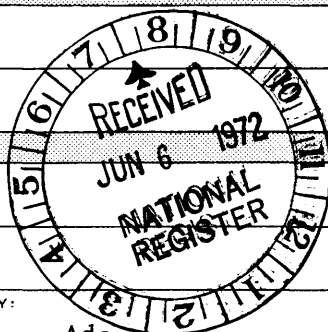


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

PH0037371

STATE: Idaho	
COUNTY: Ada	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER <b>NOV 9</b>	DATE <b>1972</b>



<b>1. NAME</b>	
COMMON: Fort Boise (U.S. Army)	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: Sec. 2, T3N, R2E			
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE Idaho	CODE 16	COUNTY: Ada	CODE 001

<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One)  <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<b>OWNERSHIP</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<b>STATUS</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b>  Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____

<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>			
OWNER'S NAME: Veteran's Administration			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	

<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Ada County Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Boise	STATE: Idaho	CODE 16	

<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	

STATE: Idaho	COUNTY: Ada	ENTRY NUMBER <b>NOV 9 1972</b>	FOR NPS USE ONLY DATE
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☐ Excellent☒ Good☐ Fair☐ Deteriorated☐ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved☒ Original Site

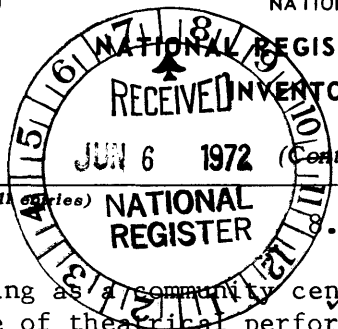
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Some of the early buildings of 1864 still stand, and at least one is still in use. A number of later buildings of the military post also are in use, and although a Veteran's Hospital has been built next to them, enough of the old fort still can be seen to make this a site of unusual interest.

The site has architectural interest, especially due to the early date of the U.S. Quartermaster's building and the one remaining house of the original "officers' row", both constructed of native sandstone quarried nearby. These two 1864 structures are massive in character; they afford an unusually good opportunity to observe stone construction of the period. Early photographs extant allow study of later alterations, although these are minor.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

JUN 6 1972 (Continuation Sheet)

STATE Idaho	
COUNTY Ada	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 9 1972	DATE

(Number all entries)

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

. Significance (Con't)

Serving as a community center as well as a military base, Fort Boise was the scene of theatrical performances, religious services, band concerts, and Christmas festivities in Boise's early days. The Fort Boise Varieties were presented for a number of years, and the soldiers stationed at the post contributed much to the community life and development. The Fort's primary purpose, though, was to control the Indians. An extended campaign in 1863 proved to be an unproductive search for Indians to fight. Then in 1864, Indian outbreaks over a wide area of southern Idaho and eastern Oregon set off a four year Snake war, and the headquarters of the First Oregon Cavalry under Colonel R.F. Maury was transferred to Fort Boise, August 28, 1864. Finding the offending Indians generally proved to be an insoluble problem although exploration of a Jacksonville-Fort Boise military road by Colonel C.S. Drew during the summer of 1864 opened up a route to connect the major areas of military operations during that long struggle.

Governor Caleb Lyon held a major Indian council at Fort Boise, October 10, 1865, in an effort to bring the Indian troubles to an end. The United States Senate declined to ratify his treaties, and hostilities continued. Pressure and complaints from settlers over southwestern Idaho led to designation of Fort Boise as headquarters for a new military district of Boise, March 2, 1866, with Major L.H. Marshall in command. Camps Alvord, Lyon, Reed, and Lander were assigned to the new district, which Marshall reorganized by establishing Camp C.F. Smith and Camp Three Forks during 1866. Marshall's Indian campaigns failed, though, and General George Crook arrived at Fort Boise, December 11, 1866, to straighten things out. Crook set out on a winter campaign almost immediately, and most of the rest of the Snake war was fought in eastern Oregon and points beyond. The military district of Boise was discontinued, January 29, 1867, and with the end of the Snake war, June 30, 1868, there was talk of closing the Fort. Soldiers from Fort Boise, however, had proved useful to Governor Ballard early in 1867 when they responded to a call to protect government lamps and furniture--and incidentally, the territorial governor and secretary--from legislative displeasure which was threatening to become violent. In April, 1868, Governor Ballard employed help from the Fort to suppress the Owyhee war--a violent mining claim fracas which required the presence of soldiers in Silver City. Ballard suggested Fort Boise might be converted into a good territorial capitol or penitentiary both of which then were needed. His political adversaries proposed that the Fort (already equipped with a school anyway) was highly suitable for a campus for the University of Idaho--an institution which seemed to be less in demand just then. In response to demand from the settlers, however, Fort Boise continued as a useful military post.

