

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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JUN 20 1978

DATE ENTERED

NOV 28 1978

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Boise City National Bank

AND/OR COMMON

Simplot Building

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Eighth and Idaho

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Boise

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY

Ada

CODE

001

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC

___PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___YES: RESTRICTED

☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED

___NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

___EDUCATIONAL

___ENTERTAINMENT

___GOVERNMENT

___INDUSTRIAL

___MILITARY

___MUSEUM

___PARK

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___RELIGIOUS

___SCIENTIFIC

___TRANSPORTATION

___OTHER

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Boise Redevelopment Agency

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall

CITY, TOWN

Boise

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Ada County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1972

___FEDERAL ☒ STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Idaho State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Boise City National Bank is a four-story rusticated sandstone building in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. Its Eighth Street facade is three bays wide, dominated by a central portal with Romanesque columns and an elliptical arch. Foliated ornamentation bands the spandrels. Large rusticated round arched windows flank the entry. The Idaho Street side is seven bays wide. Each bay has a round arched opening: the four eastern most being windows, the fifth provides egress to the upper stories, and the 3 western archways form an arcade for the entry to an Idaho Power Company office.

All openings have modern aluminum frames and the upper story windows' transoms have been enclosed. The third story contains pairs of round arched windows with accented extrados moldings resembling eyebrows.

The building stands on a raised foundation and terminates with a crenellated parapet supported by a round-arched blind arcade. The cornice between the third and fourth stories terminated the original 1891 structure. The fourth story and four western most bays were added in 1904-05. In 1913 the first story was given its present appearance when the original corner entry was removed in favor of the major entry on Eighth Street.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☒ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	1891, 1904-05, 1913	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	James King, Tourtellotte & Co.
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Boise City National Bank is architecturally significant as one of the best extant commercial examples of the Richardsonian Romanesque Revival style in the west. Constructed of Boise sandstone quarried at Tablerock, and erected three years after Richardson's Marshall Field Warehouse in Chicago, this bank building is an outstanding local landmark.

Originally the bank was to be a \$13,000 structure, but architect James King convinced the bank trustees that a more substantial building should be erected. Thus \$40,000 was allocated for the construction of this building whose style and 20 inch sandstone walls were "to give an idea of solidity, strength and permanence."¹

James King was an important Boise architect of the 1890s. He designed the National Register Moore-Cunningham house and the walls and administration building of the state penitentiary. The Boise City National Bank is the only surviving example of his commercial work.

Tourtellotte and Co., the foremost architects of their period in Boise, designed the 1904-05 addition and the 1913 remodeling. Both these alterations maintained the original building's spirit and appearance, and the crenellated parapet is a distinct enhancement of the original. (Charles Hummel, its designer, was German born and trained.)

¹ Idaho Daily Statesman, August 23, 1891, p. 6, c. 1.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Idaho Daily Statesman, August 23, 1891, p. 6, c. 1; November 26, 1905, p. 14, c. 1-3.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	1
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5	6	4	3	8	0
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4	8	2	9	3	7	5
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ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

C

B

ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property consists of the Simplot building and its land on the southwest corner of Eighth and Idaho.

Boise City Original Townsite: Block 3, Lots ~~10-12~~ 10-12. See phone report.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Don Hibbard, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Idaho State Historical Society

DATE

14 June 1978

STREET & NUMBER

610 North Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

384-2120

CITY OR TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☐

STATE ☒

LOCAL ☐

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Merle Wells

14 June 1978

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles Allen

DATE

11.28.78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

W. Ray Luce

DATE

11.22.78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Boise City National Bank
Boise, Idaho

Photographer - Duane Garrett
1977

View of front and side from the northeast.

Private collection.

NOV 28 1978

JUN 20 1978

Garrett Photography

714 WEST STATE

BOISE, IDAHO 83702

REORDER NO. 3093-21