

IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REFERENCE SERIES

BURGDORF

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Located near the Florence-Warren's trail about six miles from Miller's Camp (an 1862 or 1863 gold discovery), the warm springs at Burgdorf were largely neglected until 1870. Then Fred C. Burgdorf, who had begun mining at Warren's in 1864, decided to develop them into a resort. He eventually built a hotel there, and had a post office called Resort. When interest in the Thunder Mountain country began to develop after 1898, Burgdorf's location on the route there from Grangeville proved to be fortunate. By 1902 a major gold rush to Thunder Mountain built up traffic gently, justifying enlargement of the Burgdorf Hotel.

When his wife died in 1923, Fred Burgdorf sold out his interests there and retired to live in Weiser. By then the place had dropped its old name of Resort, and was known generally as Burgdorf. During the depression construction by the CCC of a Forest Service road up French Creek through Burgdorf improved accessibility for travelers. The hotel continued to operate until 1964, and still stands; the swimming pool and resort cabins still are used in the summer and fall. Burgdorf, in fact, is one of Idaho's oldest resorts.