

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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NATIONAL  
REGISTER

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Idaho State University Administration Building

other names/site number Old Student Union

### 2. Location

street & number 919 South 8th Street, Bldg. #10, Idaho State Univ.

n/a not for publication

city or town Pocatello

n/a vicinity

state Idaho

code ID

county Bannock

code 005

zip code 83209

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

John R. Hill  
Signature of certifying official

3 Aug 93  
Date

John R. Hill, State Historic Preservation Officer  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

X entered in the National Register.

See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

for Gutierrez  
Signature of Keeper

9/23/93  
Date of Action

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93000994 Date Listed: 9/23/93

Idaho State University Administration Building  
Property Name

Bannock ID  
County State

N/A  
Multiple Name

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for [Signature]  
Signature of the Keeper

9/23/93  
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

**State/Federal Agency Certification:** The property was evaluated at the local level of significance.

This information was confirmed with Lauren McCroskey of the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office.

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**DISTRIBUTION:**

National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

Property Name Idaho State University Administration Building

County and State Bannock County, Idaho

Page 2

**5. Classification**

| Ownership of Property                            | Category of Property                            | No. of Resources within Property |                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> private                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | contributing                     | noncontributing                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local            | <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <u>1</u>                         | <input type="checkbox"/> buildings  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State | <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <input type="checkbox"/>         | <input type="checkbox"/> sites      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal          | <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/>         | <input type="checkbox"/> structures |
|                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <input type="checkbox"/>         | <input type="checkbox"/> objects    |
|                                                  |                                                 | <u>1</u>                         | <u>0</u> Total                      |

Name of related multiple property listing: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

n/a

**6. Functions or Use**

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Cat: EDUCATION Sub: College (Student Union)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

Cat: EDUCATION Sub: College (Administration)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Modern Movement: Art Deco

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

Terra cotta (trim)

roof Asphalt

other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Property Name Idaho State University Administration BuildingCounty and State Bannock County, IdahoPage 4**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☒ preliminary determination of individual listing  
(36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings  
Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering  
Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☒ Other

Specify repository:

Hudson & Wallace Architects, Pocatello, ID**10. Geographical Data**Acreage of property one acre

UTM References

1 1/2 3/8/2/9/5/0 4/7/4/6/2/7/0  
Zone Easting Northing3 / / / / / / / / / /  
Zone Easting Northing2 / / / / / / / / / /4 / / / / / / / / / /☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**name/title Bill Vaughn, Campus Architect, Mary Jane Hogan, Ph.D., Asst. Academic VPorganization Idaho State Universitydate April 15, 1992

street &amp; number \_\_\_\_\_

telephone (208) 236-2533, 236-3331city or town Pocatellostate Idaho zip code 83209**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street &amp; number \_\_\_\_\_

telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Name of Property Idaho State Univ. Administration Building  
County and State Bannock County, Idaho

The Art Deco-style Administration Building is a two-story detached building with a raised basement. It stands on its original site. The site plan is rectangular, measuring roughly eighty-five by one hundred fifty feet. From the front, the building presents a symmetrical facade with an outset entry bay flanked by wings. The structure is steel-reinforced concrete in the basement and first stories and steel rigid frame with wooden purlins on the second floor. The building's buff-colored brick veneer is notable for its fine workmanship, intricate patterning of joints, and layering of materials that contribute to the vertical lines of the building. The facade has numerous zigzag setbacks, creating outset piers with triangular caps decorated with terra cotta geometric and foliate forms. Windows are multiple-pane steel sash with movable hopper sash. The building's bronze-colored entry doors and the multiple-pane windows above them are anodized aluminum replacements that closely match the originals in color and configuration. The building has a concrete foundation and flat asphalt roof. An inconspicuous handicapped access area has been added to the rear of the building. With the exception of the alterations noted above, the exterior has excellent integrity as an example of Frank G. Paradise's (a prominent southeast Idaho architect) work and of the Art Deco style.

Originally designed as a student union building, interior modifications have allowed for administrative offices, handicapped access and meeting rooms; however, the original stairway, foyer woodwork, foyer and stair flooring, and second-story ballroom and stage are still in place. There are two expansive second-story verandas that overlook the campus and allow for the circulation of fresh air and light to the ballroom. The building is in excellent condition, and the integrity of the original site, structural system, materials and architectural design have been maintained.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1 Name of Property Idaho State Univ. Administration Building  
County and State Bannock County, Idaho

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The Idaho State University Administration Building is significant as the finest regional example of the Art Deco style of prominent Southeast Idaho architect Frank G. Paradise. Completed in 1939, the building presents an outstanding exterior of stylized and textured terra cotta ornamentation and repetitive geometric forms incorporating sharp angles. Due to its original sitting on the highest elevation of the northeast corner of the Hutchinson Quadrangle, the building retains its distinctive focus as the center of the Idaho State University campus.

