INVENTORY SHEET FOR GROUP NOMINATIONS: IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOISE, IDAHO

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE ~~IN IDAHO~~ TR)

SITE NAME: O'Neill Brothers Building SITE NUMBER: 85

LOCATION: Idaho St~~reet~~ ~~near Commercial~~, Glenns Ferry, Elmore County ~~(039)~~ ~~Idaho~~

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Rufus Equisquizia
c/o Bud Haskell
c/o Commercial Hotel
Glenns Ferry, ID 83623

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Glenns Ferry, Idaho, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the O'Neill Brothers Building and the property on which it stands, east 20 feet of lot 16, block 21, Glenns Ferry Townsite. Legal description o file at the Elmore County Courthouse, Mountain Home, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/6,38,790/47,56,900

DATE OR PERIOD: 1914

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: good unaltered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The O'Neill Brothers Building is a modest one-story brick block built to a nineteen feet, ten inch-by-eighty-foot plan. The facade is largely filled by the storefront, which retains its coffeed window-bases, plate glass windows, and mezzanine lights. The intact bases indicate that the beveled right side entry is original, although the drawins for the front elevation show a centerd entry. Otherwise the storefront and the masonry detail of the upper facade are precisely a designed. A few feet above the mezzanine is an outset string course of stretcher brick; cented on it is a double cross vent. The ends of the string course intersect the large ornamental elements dropped from the corbel table, which is a shallow seris of stepped elements surmounted by bands of end-set bricks and a band of header bricks. The parapet above the corbel is drawn up to a low peak. The whole is finished with a narrow concrete coping.

The exterior is substantially intact except for the replacement of the door, half-boarding of the display windows to protect the glass, and painting over of the mezzanine lights.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The O'Neill Brothers Building in Glenns Ferry is architecturally signficant as a well-preserved one-story storefront of a modest but neat and attractive type which Tourtellotte and Hummel designed several times for smaller Idaho main streets--for example, the individually ineligible Alexander's Store in Caldwell--but which is elsewhere unrepresented in the Thematic Group. This building also serves as an example of teh way commissions tended to follow each other in a local community, and of the recycling of plans in such a setting.

Thomas and Garrett O'Neill were proprietors of O'Neill Brothers Drugs. Their neat little building went up next to R. D. Gorby's Tourtellotte and Company-rebuilt commercial bulding, down the street from his theater (site 84), and around the corner from the firm's 1922 McGinnis Building (site 107).

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Polk and Company. Idaho State Gazeteer and Business Directory. 1916.

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 125D. Collection book reference 1916. Tracings signed Tourtellotte and Hummel.

Tourtellotte and Hummel Architecture in Idaho
O'Neill Brothers Building, site #85
Idaho Street near Commercial
Glenns Ferry, Elmore County, Idaho

Photographer:
Patricia Wright
1980

Negative on file at Idaho State Historical Society
Boise, Idaho

View from south-southeast

Photograph one of one