During the Bannock war of 1878 and the Sheepwater campaign of 1879, Fort Boise served as a base of operations in Idaho's final Indian wars. On April 5, 1879, however, the Fort was redesignated Boise Barracks, where Army units were stationed until 1912. More than one notable military figure was stationed at Fort Boise, including General Jonathan Wainwright who served there early

(Con't)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM



(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Idaho	
COUNTY Ada	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
NOV 9	1972

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (Con't)

in his military career. Soldiers returned there in 1916 preparing for the Mexican border campaign, and the barracks saw military use again from 1942 through 1944. In the meantime, a veterans hospital occupied the main part of the grounds from 1920 on; finally, on March 14, 1944, the property not needed for the hospital was ordered turned over to the State of Idaho.

# SIGNIFICANCE

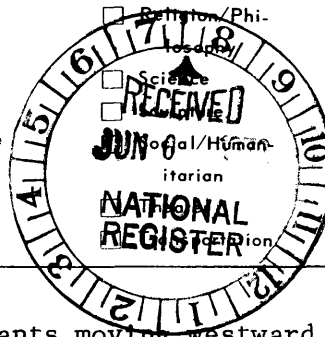
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |                                                  |                                              |                                              |                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education           | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering         | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry            | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             |                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention           | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |                                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape           |                                              |                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature          |                                              |                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military |                                              |                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music               |                                              |                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |                                              |                                              |                                          |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Indian hostility against immigrants moving westward over the Oregon Trail prompted the United States Army to authorize the establishment of Fort Boise. Massacre of the Ward party in Boise valley in 1854 brought military retaliation against the local Indians. Increased native restlessness which naturally followed these incidents forced the Hudson's Bay Company to abandon Fort Boise, a fur trade post located where the Boise River discharges into the Snake. Army escort units came out for several seasons to meet the annual immigrant parties and to protect them through the dangerous Snake country. Yet the need still was felt for a permanent military post in the vicinity of the fur traders' earlier Fort Boise. Numerous attacks in 1858 and 1859 made the situation worse. Finally, after hearing of the Otter massacre (which certainly showed the futility of the Army escort system), General George Wright formally recommended, October 10, 1860, that the United States Army erect another Fort Boise. Before this proposal could be acted upon, though, the Army got involved in the Civil War. During that conflict, national concern with the Indians of the Snake country diminished somewhat. With the gold rush to Boise Basin underway late in 1862, however, solution of the Boise Indian problem could be deferred no longer. General Benjamin Alvord suggested, October 14, 1862, that the need for Fort Boise had increased tenfold since 1860. The Governor of Washington, whose territory included all of the later Idaho, firmly endorsed the request, and General Wright continued to urge immediate action. Finally, on January 14, 1863, the Secretary of War authorized the new post. General Alvord decided upon a site about forty miles up the river from the Hudson's Bay Company's earlier Fort Boise, and Major Pinckney Lugenbeel left Fort Vancouver, June 1, to put the orders in effect.