Idaho State University was officially recognized by that name in 1963. Originally established as the Academy of Idaho in 1901, renamed the Idaho Technical Institute in 1915, and reorganized as the two-year Southern Branch of the University of Idaho, 1927, the institution became a four-year Idaho State College in 1947 after a lengthy political battle to achieve recognition as an entity distinct from the University of Idaho. Currently, Idaho State University awards certificates, diplomas, and associate, baccalaureate, masters and doctoral degrees in general education and specialized programs in six colleges: Arts and Sciences, Health Professions, Education, Engineering, Pharmacy, Applied Technology, and Business. Idaho State University has been given the role and mission by the Idaho State Board of Education to be the state institution for health-related professions and as a national center for the Doctor of Arts program. The 1993 student enrollment of 11,000 includes students at outreach centers in Twin Falls and Idaho Falls.

Frank G. Paradise, Jr. worked in Pocatello from 1913 until his death in 1952, at the age of 73. During his lifetime he designed or remodeled most of Pocatello's downtown buildings including the now demolished Kasiska Building (1914) and Fargo Building (1916). Other Paradise buildings in Pocatello include the Masonic Temple (1947), Hotel Whitman remodel (1935), Pocatello High School remodel and Gymnasium (1938), Gravely Hall at Idaho State University (1939), and the ISU Vocational Education Building (1941). A list of Paradise projects is on file in the office of Wallace-Hudson and Associates, Pocatello architects. Paradise worked throughout Southeast Idaho and designed over 100 buildings in the region, including the Groveland School in 1951, St. John's Lutheran Church in American Falls in 1950, Mackay Memorial Hospital in 1950, Bear Lake High School in Montpelier in 1948, St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Blackfoot in 1947, and Victor High School in 1940. Although he used a variety of architectural styles for his works, he was notable for his ornate terra cotta embellishments. These were molded by contractors who followed his detailed architectural sketch designs.

Paradise was born in St. Catherine, Ontario, Canada in 1879 and moved as a child to Denver, Colorado. He received his architectural training at the Chicago Art Institute and the Armour Institute of Technology. Paradise worked in Denver for one year as the supervising architect for the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad in the southwestern region. He then moved to Boise, Idaho where he worked

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Section number 8 Page 2 Name of Property Idaho State Univ. Administration Building  
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for seven years in partnership with architect M. Morgan Nisbet. Paradise established a solo firm in Pocatello in 1913, a time of major growth for the city, while Nisbet did the same in Twin Falls. They continued to collaborate on constructions in both cities. In 1949, Paradise began to work with projects construction engineer and Pocatello city commissioner Ray Hunter to design such projects as the Fargo Store remodel, Eddy's Bakery, and additions to Washington and Jefferson schools in Pocatello, Idaho. Paradise and Hunter also designed the Idaho State University gymnasium in 1949.

During his prolific career, Paradise used several different architectural styles, but always with ornate designs. "He was always for a lot of gingerbread," but he showed a decided preference for Renaissance Revival and art deco style buildings with terra cotta ornamentation, an associate told a local architectural historian during a recent historical study of downtown buildings.

From 1913 to the mid-1920s Paradise's work consisted almost exclusively of Renaissance Revival-style commercial buildings which featured terra cotta cornices, pilasters, string courses, storefronts, and other ornamentation. His finest design from this period, the Bannock Hotel tower of 1919 (Pocatello, no longer extant) represented a culmination of this part of his career. In Paradise's 1920s and 1930s commissions he began to turn from designing mostly commercial buildings to picking up more institutional commissions and he broke free of using Renaissance Revival to produce designs in Spanish Colonial Revival (1922 Bannock County Soldiers' Memorial Building, Pocatello) and in the art deco style. Paradise also accommodated the budgets of institutional clients by employing cast stone (i.e., concrete cast in molds) ornamentation in some of these depression-era commissions. Research to date (carried out for the ISHPO book Building Idaho) has identified nine of Paradise's Art Deco-style buildings; undoubtedly there are more awaiting discovery. They range from the 1928 Blackfoot High School to a series of Safeway stores designed using cast concrete facades (1940-41), in various southeast Idaho towns. Generally speaking, these are modest buildings designed in an austere era. They express their style through terra cotta and concrete ornamentation applied to the building (Venturi would call them "decorated sheds") rather than through elaboration of the building's massing. The ISU Administration Building is the premier regional example of Paradise's Art Deco style.

