

IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REFERENCE SERIES

BOISE STREET RENUMBERING

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Major renumbering of Boise streets occurred in about 1899 and affected the house numbers of the north-south streets. Before 1899, house numbers were counted north from the Boise River. The renumbering had numbers run north to south from Main Street. For example, before 1899 sources refer to a street number on 14th Street. After renumbering addresses specify North 14th or South 14th, counting address numbers from Main Street. North of Main Street the numbers were reduced by about 600, but this varies because the streets originally were not uniformly numbered from their start at the Boise River. A researcher must check addresses on a street by street basis to determine changes in the area being researched.

Research indicates many minor adjustments over the years after 1899, but this seems to have been on a block by block basis. It appears from research that there was renumbering in 1905-1906 at least in Boise's North End and probably over a larger area as well.

Town maps published by the Sanborn Map Company show two sets of addresses, reflecting renumbering. Addresses shown on the Sanborn maps should be checked against those in the R. L. Polk and Company city directories.

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