

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 27 1979

OCT 16 1979

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Idaho Republican newspaper office

AND/OR COMMON

(American Land Title Company)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

167 W. Bridge Street

CITY, TOWN

Blackfoot

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Second

STATE

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY

Bingham

CODE

011

**3 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:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Neola and Clarence O. Cox

STREET &amp; NUMBER

175 W. Bridge

CITY, TOWN

Blackfoot

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Bingham County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Blackfoot

STATE

Idaho

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1972

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY 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 former Idaho Republican newspaper and printing office in Blackfoot is a one-story structure with a depth of 35 feet and 50 foot frontage, on West Bridge Street. The foundation and basement are of concrete, steel-reinforced. The exterior walls are of red brick. On either side of the recessed central entry is a pair of large round-arched windows, framed by triple rows of brick so set as to suggest voisoirs and pilasters, and strips of pebbled cast concrete so placed as to suggest sills and springers. The compound frame of the entry is surmounted by a small but intricate metal marquee, and above the marquee a cartouche on which the legend "DEPENDABLE SERVICE" is still legible. The cartouche is the centerpiece of a rather elaborate upper facade. It occupies a break in the bracketed metal cornice; above it is a shallow arch rising from the eave of a tiled pent roof which runs the width of the facade between two brick piers at the corners. Behind this low false front the roof of the building is nearly flat. Drainage basins and pipes were installed during its construction to carry water down through the walls, into the basement and directly into the sewer system, thus avoiding Blackfoot's freezing winter temperatures. A line of windows on the alley side and on the rear of the building were provided, along with two large skylights.

Since the Republican building housed a local newspaper and its progress was amply reported in its own pages, we are unusually well-informed about the construction, functional intentions, original appearance and even interior plan of the building. It is therefore possible to say with more than usual certainty that the exterior of this exceptionally solid little building (30 tons of concrete were poured for the foundation in the expectation that a 20,000 pound press would eventually be installed) is almost entirely unchanged. The only modifications are the closing of windows--those in the basement, and the multi-paned semi-circular sections of those in the main facade--and the addition of a sign under the marquee, designating the current occupant.

The curious scale of the building, with its outsized windows and detail that is quite complex for so small a structure, is accounted for by the fact that the architects who designed it were asked "not to try to see how large but how condensed it could be made and operated."<sup>1</sup> But at the same time, editor-publisher Byrd Trego wished to be able to say that "from the standpoint of arrangement, material, beauty, fine finish and safety and economy of operation, it takes first rank in the state."<sup>2</sup> The completed building represents the application of the principles of the current revival styles--the Spanish mission with its tiled roofs and round arches; the monumental Second Renaissance Revival with its symmetry, horizontal articulation and enriched cornice treatments--to a small-sized, small-town commercial building.

1. Blackfoot Idaho Republican, 16 March 1917, p. 1, c. 3.

2. loc. cit.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899        | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                  | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|                                           |                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |                                                 |                                              |

SPECIFIC DATES 1916-1917

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Cannon & Fetzer, S.L.C. Architects  
Dahle & Eccles, Blackfoot, contract ors

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Idaho Republican building in Blackfoot is architecturally significant for its original adaptation of stylistic conventions appropriate to much larger and multi-storied buildings--notably those of the Second Renaissance Revival--to a structure which appears diminutive even in the streetscape of Blackfoot. It was a building of considerable ambition. It was designed by an architectural firm in Salt Lake City, a not uncommon solution in south-turning southeast Idaho. It was very deliberately designed, in collaboration with the owners and staff and a firm of printing specialists in San Francisco, to be a printing facility of unsurpassed efficiency. It was also deliberately designed as a contribution to its community. Editor Trego, a colorful journalist who operated the Republican (later <sup>absorbed by</sup> the Daily Bulletin) from 1904 until his retirement in 1939, was an enthusiastic and unusually fluent booster of his town and of his own projects, which he tended to identify one with the other. The arrangement of the newspaper office, so that the passing public could glimpse the linotypist, the reporter, the secretary in the public office and the editor in the private one, through the four big windows on the street, attest to this community orientation. So did the provision of a bulletin board to post daily news until such time as the paper was published daily; the front-page announcement of a public Republican housewarming with music by orchestra and "Edison;" and above all Trego's fascinated pride in and exposition of the tangible evidences of invention and progress. Like the house "Sagehurst" that he built and around which he planted trees and flowers in 1909, like even the garage--surely the best-reported private garage ever constructed in Blackfoot--which he added in 1920, the office of the Republican was intended to stand as a model. And, very like a model in its proportions as well as its purpose, it survives in very fine condition today.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blackfoot Idaho Republican: 20 Oct. 1916, p. 1, c. 1; 27 Oct. 1916, p. 1, c. 4; 3 Nov. 1916, p. 10, c. 4; 10 Nov. 1916, p. 1, c. 2; 1 Dec. 1916, p. 3, c. 5; 22 Dec. 1916, p. 4, c. 3; 16 Mar. 1917, p. 1, c. 3.

Hawley, James H. History of Idaho (Vol. 1) Chicago: S.J. Clark, 1920, p. 717 (contemporary photo)

Watton, Clifford C., ed. Capitol's Who's Who in Idaho 1950-51. Portland, Ore.,

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Capitol Pub. Co., 1950, p. 210.

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES

UTM NOT VERIFIED

A 12 390660 4782590  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B                    
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C                    
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D                    
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This nomination includes the former office of the Idaho Republican at 167 W. Bridge Street in Blackfoot, and the property on which it stands, which are owned by Neola and Clarence Cox. Block 32, T-1710 of Blackfoot, Danilson and Lewis addition.

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

ORGANIZATION

Idaho State Historical Society

DATE

20 Aug 79

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 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

*Made Wells*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

20 Aug 79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Coral Shovel*

DATE

10-16-79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

*W. Ray Luce*

DATE

Oct 16, 1979

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Former Idaho Republican <sup>Building</sup> news-  
paper office

Blackfoot, Idaho, *Bingham County, Idaho*

Photographer: Patricia Wright

August 1978

Negative on file at Idaho State  
Historical Society

Boise, Idaho

View from Southwest

18/1

DOE

OCT 16 1979

AUG 27 1979