Construction began on the 42,012 square feet concrete and brick Student Union June 22, 1938. The \$250,910 construction cost was financed with \$112,090 Public Works Administration federal funding and \$138,000 in student fees. The construction project was contracted to Lovering Construction Company, Minnesota, and the work was supervised by project engineer George Newborn. This was one of the first student union buildings in the Intermountain West and was built after a group of vocal advocates, led by Professor A. C. Gough, argued that such a structure would add to the cultural and social life of the campus community. The original plans for a one-story structure were expanded to a more pretentious two-story building when federal grant funding seemed possible. The plans were drawn



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Section number 8 Page 3 Name of Property Idaho State Univ. Administration Building  
County and State Bannock County, Idaho

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after Frank Paradise and Dean of Women Marguerite Drew and Executive Dean of the Southern Branch, University of Idaho, John R. Nichols inspected student union buildings in surrounding states. The supplemental construction funding request to the Public Works Administration was granted in June, 1938. At this time, enrollment at the Southern Branch of the University of Idaho was approximately 900 students. This building was formally dedicated as the Student Union during Homecoming on November 11, 1939, along with two other new buildings: Graveley Hall men's dormitory (also a Paradise design) and the Vocational Building.

The Student Union Building is sited at the northeast corner of Hutchinson Quadrangle, the center of campus activities and location of the first football field. The area is dedicated to the first athletic coach of Idaho Technical Institute, Ralph Fielding Hutchinson, who, because of his Princeton background, was influential in the choice of the orange and black for school colors and the Bengal Tiger mascot. Hutchinson's ashes were scattered over the football field and stands after his death; a commemorative site marker was authorized by Idaho State Board of Education action October 22, 1959.

The Student Union became the center for student activities on the campus. The 1942-43 report made by the student Social Director to the Dean of Women noted 565 events were scheduled in the Student Union Building (165 council meetings, 152 fraternity and club meetings, 106 cultural events).

However, expanding enrollments at the Pocatello campus necessitated construction of an even larger facility, which was completed in 1961. At that time, renovations were made to the old Student Union to allow it to serve as the headquarters for the University President, Vice-Presidents, and support staff. Architect Henry J. Hulvey and contractor Rimrock Associates, Pocatello, Idaho, supervised the \$159,460 renovation project. Of this amount, \$125,000 came from state funds, and the remaining \$34,460 from local sources. Another renovation in 1969 cost \$42,160. Although interior space has been altered over the years to allow for offices, handicapped access, and other modifications, the exterior of the building is very close to the original construction. A small modification at the rear exterior of the building was made in 1982 for a handicapped-access elevator. The building is in excellent condition and has been well maintained.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1 Name of Property Idaho State Univ. Administration Building  
County and State Bannock County, Idaho

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Beal, Merrill D. History of Idaho State College, (Pocatello, 1952)

Pocatello Historic Preservation Commission, Historic Tour of Pocatello (Pocatello: Community Development and Research Dept. 1987)

Smith, Paul "Ubiquitous Architect Left Mark on Town" Idaho State Journal, June 21, 1982 (copy attached for record)

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1 Name of Property Idaho State Univ. Administration Building  
County and State Bannock County, Idaho

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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Southwest corner of the intersection of Terry Street and 8th Avenue in Block 201 of Old Pocatello Townsite, Lots 1 through 6.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary is established by the property historically associated with the nominated building.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY

