

INVENTORY SHEET FOR GROUP NOMINATIONS: IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOISE, IDAHO

NOMINATION: (BOISE PUBLIC SCHOOLS)

SITE NAME: Franklin School

SITE NUMBER: 7

LOCATION: 5007 Franklin Road, Boise, ID 83705

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Independent School District of Boise City
1207 Fort Street
Boise, Idaho 83702

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Boise South, 7.5 minute

ACREAGE: 8.25 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Franklin School and the property on which it stands, from the intersection of Franklin Road and Orchard street, thence south 546', thence west 667.4', thence north 546', and thence east 667.4' to the point of origin.

UTM(S): 14/561250/487780

DATE OR PERIOD: 1926, additions
1934, 1950-1951

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: Tourtellotte and Hummel

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Education

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: good, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

Built in 1926 as a high school for District Number 45, Franklin School is a two-story stucco-over-brick building with flat roofline and symmetrical facade. The central recessed entry is marked by a small canopy supported by scroll brackets and displays a shield-like device, scrolls, crests, and other classical decorative motifs. The large multi-paned windows are ranged in bands across the facade on both the first- and second-story levels. The parapet roofline is enhanced by concrete ornamentation with a geometric motif. The central bay housing the entrance is stepped slightly forward. To the right of the main facade is a two-story brick addition with a flat roof and multi-light windows. A second long, low one-story brick addition extends further to the right with five sets of large triple multi-light windows. The alterations described are compatible with the historical character of the building and constitute all major alterations.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Franklin derives its significance primarily as an example of the form taken by a number of schools built between 1919 and 1940. The flat-roofed two-story brick/stucco format proved practical, with detail and decorative elements providing the main source of variation. Franklin represents a type of school significantly different from its neighbor immediately to the east, the old Franklin grade school (not extant), designed only nineteen years earlier by the same architectural firm, Tourtellotte and Hummel. The four-classroom box-type stone building with steeply pitched roof, dormers, bell tower, and arched portico was more closely related in massing detail and function to the school buildings of the 1880s and the 1890s than to the new Franklin, an indication of the major changes in school architecture in less than two decades.



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Boise Public Schools
Franklin School (site 7)
5007 Franklin Road
Boise, Ada County, Idaho

Photograph by Ron Pisaneschi
July, 1982

Negative on file at Idaho State
Historical Society, Boise, Idaho

View from Northwest

Photograph 1 of 1