

# IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## REFERENCE SERIES

ALEXANDER ROSSI  
March 10, 1828-February 22, 1906

Number 597

1981

Alexander Rossi was born March 10, 1828, in Zybrechken, Germany. He came to the United States as a young man and went to California in about 1850. After several years there, he moved to Oregon where he served as a quartermaster with the military and opened a machine shop in Oregon City. After his shop was flooded out, he went to Lewiston and ran a sawmill and an assay office. In about 1865 he came to Boise where he and Robie again built a sawmill. William B. Morris also bought an interest in the mill.

After Morris' and Robie's deaths in 1878, Rossi became partners with Morris' nephew, William Ridenbaugh, and continued his interest in the mill until his death.

Rossi was the first superintendent of the U.S. Assay Office in Boise and he donated the land on which the Assay Office was built. He also served as an Ada County Commissioner.

On February 12, 1873, Rossi married Adeline Seaman Mullen. She had two children, Adeline and Birdena, by her previous marriage, and she and Rossi had three children: Alexander, Kirk (died in infancy), and Anna. In 1884 the family moved to Washoe, near Payette, and built a sawmill. They returned to Boise in 1895. Rossi died February 22, 1906, in Boise.