SKETCH MAP-PHOTO KEY

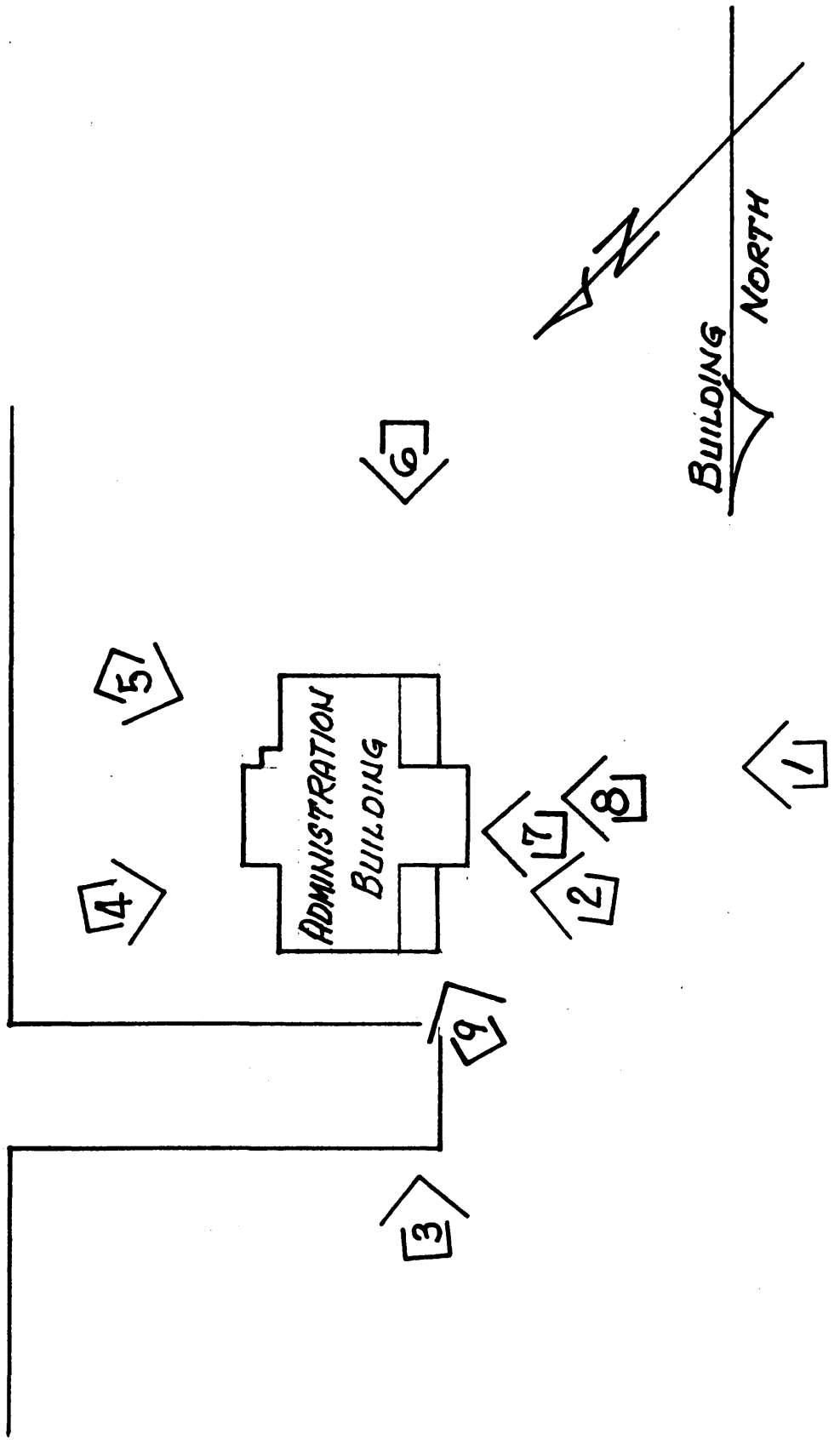
FOR PHOTOS #1 THRU #9

POCATELLO, IDAHO

BANNOCK COUNTY

EAST  
TERRY  
STREET

SOUTH 8TH AVENUE





\* DATA IS SAME FOR PHOTOS No 1 THROUGH No 9.

\* 1 - ADMINISTRATION BLDG

IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY

\* 2 - POCA TELLO, IDAHO, Bannock County

\* 3 - PHOTOS BY DAVE MYERS

4 - 6-26-91

\* 5 - NEGATIVE @ PHOTOGRAPHICS

MEDIA CENTER

IDAHO STATE UNIV.

6 - AERIAL VIEW, LOOKING EAST

7 - PHOTO NO 1 - AERIAL VIEW



Administration Building, Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho      Bannock County

4 - 6-12-91

6 - FRONT OF BLDG

7 - PHOTO NO 2





Administration Building, Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho      Bannock County

4 - 6-3-91

6 - NORTH SIDE, LOOKING SOUTH

7 - PHOTO No 3



Administration Building, Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho Bannock County

4 - 6-3-91

6 - EAST SIDE, LOOKING WEST

7 - PHOTO No 4



Administration Building, Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho. Bannock County

4-6-3-91

6-EAST SIDE, LOOKING WEST

(SHOWING ELEVATOR ADDITION)

7-PHOTO No 5





Administration Building Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho Bannock County

