

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICEPH0683582  
FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

SEP 1 1978  
NOV 30 1978

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Hotel Moscow

AND/OR COMMON

## LOCATION

STREET &amp; NUMBER

NW corner 4th and Main Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Moscow,

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY

Latah

CODE

057

## CLASSIFICATION

## CATEGORY

DISTRICT

X BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

X PRIVATE

BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

X OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

## PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

X COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

## OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Bill Bode

STREET &amp; NUMBER

c/o Hotel Moscow

CITY, TOWN

Moscow

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

## LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Latah County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Moscow

STATE

Idaho

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1972

FEDERAL X 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 Hotel Moscow, erected in 1891-92, stands today as a slightly chastened example of the Victorian Romanesque style in American commercial architecture. The polychromatic exterior finish and round-arched openings which are hallmarks of the style are intact. Only two major decorative elements have been removed. One was an arched galvanized iron pediment atop a modilioned cornice, directly above the stepped central gable which may still be seen above the principal entrance on Main Street. The other was a bell-shaped turret roof which sat upon the southeast corner of the building, directly above a storefront entrance, since filled, in the curved corner wall. The turret roof may still be seen in the city, on a corner of the Commercial Club building. The only modern addition to the Hotel is a brick extension to the rear which does not distract from its character. Modern alterations have consisted of the closing off of the transoms and several of the large windows on the second floor, and adaptation of the ground floor for commercial use. The present owner is interested in restoring these elements to their original condition.

The basic structure of the Hotel is of light red brick, in three stories, with sand stone trim. The slightly asymmetrical main facade has two broad and two narrow bays. It is dominated at street level by a broad arched entry with double doors, transom with multiple lights, and stone voussoirs springing from short stone piers double their width. A vertical course of stone blocks of the same width as the arch voussoirs also rises from the piers to the level of the arch crown, further framing and emphasizing the main entry. The pier motif, again extended to the height of the arch and the first story, is repeated as a vertical articulation of the bays along the last facade and the south wall facing Fourth Street. Horizontally the building is articulated by two pairs of molded belt courses. One pair runs below the rectangular casements of the second story. Another pair runs along the roof line, suitably elaborated above the front and side entrances.

Further horizontal articulation is achieved by the line of stone sills which punctuate the facade at the base of the round-arched windows of the third floor. These windows - two pairs to the left and two narrow pairs to the right on the main facade, corresponding to the broad and narrow bays mentioned above - are distinguished by striking archivolt trim. These semi-circles of light stone, contrasting with the basic fabric of brick, combine with the arched stone entrance to give the Hotel its visual character.

The round arches of the third story are surmounted by recessed rectangular panels of geometric decorative brick work; by sets of small sash windows in the attic story above the front and side entrances; and by the upper pair of belt courses, the lower course broken in elaboration of the small stepped gables which form a decorative cresting over the public entrances to the Moscow Hotel.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1891-92

BUILDER/ARCHITECT M. J. Shields & Company,  
Taylor & Lauder, contractors

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hotel Moscow is architecturally significant as one of the finest examples of Victorian Romanesque architecture in Moscow. Its style, scale and central location have made it a local landmark. Its date, further, places it within a particularly interesting and expansive period of Moscow's early history.

The present structure rose on the site of the first hotel in Moscow, the Barton House, which was built in 1880 and destroyed by fire a decade later. Its owner, R. H. Barton, immediately undertook to form a stock company which would replace it with the present structure. Barton himself took out half of the \$40,000 in shares it was predicted would be spent on the Moscow. By the time bids were let, estimates had dropped to \$30,000 with fixtures. Still, the building was a very substantial addition to the commercial community of a very small northwestern city; an addition which called for a gala opening in April of 1892, with a special train of celebrants from Spokane and enthusiastic mentions in the local press. Even allowing for the usualness of a small town's journalistic boosting of its "palatial business houses," we may appreciate the optimistic commercial climate of which the Hotel Moscow and its sibling structures are evidences. For the Hotel was part of a burst of building activity in the downtown area. The year of its construction saw the Moscow and First National and Farmers' Bank buildings, the McConnell-McGuire building, the McCarter block and the Skattaboe block rise on Main Street as well.

In its position at one of the most important downtown intersections the Hotel Moscow was and is spatially as well as temporally in the center of this building activity. The Skattaboe block, directly across Fourth Street from the Hotel, is already listed in the National Register. The street between them is now a pedestrian mall. Thus the intersection is an attractive, accessible and humanly-scaled focal point for a downtown of considerable architectural-historic interest. The exterior of the Hotel Moscow is a subdued but handsome example of Victorian Romanesque architecture upon which a rear addition, designed in 1937 by Price and Whitehead, does not intrude. The present owner is committed to preserving the integrity of the Hotel, and to contributing to its restoration.

1

Moscow Mirror, 1 Jan., 1892, p. 10.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Moscow Mirror: 27 June 1890, p. 3 c. 2  
14 Aug. 1891, p. 1 c. 1  
23 Aug. 1891, p. 1 c. 4  
1 Jan. 1892, p. 10  
15 April 1892, p. 1 c. 7

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 111 499940 5175150  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
C         

B           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
D         

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This nomination includes the Hotel Moscow and the ground upon which it stands on the Northwest corner of Fourth and Main.

Per Don Hibbard, SHPO 11/24/78: Lots 3, excepting the north 15 ft. thereof, all of lots 4, 5, and 6, of block 3, of West Part Addition to Moscow.

JFT

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

Patricia Wright/Architectural Historian

August 8, 1978

ORGANIZATION

Idaho State Historical Society

DATE

(208) 384-2120 / 3356

STREET & NUMBER

610 N. Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

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 x

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*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

24 August 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

*W. Ray Price*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11-30-78

DATE

11-29-78



Hotel Moscow

SEP 1 1978

Moscow, Idaho

photographer- Patricia Wright  
1978

view of front and side from  
southwest.

Idaho State Historical Society  
Site Survey file

NOV 30 1978