaho’s ethnic past are also a part of this diverse collection. Signature artifacts include territorial governors’ portraits, works created by the designer of Idaho’s state seal Emma Edwards Green, and a Jefferson Peace Medal.

The museum’s permanent exhibitions allow visitors to experience Idaho’s rich history by discovering our state’s remarkable people, places, and events. They can travel the Lewis and Clark Discovery Trail to find the explorer’s secret cache, climb aboard and compare a variety of historic saddles, admire the artistry of Native American basketry, and imagine taking a drink at a frontier saloon. Events, special traveling exhibitions, and programs provide unique learning opportunities for families, school groups, and other visitors.

Exhibition Audience, Goals, and Outcomes

Audience: As the state's largest and most comprehensive history museum, the Idaho State Historical Museum attracts visitors from as far away as Asia and Europe, Canada and Mexico, and as close as our neighbors from across the street in Boise. It also boasts visitors from every state in the union. The museum's prime location at the entrance of Julia Davis Park in the center of Boise puts it in the midst of the city's cultural district, a major attraction for residents and tourists alike. Each year, the State Historical Museum serves over 15,000 Idaho school children through school tours and educational programming.

Exhibition goals:

- Enhance Idahoans' knowledge of the people, places, things, and events that make Idaho unique
- Create a rich exhibit environment that engages visitors with multiple learning styles by presenting information in a variety of formats (written, audio, video, object-based, and hands-on)
- Enhance the Idaho State Historical Museum as a statewide destination attracting and increasing visitation to the Idaho Historical Museum during the sesquicentennial year

Visitors will know:

- The economic forces and events that created Idaho Territory in 1863
- The diversity of Idaho's people and their contributions to the development and culture of the state and beyond
- Idaho's spectacular natural beauty and diversity
- The stories of Idaho's 44 counties and five federally recognized tribes
- Idaho's past and present industries and their significance
- Significant events that shaped the state's places and people
- Landmarks of Idaho's built environment

Evaluating Project Success: The ISHS continually evaluates the success of our programming and exhibits through a variety of methods. In addition to tracking attendance, we will employ two strategies: 1) Exit surveys: visitors will be asked both demographic information and questions regarding their educational experiences at the exhibition allowing us to evaluate the impact of exhibits on our visitors. 2) Exhibit-specific surveys: we will develop a survey letting us evaluate the impact of the *Essential Idaho* exhibit.

**Essential Idaho Exhibit Line-Item Budget
December 2012**

Modular hanging system	\$35,000
Exhibit Casework and Display vitrines	\$10,000
Design and Graphics	\$26,000
Fabrication	\$12,500
Artifact Transportation	<u>\$ 3,500</u>
Total project budget	<u>\$87,000</u>
Funds committed to date:	\$41,500
Balance needed to complete exhibition:	\$45,500



The Idaho State Historical Society Gem Circle

Created in 1881 and established as a state agency in 1907, the Idaho State Historical Society (ISHS) provides Idahoans with essential services including cultural resource and records management and dynamic public programs in education, preservation and stewardship, and technical assistance. We seek to inspire, enrich and engage all Idahoans by leading the state in preserving and sharing our dynamic cultural heritage.

The Idaho State Historical Society preserves and promotes Idaho's rich cultural heritage and:

- Offers services that are essential to the state on all levels, providing information and understanding to everyone from schoolchildren to members of the upper echelon of state government
- Is a trusted guide through the state's history and how it has shaped every aspect of our lives — our land, our communities, our government and our people
- Is an active member of the state that engages community by building on shared experiences and inspires further action and understanding
- Uses its resources to provide a window to the past for people of all ages, leading to a shared vision for the future

**Now is the time to invest in Idaho's future through your support of the
*Essential Idaho: 150 Things that Make the Gem State Unique.***

The Gem Circle is a special group of corporations, foundations and individuals who contribute at a significant level. Private support is crucial to the Society's vitality and to the creation of this once in a lifetime exhibition. This circle of friends provides the base of this support. Their leadership and support, along with ISHS members, make the Society one of the largest history organizations in Idaho. We invite you to join the Gem Circle at one of the following levels:

\$500- Garnet
\$750 - Amethyst
\$1,000- Opal
\$1,500- Sapphire
\$2,500- Emerald
\$5,000- Diamond

Your support will assist in creating ***Essential Idaho: 150 Things that Make the Gem State Unique*** at the Idaho State Historical Museum. This exhibit will:

- Commemorate the 150th anniversary of the creation of Idaho Territory
- Feature a comprehensive telling of Idaho's story, created through input from Idaho's tribes, cities, communities and citizens
- Serve school children and families with compelling presentations and hands-on activities
- Promote heritage tourism through a major "Get Territorial: Idaho at 150" marketing campaign

Gem Circle Donor Benefits
Essential Idaho: 150 Things that Make the Gem State Unique

\$500- Garnet

- Listing in annual report
- Listing on donor wall
- 4 invitations to opening reception