4 - 6-3-91

6 - SOUTH SIDE, LOOKING NORTH

7 - PHOTO No 6



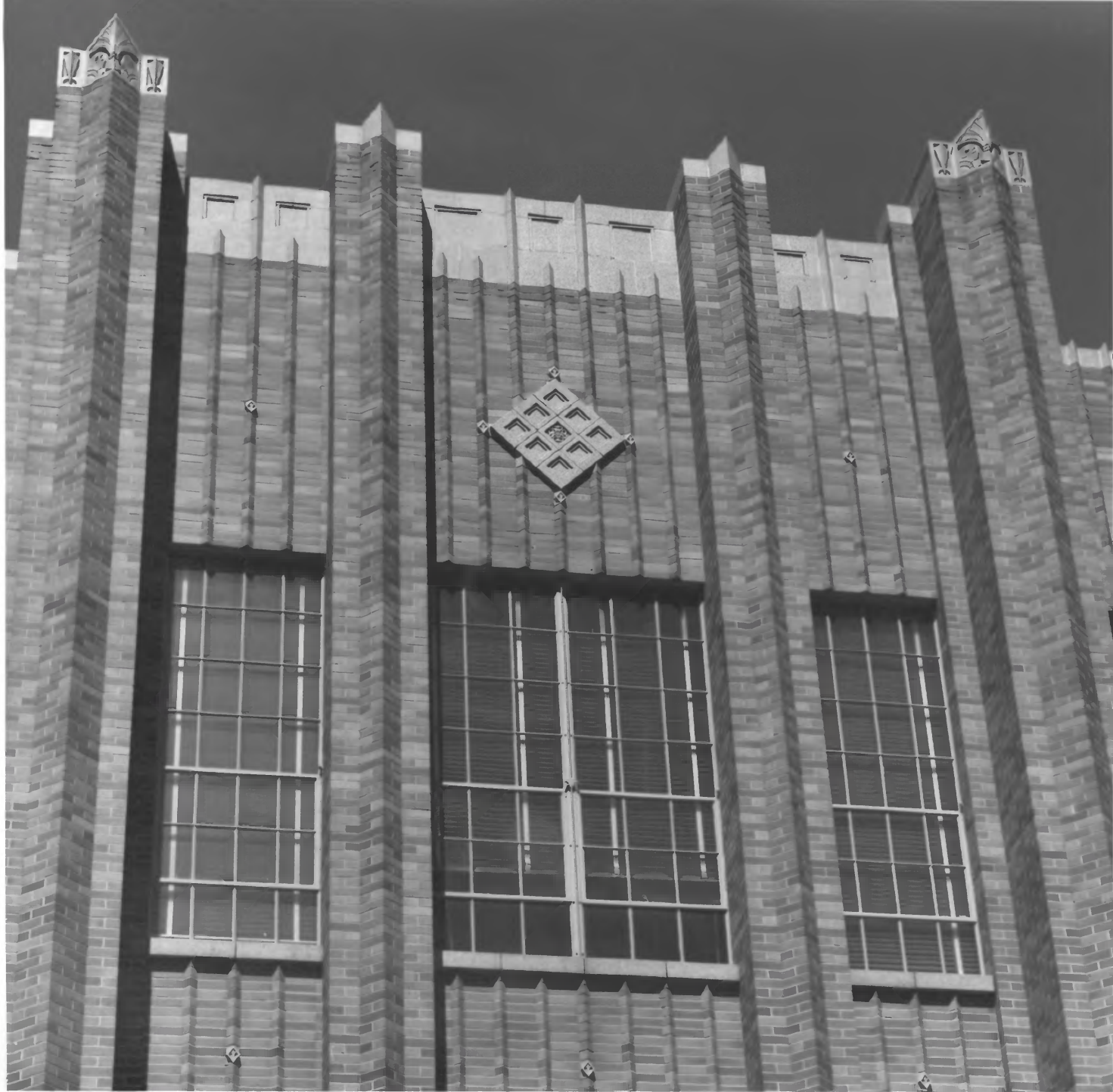


Administration Building, Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho Bannock County

4-6-12-91

6- MAIN ENTRANCE, LOOKING EAST

7- PHOTO No 7



Administration Building, Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho Bannock County

4-6-12-91

6-ORNAMENTATION ABOVE MAIN ENTRY (TERRA COTTA)

7-PHOTO No 8





Administration Building, Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho Bannock County

4- 6-12-91

6- PARAPET CAP ORNAMENTATION (TERRA COTTA)

7- PHOTO No 9