Arriving in the vicinity of the new post, June 28, Lugenbeel spent several days choosing an exact site. Then he celebrated July 4 by formally locating Fort Boise. While a detachment of Oregon cavalry was working on the original log structures of Fort Boise, a town sprang up next to the post. Both the Fort and the town were intended to be permanent; aside from some settler's 1863 log cabins preserved as relics, the oldest buildings in Boise are some of those constructed for the Fort. A sandstone quartermaster's building erected September 1, 1864, still is in use as an office building more than a century later, and at least one of the other really early fort buildings has survived.

(Con't)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

HR  
N/O  
LTM

# 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	43°	37'	41"	116°	11'	41"		
NE	43°	37'	41"	116°	10'	20"		
SE	43°	36'	53"	116°	10'	20"		
SW	43°	36'	53"	116°	11'	41"		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **440 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <b>Merle Wells, State Liaison Officer</b>		
ORGANIZATION <b>Idaho State Historical Society</b>	DATE <b>Feb. 24, 1972</b>	
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>610 North Julia Davis Drive</b>		
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Boise</b>	STATE <b>Idaho</b>	CODE <b>16</b>

# 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name

*Merle Wells*

Title

**State Liaison Officer**

Date

**February 24, 1972**

# NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*Robert M. Gentry*  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

*11/9/72*

ATTEST:

*John H. Bradford*  
Keeper of The National Register  
Date *Nov 8, 1972*

## DESCRIPTION OF UNITED STATES ARMY BUILDINGS

### AT FORT BOISE, BOISE, IDAHO

The earliest existing plan of Fort Boise is dated 1866. The buildings on this plan were numbered, apparently in order of construction. Although many buildings were added through the years, and although many of the original and early buildings were later demolished, the numbering system has remained in use to the present, when the old army post is used as a United States Veterans Administration Hospital. A description of the buildings from the military era follows:

Building No. 1, an officer's dwelling, dates from 1864. It is built of native sandstone quarried in the hills nearby. ~~The plan is symmetrical,~~ with three dormer windows facing the street of original "Officer's Row." Two long wooden ells extend backward from the corners of the building. The large thick stones in the walls of this structure are of various sizes, ingeniously fitted together. Traces of a long verandah across the front of the building still may be seen where tar from the roofing left a line. A small porch around the front door replaces this earlier structure.

Building No. 4 is the other survivor from the earliest period in Officers' Row. It is composed of a one-story wing of sandstone paralleling the street and a two-story brick portion with gable-end facing the street. A long verandah across the front ties the two elements together. The sandstone portion measures 31 x 16, the brick portion 37 x 18 feet. Existing blueprints of later modifications to the building assign a date of 1870 to the original construction, but verification is lacking from other sources.

Building No. 6, the post quartermaster building, is not only in the massive sandstone construction of Nos. 1 and 4, but has a carved inscription in the gable bearing the date "Sept. 1, 1864." It is a long one-story building, 100 x 30.

Building No. 13, the present administration building for the U. S. V. A. hospital in Boise, was originally a nearly square one-story brick building with five bay front. To this have been added two flanking seven-bay extensions and a brick porch of nondescript design. What remains of original detail in the flat-arched window headers is the best evidence of the original style of this building. The corners of the brick window arches in this older portion of the facade are accented with projecting rusticated stones. A simple cupola, with pole and weathervane, now tops Building No. 13.

Buildings No. 23 and 24 were both designed in April, 1905. No. 23 was designated "Quarters for Two Captains," and No. 24, "Quarters for Two Lieutenants." While similar in style, these two buildings have a certain individuality and character of their own. Both are in a style that is perhaps best termed Federal revival, with Tuscan, the favorite order on this post, used throughout. They are large duplex houses of brick, with porches of ivory-painted wood.

Building No. 29, originally a gymnasium and post exchange, was completed in 1909. It strongly suggests a Charles Bulfinch kind of Federal style, with deep-set entry under a massive brick arch. The central bay projects forward, and is further set off from the two-bays on either side by brick quoins. The whole is topped by a pedimental cap. A graceful fan window surmounts the door.