\$750- Amethyst

- Listing in annual report
- Listing on donor wall
- 6 invitations to opening reception
- Listing in *Mountain Light* newsletter

\$1,000- Opal

- Listing in annual report
- Listing on donor wall
- 8 invitations to donor opening reception
- Listing in *Mountain Light* newsletter and electronic *Histor-e* newsletter

\$1,500- Sapphire

- Listing in annual report
- Listing on donor wall
- 10 invitations to donor opening reception
- Listing in *Mountain Light* newsletter and electronic *Histor-e* newsletter
- 25 free admission tickets for employees
- Recognition at related programs

\$2,500- Emerald

- Listing in annual report
- Listing on donor wall
- 12 invitations to donor opening reception
- Listing in *Mountain Light* newsletter and electronic *Histor-e* newsletter
- 50 free admission tickets for employees
- Recognition at related programs
- Recognition on ISHS website for duration of exhibition

\$5,000- Diamond

- Listing in annual report
- Listing on donor wall
- 12 invitations to donor opening reception
- Listing in *Mountain Light* newsletter and electronic *Histor-e* newsletter
- Recognition on ISHS website for duration of exhibition
- Recognition at related programs
- Free Saturdays for company employees

\$10,000-Customized

Essential Idaho:

150 Things that Make the Gem State Unique

Featured Items:

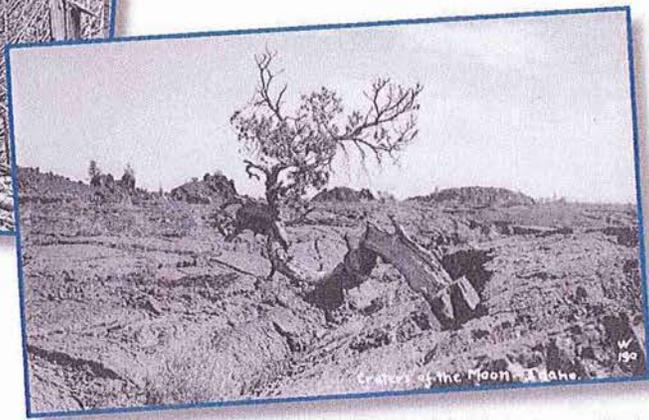
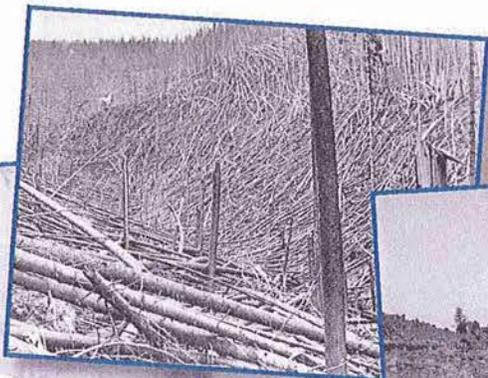
Stories in the exhibit will include:

- Craters of the Moon
- US 95 North-South Highway
- Franklin, Idaho's first city
- Polly Bemis
- 1910 Fire
- Potatoes
- Mining

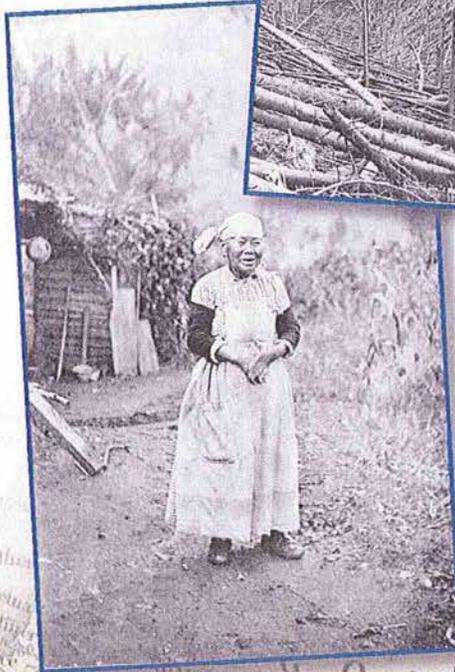
Unique items slated for display include:

- Painting of the State Seal
- Polly Bemis' Tennis Shoes
- Leata (1970s energy saving car built in Sandpoint)
- The Pulaski fire fighting tool
- Miner's folding candle invented in Idaho

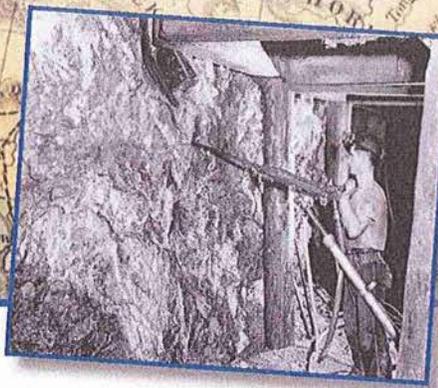
The Big Burn: Idaho's 1910 Fire



Craters of the Moon National Park



Polly Bemis, one of Idaho's most unique and beloved residents



Bunker Hill miner

