

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 20 1978
DATE ENTERED	DEC 8 1978

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Idaho Building
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Bannock and Eighth Streets
CITY, TOWN
Boise
STATE
Idaho
VICINITY OF
First
COUNTY
Ada
CODE
16
CODE
001

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
☐ DISTRICT	☒ PUBLIC	☒ OCCUPIED	☐ AGRICULTURE
☒ BUILDING(S)	☐ PRIVATE	☐ UNOCCUPIED	☒ COMMERCIAL
☐ STRUCTURE	☐ BOTH	☐ WORK IN PROGRESS	☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ SITE	☐ PUBLIC ACQUISITION	☐ ACCESSIBLE	☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ OBJECT	☐ IN PROCESS	☐ YES: RESTRICTED	☐ GOVERNMENT
	☐ BEING CONSIDERED	☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED	☐ INDUSTRIAL
		☐ NO	☐ MILITARY
			☐ OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Boise Redevelopment Agency
STREET & NUMBER
City Hall
CITY, TOWN
Boise
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
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 Idaho Building is a six-story brick commercial building in the second Renaissance Revival style. It has a stone first story with plate glass windows and Doric pilasters. Each side is seven bays wide with a pair of double hung sash windows in each bay of the upper stories, except the corner bays which contain only one window each. Banded brick "pilasters" demarcate the bays and give the building its sense of verticality. These pilasters rise from stone bases and terminate with an egg and dart molding at the top of the fifth story. The panels above and below the windows are terra cotta. The sixth story is highly ornate with contrasting cream colored terra cotta and dark red brick bands. The building terminates with terra cotta modillion-like brackets and a large denticulated galvanized iron cornice, with a plain freize.

There are no additions or alterations.

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 1910

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Tourtellotte & Co.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Idaho building is architecturally significant as a good example of the second Renaissance Revival style applied to a commercial building. The building, described by the Statesman as Boise's "first skyscraper," marked the beginning of a new era in the architectural development of downtown Boise, and several other six-story buildings quickly followed (most notably the Eastman/Overland building and the Empire building.) Erected in an era of prosperity the building symbolized the urban aspirations of Boise as the newspapers carried many allusions to the city's becoming another Chicago.

This structure was built for developer Walter E. Pierce, a major real estate figure in turn of the century Boise. This is the grandest of several commercial buildings constructed for him.

The architects, Tourtellotte and Company, were the foremost architectural firm of the period in Boise. This is one of their more ambitious commercial endeavors, and typical of their handling of the Second Renaissance Revival.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Idaho Daily Statesman, March 4, 1910, p. 5, c. 1.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	1
---	---

5	6	4	4	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	8	2	9	4	1	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property includes the Idaho Building and the ground it sits on at the southeast corner of Eighth and Bannock.

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 X

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

Marie Wells

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 14 June 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Charles Herring
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

W. Ray Lee

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 12.8.78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 12.8.78



JUN 20 1978

Idaho Building
Boise, Idaho

Photographer - Duane Garrett
1978

Idaho State Historical Society
View of the front and side from the northwest.

Site survey file.