Building No. 33 was designed in June, 1908, as a "U. S. Army Hospital for Twelve Beds." It is a nine-bay two-story Federal revival style brick building with a one-story porch in the Tuscan order. The basement story is of rusticated local sandstone with windows matching the bays above. All windows are headed with flat brick arches, except the basement windows, which have stone lintels. The hipped slate roof has three dormers on each long axis and one on each end. A centrally placed metal ventilator functions as a cupola (in design terms) and is in good scale with the other elements. These include four large brick chimneys. A wooden addition to the back of the building was formerly a sunporch, but is now enclosed. Tuscan pilasters relate this addition to the whole.

Building No. 34, of about the same date as No. 33, was originally a large brick cavalry barn.—It has since been converted to a supply warehouse, with extensive interior remodelling.

Building No. 42 was first designed in April, 1906, but revised twice in 1908 before construction. This two-story brick non-commissioned officers' quarters has a Greek revival feeling. Although it is in the Tuscan order, as is most of the rest of the post, it is oriented toward the street with its three-bay gable end in the manner of a Greek temple. It also has balancing porches in front and rear, completing the temple effect. Another Greek revival effect is to be noted in the way the barge-boards return at the lower corners of the pediment.

Building No. 44 was designed in December, 1909, as an officers' quarters for four officers. It is in the same general Federal revival Tuscan as buildings Nos. 23 and 24.

Building No. 45, of 1910, was designed as quarters for the post commanding officer. It is a large two-story house reminiscent of the Prairie Style of Frank Lloyd Wright. Its low-pitched roof surfaces extend outward into wide overhanging eaves. A large dormer in the same character dominates the front facade, but is balanced by a wide and massive porch.

Building No. 69, a later 20th Century addition, is a charming gate house in the native sandstone, flanked by iron fences. The stone is rusticated, and the small structure is studiously picturesque.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**PROPERTY MAP FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

STATE Idaho	
COUNTY Ada	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
NOV 9	1972



<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON:		Fort Boise (U.S. Army)	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:		Sec. 2, T3N, R2E	
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE:	Idaho	CODE	COUNTY:
		16	Ada
			CODE
			001
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE:		U.S.G.S.	
SCALE:		1:24,000	
DATE:		1954	
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property boundaries where required.</li> <li>North arrow.</li> <li>Latitude and longitude reference.</li> </ol>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



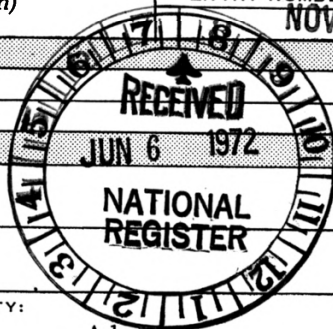


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Idaho	
COUNTY Ada	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 9	DATE 1972



1. NAME			
COMMON:		Fort Boise (U.S. Army)	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Sec. 2, T3N, R2E			
CITY OR TOWN:			
STATE:		CODE	COUNTY:
Idaho		16	Ada
			CODE
			001
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:		Idaho State Historical Society	
DATE OF PHOTO:		1972	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Idaho State Historical Society	
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
The Sutler building looking northeast			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



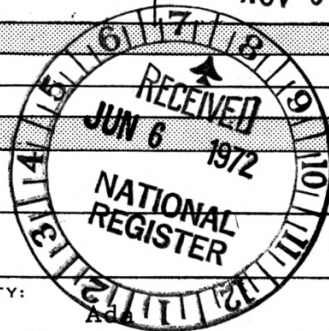


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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STATE Idaho	
COUNTY Ada	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	NOV 9 1972



1. NAME			
COMMON:		Fort Boise (U.S. Army)	
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
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STREET AND NUMBER:		Sec. 2, T3N, R2E	
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STATE:	Idaho	CODE	COUNTY:
		16	Ada
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:		Idaho State Historical Society	
DATE OF PHOTO:		1972	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Idaho State Historical Society	
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
The officers house looking northeast			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS