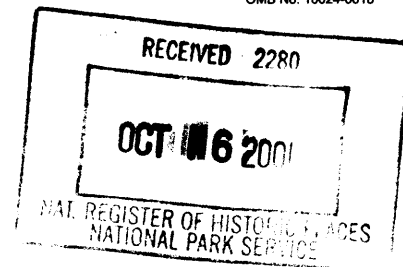


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

1305



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 Kenworthy Theatre  
other names/site number NA

2. Location

street & number 508 South Main Street N/A not for publication  
city or town Moscow N/A vicinity  
state Idaho code ID county Latah code 057 zip code 83843

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 X locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments. )

Kenneth C. Reid 11-10-01  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
KENNETH C. REID, Deputy 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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

1 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):

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Edson H. Beall 11/29/01

Kenworthy Theatre  
Name of Property

Moscow, Latah County, Idaho  
City, County, and State

## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

### Category of Property (Check only one box)

☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

### Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

### Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Motion Picture Theater Buildings in Idaho, 1897-1949

### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: theater  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: theater  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movement  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE  
walls BRICK  
TERRA COTTA  
roof ASPHALT  
other GLASS  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Narrative Description

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

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

Kenworthy Theatre  
Name of Property

Moscow, Latah County, Idaho  
City, County, and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" on one or more lines for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" on all that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

### Period of Significance

1925-1950

### Significant Dates

1926, 1928, 1929, 1949

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Thomas, John, Contractor, 1949

## Narrative Statement of Significance

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

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(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 ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ 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
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Kenworthy Theatre  
Name of Property

Moscow, Latah County, Idaho  
City, County, and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than one

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

7  
A 1 / 1 4 / 9 / 9 / 9 / 8 / 0 5 / 1 / 7 / 5 / 0 / 6 / 0 B 1 1 / 1 / 1 / 1 1 / 1 / 1 / 1  
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing  
C 1 1 / 1 / 1 / 1 1 / 1 / 1 / 1 D 1 1 / 1 / 1 / 1 1 / 1 / 1 / 1

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Suzanne Julin and Diane Krahe  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date May 22, 2001  
street & number 1710 NW Lamont, telephone 509/332-8259  
city or town Pullman state WA zip code 99163

## 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/or 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

name Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre, Inc.  
street & number 508 South Main Street telephone 208/882-1178  
city or town Moscow state ID zip code 83843

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Name of Property Kenworthy Theatre  
County and State Latah County, Idaho

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### Narrative Description

The Kenworthy Theatre is a two-story, Modern Movement, building located on Main Street in Moscow, a city of 25,000. Located in northern Idaho, Moscow is home to the University of Idaho, which was established in 1889. The theater, situated between adjoining commercial buildings, faces west.

The Kenworthy Theatre has its origins in the Crystal Theatre, built on the site in 1908. The Crystal Theatre building later became a car dealership and garage. In 1925, Milburn Kenworthy lengthened and extensively remodeled the building, opening it as the Kenworthy Theatre in January of 1926. In 1928, he widened the building by 24 feet. In 1949, the theater was again remodeled and the present Main Street facade installed.

The Main Street facade is covered in square, terra cotta tiles. The lower one-third of the building features light green tiles, with light beige tiles on the upper two-thirds of the structure. A double row of narrow, rounded tiles separates the colored areas, and an identical feature decorates the parapet that rises above the rounded roof. Some cracking is evident in the tiles on the parapet. The ground floor contains a glass and metal lobby entrance with one double entry door and two double exit doors topped by three transom windows. The entrance is flanked by two poster display windows on the north and a ticket booth on the south, which features vertical, rectangular, concave tiles. Two additional poster display windows are set into the ground-floor facade on each side of the entrance area.

A triangular marquee, installed with the 1949 remodeling, tops the theater's entrance. The white marquee with deep-green trim features a row of light bulbs on top and bottom and a large neon K on a rectangular background. The K is placed upon a narrow column holding a triple row of light bulbs. This feature extends back to the facade on top of the marquee and is accentuated by neon stars. The rectangular neon Kenworthy sign, installed about 1930, extends up from the marquee to rise above the roof's parapet. Two windows, surrounded by three rows of narrow, curved tiles, appear on each side of the marquee's central elements.

The rear facade of the building is red brick. The ground floor features an arched entry door on the north end, which is boarded over and covered by a metal grill, a loading door, and two rectangular windows flanking a large, circular window. The entry door and the windows date from a 1979-era remodeling when the theater's stage was converted for use as a coffee house.

The interior of the theater includes a large, renovated lobby with concession counter. Two side entrances lead to the theater's seating area. Two carpeted side aisles separate the thirteen rows of turquoise seats into three sections. Two mauve, padded, fabric panels cover the walls on each side of the seating area. Each side also features three frosted and stenciled glass panels in ornate chrome frames; colored light bulbs behind the panels create a multi-colored effect. These panels replaced the recessed lighting original to the 1925 remodeling. The purple, painted ceiling holds six flat, neon light fixtures in a green, mauve and pink multifoil motif. A central chandelier was removed to accommodate modern film technology, and the cavity remains in the center of the ceiling.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Name of Property Kenworthy Theatre  
County and State Latah County, Idaho

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The stage has recently been extended by sixteen feet to accommodate live performances. The original stage is framed by a silver-painted plaster proscenium with rosette details, original to the 1925 remodel. The proscenium usually is obscured from view by a movie screen, which can be moved for live performances. Vertical-barred, chrome grills topping semicircle grills appear on the slightly curved walls at each side of the stage. Doors under the grills lead to the backstage area, and on the left, to the original basement dressing rooms. The backstage area contains the original marble theater lightboard and the entrance to the organ-pipe loft. The walls in the backstage and the basement dressing room area reveal evidence of the 1925 and 1928 expansions.

In 1949, the building was remodeled in keeping with increasing modernism in theater and commercial architecture, and the balcony contains seats original to the 1949 redecoration. It also holds a single recessed Spanish-style light fixture original to the 1925 remodel. The slightly curved balcony features wainscoting, also original to the 1925 remodel. An outthrust under the balcony reflects a recent extension of the concession area. The projection room is located to the rear of the balcony.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Name of Property Kenworthy Theatre  
County and State Latah County, Idaho

### Narrative Statement of Significance

The Kenworthy Theatre is being nominated at the local level under Criterion A due to its significant role in the recreation, entertainment, and culture of the community of Moscow and the University of Idaho during the period of significance, 1925 to 1950. It is eligible under the criteria established for this property type in the *Motion Picture Theater Buildings in Idaho, 1897-1949* Multiple Property Documentation Form. The Kenworthy, established in 1926, was Moscow's first large, elaborate theater, and the first to show talking pictures. The Kenworthy has been an integral part of the social life of Moscow since 1926.

During the period 1900 to 1950, motion pictures, interspersed with live entertainment in the pre-World War I years, played an important part in the social life of Idaho communities. Before 1908, most motion pictures were shown in theaters designed for live performances. The performance theaters were easily converted to use as motion picture theaters with the addition of appropriate equipment and screen. The Opera House in Pocatello, Idaho, held the first documented motion picture showing to a group audience on March 22, 1897. Between 1904 and 1917, nickelodeons, which showed motion pictures in an inexpensive setting and with little musical accompaniment, and combination houses, which presented vaudeville acts as well as moving picture features, developed in the state. Many of these facilities were located in commercial buildings converted from another use. After 1917, structures began to be built for the express purpose of showing motion pictures in an attractive, even luxurious, atmosphere. Few of these buildings contained stage areas or dressing rooms. With a few exceptions, motion picture theaters built in Idaho were relatively modest and were owned and operated by local citizens.<sup>1</sup>

Unlike the architectural fashions of traditional theater, trends in the design and decoration of motion picture theaters changed rapidly. During the 1910s and 1920s, silent movies were unrealistic adventures and romances, often set in exotic locales. Movie theaters featured equally exotic motifs and styles featuring historic references, mirroring the role of the movies in spiring people away from their everyday lives. During the late-1920s and the 1930s, talking pictures replaced silent films, and modern designs began to take the place of historic references in new theaters. Movie attendance began to decline around 1950 with the advent of television, and theaters became much simpler, both in design and in the services they provided to customers.<sup>2</sup> The Kenworthy Theatre reflects the transition from combination houses to motion picture theaters vying for customers in the television era. Milburn Kenworthy was responsible for developing the Kenworthy and several other theaters in Moscow, contributing to the community's recreational and entertainment facilities.

Milburn Kenworthy, a native of New Jersey and later a resident of Denver, performed in the United States with the Woodward and Jefferson stock companies and in Canada with the Rialto Players of Ottawa. He eventually headed his own touring company, the Kenworthy Players. In 1918, he left live theater because of his conviction that movie entertainment would take its place. Drawn by the presence of the University of Idaho and the potential audience it represented, Kenworthy came to Moscow, leased the Strand Theatre at 122 E. Third, and purchased the theater's equipment. He renamed the structure the Kenworthy.<sup>3</sup>

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Name of Property Kenworthy Theatre  
County and State Latah County, Idaho

In 1919 Milburn Kenworthy married Marjorie Duffy, the sister of one of his leading ladies. She worked with her husband in operating the theater, taking tickets and ushering customers. She also assisted in developing the theater's atmosphere, designing and producing lobby displays to complement current features. On one occasion, Mr. and Mrs. Kenworthy hired a man to lead a white horse down the aisle during the showing of a western film. During a showing of Theda Bara in *Salome*, they burned incense to add an exotic touch to the presentation. They also presented live talent, including professional shows such as the Royal Canadian Kilties Band, The Musical Vaughns vaudeville act, and local performers from the University of Idaho faculty and student body. Milburn Kenworthy also operated the Idaho and the Liberty theaters on South Main in the early 1920s; this may have been one theater, operated under different names at different times.<sup>4</sup>

In 1925, Kenworthy developed a new theater that reflected the era's attention to historical elements and exotic atmosphere. He acquired the former Crystal Theatre building on South Main Street and lengthened it by adding a stage area to the rear. The original Crystal was a two-story, brick building featuring two window bays and a central bay with an arched entrance and an ornamental parapet. The remodeled theater was a large, two-story, brick building reflecting elements of Spanish Colonial Revival style, including a wide ornamental parapet and three sets of arched, second-story windows covered by tiled awnings. A small marquee with a tower bearing the name Kenworthy covered the entrance area. Shortly before the new theater opened in 1926, Kenworthy changed the name of the theater at 122 East Third to the "Vandal," also the name of the University of Idaho's mascot.<sup>5</sup>

Kenworthy kept the building on South Main closed to the public during the 1925 construction so that its features would be a surprise to patrons. When the doors opened at 6:45 PM on January 4, 1926, Moscow residents and University of Idaho students in attendance entered a carpeted foyer with a fireplace and electric fountain. The main room of the theater seated 650 in upholstered chairs and was decorated in a Spanish motif with shades of burnt orange, blue, and tan. Despite Kenworthy's belief that movies would be the demise of traditional theater and vaudeville, he designed the new structure with a large stage and dressing rooms in order to present live performances; Kenworthy's four-year-old daughter, Joyce, welcomed the capacity crowd to the new facility from its stage. The fireproof projection room held up-to-date equipment for showing films. During the 1920s, few theaters contained concession stands because their owners feared damage from candy to the expensive furnishings. In the case of the Kenworthy, the owner also had a personal resistance to such accommodations; traditional theaters did not contain refreshment areas. The building did feature a cigar and confectionery store, operated by Jerry Gelwick, located at the left side of the front entrance.<sup>6</sup>

Two days after the theater opening, the Moscow Chamber of Commerce commended Milburn Kenworthy "for his enterprise in constructing a new playhouse for Moscow."<sup>7</sup> The building was a combination house; motion pictures made up most of the presentations at the Kenworthy, but live performances did utilize the spacious stage from time to time. On January 7, 1926, for example, a full house saw the Moroni Olsen Players present "The Ship," by St. John Ervine. A local children's orchestra also performed. Early in 1927, Kenworthy purchased a \$7,500 Robert Morton organ to provide musical accompaniment in the theater.<sup>8</sup>



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Name of Property Kenworthy Theatre  
County and State Latah County, Idaho

In 1928, Kenworthy acquired the lot to the south of the Kenworthy and widened the building by fourteen feet. He also widened the pediment and added additional arched windows on the second floor, bringing the total to fourteen (two sets of three and two sets of four). He fronted the windows with metal balconies. This expansion may have been prompted by Kenworthy's 1929 purchase of new motion picture technology.<sup>9</sup>

Movies with sound became widely available in 1927, eroding the audience for live stage shows. Milburn Kenworthy traveled to Seattle and to Lewiston, Idaho in the spring of 1929 to investigate movies with sound. In July, he paid nearly \$6,000, including freight and installation, for a sound system in the Kenworthy; during the same month, he bought two new projectors for the theater. J. A. Malmuth, an engineer with the General Talking Pictures Company of New York, spent nine days in Moscow installing the new equipment, the latest on the market. On August 9, Moscow movie-goers saw the city's first "talkie," *In Old Arizona*, starring Edmund Lowe, Warner Baxter, and Dorothy Burgess.<sup>10</sup> On that day the Lane Thrift Stores at Third and Washington included a tribute to Milburn Kenworthy in their store ad: "Mr. Kenworthy has always kept step with PROGRESS--and is Now Bringing to You--ALL TALKING PICTURES."<sup>11</sup>

Kenworthy Theatre records for 1928 to 1931 indicate that the bill changed three to four times a week, with a feature film, a newsreel, one or two shorts, and an occasional vaudeville or musical act. Attendance figures for 1929 show weekly ticket sales ranging from approximately 3,900 to 4,200 in the spring, dropping to 2,000 to 2,300 in June and below 2,000 in July, then increasing again in the fall and reaching a high of 4,600 the week of February 9, 1930. The summer-time drop probably reflects the loss of the University of Idaho student body during the summer months. Typical features during this period included *First Kiss*, *Dream of Love*, and *Road House*.<sup>12</sup>

The movie and movie theater industry suffered a slowdown in growth during the early years of the Great Depression. The Kenworthy's records show lower than normal attendance during the fall of 1931, with a slight increase during the spring of 1932. By 1935, movie attendance was quite steady, with weekly ticket sales ranging from 1,700 to 4,000 during the school year and to over 2,500 in the summer. In the week of December 8, 1935, the showing of *Mutiny on the Bounty* drove attendance to 5,162. During the Depression, Kenworthy continued to improve and modernize his theater. In 1930 he added a new, wider marquee and re-tiled the bathrooms; in 1936, he and Mrs. Kenworthy donated the Robert Morton organ to the University of Idaho. The combination of the advent of sound pictures, with less need for live music and atmosphere to engage customers, and the financial constraints of the Depression, helped bring about a new trend toward less elaborate, more modern theaters. Milburn Kenworthy responded to this trend, and to his continuing success in the theater business, by building the Art Deco-style Nu Art Theatre two doors south of the Kenworthy in 1935.<sup>13</sup>

That success also led Milburn Kenworthy to contemplate building a two-thousand-seat theater during the 1940s. Just as he had once seen movies diminishing traditional theater, however, he now began to anticipate television's effect on the movie theater business. Instead of constructing a new facility, he extensively remodeled the Kenworthy, reflecting a national change toward more modern, more spare, commercial facades without historic references or dramatic design elements. The Kenworthy closed for two months during the summer of 1949 for this remodeling. It reopened on

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Name of Property Kenworthy Theatre  
County and State Latah County, Idaho

September 18, 1949, with a redecorated interior. Newly tiled lounges opened off the green and blue foyer. The ceiling in the theater was also painted green and blue, in a striped pattern that flared into a design around the stage. The theater contained a new "Cycloramic" screen, designed to minimize distortion. Pale green tapestries covered the walls. Work on the exterior of the building, which was delayed until after the opening of the remodeled interior, faced the Main Street facade with inch-thick square terra cotta tiles, covering bricked-in windows on the second level. New aluminum doors were installed, and a new triangular marquee with a large K crest, topped by the existing tower, provided a protective cover for the entrance. The box office, framed in narrow, rectangular, concave tiles, was moved to the south side of the entry area, and lighted showbill cases lined the ground floor. Moscow contractor John Thomas was in charge of the construction work.<sup>14</sup>

The 1949 remodeling completed the transformation of the Kenworthy Theatre from a "combination house" to a modern post-war movie theater. Milburn Kenworthy used the walls of the 1908 Crystal Theater to form the basis of his new facility. Despite his belief that movies would bring the demise of live theater, he included a stage in the Kenworthy and booked occasional live acts. He brought sound movies to Moscow, entertained its residents through the Great Depression, and finally remodeled the theater and installed new technology in response to the coming of television.

Kenworthy's theaters dominated the motion picture business in Moscow in the period of 1925 to the early 1980s. These theaters provided not only entertainment for local people, but also employment; until World War II, most Kenworthy employees were University of Idaho students. The theaters were leased to large movie theater companies beginning in 1984. The Kenworthy continued to show motion pictures until 1999, when the Kenworthy family donated the building to the community through the Moscow Community Theater. As the Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre, the structure serves as a multipurpose facility for live theater, films, and other community activities and presentations. The Centre is being operated and renovated through Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre, Inc., a non-profit corporation.<sup>15</sup>

### Endnotes

1. Linda Morton-Keithley, "Motion Picture Theater Buildings in Idaho (1897-1949)," National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, July 30, 1998, Idaho State Historical Society, pp. E-1-9, F-1.

2. Maggie Valentine, *The Show Starts on the Sidewalk: An Architectural History of the Movie Theatre, Starring S. Charles Lee* (Yale University, 1994), pp. 5-7.

3. Wilma Sprague, "The Idahoan with 'Theater' in His Blood," *Spokane Spokesman-Review*, July 30, 1950; Interview with Bethine Kenworthy, February 8, 2001; Receipt, R. S. Tucker and Mary G. Tucker to Milburn Kenworthy, February 28, 1918, Kenworthy Family collection, private papers (hereafter cited as KFC).

4. Sprague, "The Idahoan With 'Theater' in His Blood," Kenworthy Theatre advertisement, *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Star-Mirror*, October 10, 1925; *Polk's Whitman, Garfield and Latah County Directory, 1921-22* (Seattle: R. L. Polk and Co., Inc., 1921); Moscow telephone directories, December 1923, July 1924, February 1925, University of Idaho Library Special Collections.

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Name of Property Kenworthy Theatre  
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5. Sprague, "The Idahoan With 'Theater' in His Blood;" Lillian Woodworth Otness, *A Great Good Country: A Guide to Historic Moscow and Latah County Idaho* (Moscow, Idaho: Latah County Historical Society, 1983), p. 32; Historical Photograph Collection, University of Idaho Library Special Collections, Moscow, Idaho, #72-81, #3529, #90-3-8-76-6; Vandal Theatre advertisement, *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Star-Mirror*, December 12, 1925; "Kenworthy Will Open Tonight," *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Star Mirror*, January 4, 1926. According to Latah County records, the Portland Trust and Savings Bank deeded Lot 2 of Block 5, Original Town of Moscow, to Milburn and Marjorie Kenworthy on December 1, 1927. This deed probably signifies final payment to the bank for the property. Instrument Number 108015, Deed Transfers, Grantors and Grantees, Auditor's Office, Latah County Courthouse, Moscow, Idaho.

6. Kenworthy Theatre advertisement, *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Star-Mirror*, January 4, 1926; "Kenworthy Will Open Tonight," *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Star-Mirror*, January 4, 1926; "New Kenworthy is Representative House," *Motion Picture Record*, February 13, 1926, p. 14, KFC; Valentine, *The Show Starts on the Sidewalk*, p. 103; Interview with Bethine Kenworthy, February 8, 2001.

7. "Teachers Ignore Fight on School," *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Star-Mirror*, January 6, 1926.

8. "Moroni Olsen Players Please Large Audience," *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Star-Mirror*, January 8, 1926; Invoice, Robert Morgan Organ Company to Milburn Kenworthy, February 3, 1927, KFC.

9. Instrument Number 120364, Warranty Deed, W. F. Zumhof, Amy A. Zumhof, and Mary E. Collins to Milburn Kenworthy, May 23, 1928, Deed Transfers, Grantors and Grantees, Auditor's Office, Latah County Courthouse, Moscow, Idaho; Historical Photograph Collection, University of Idaho Library Special Collections, Moscow, Idaho, #72-81, #92-3525; Sanborn Map of Moscow, Latah, County, Idaho, July 1928 (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1928).

10. Joseph M. Valerio and Daniel Friedman, Nancy Morrison Ambler, ed., *Movie Palaces: Renaissance and ReUse* (New York: Educational Facilities Laboratories, 1982), p. 28; Kenworthy Ledger, July 15, 1928 to January 12, 1930, KFC; "Sound Movies Make Their Bow to Moscow Tonight," *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Star-Mirror*, August 9, 1929; Kenworthy Theatre advertisement, *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Star-Mirror*, August 6, 1929.

11. Lane Thrift Stores advertisement, *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Star-Mirror*, August 9, 1929.

12. Kenworthy Ledger, September 2, 1928 to July 5, 1931, KFC.

13. Valerio and Friedman, *Movie Palaces*, p. 29; Ledger, July 19, 1931 to February 24, 1935, KFC; Kenworthy Ledger, March 10, 1935 to December 24, 1939, KFC; List accompanying September 28, 1930 entry, Ledger, December 29, 1929, KFC; Sprague, "The Idahoan with 'Theater' in His Blood;" Valentine, *The Show Starts on the Sidewalk*, pp. 78-83; "Mr. Kenworthy's Nu Art Theatre Opens Wednesday," *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Star-Mirror*, November 13, 1935.

14. Interview with Bethine Kenworthy, February 8, 2001; Richard Longstreth, *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture* (Walnut Creek, California: AltaMira Press, 2000; originally published by the Preservation Press, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1987), pp. 126-127; "Theater to be Remodeled," *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Idahonian*, July 16, 1949; "Theater Reopens Tomorrow, Many New Comforts Added," *Moscow (Idaho) Daily Idahonian*, September 17, 1949.

15. Sprague, "The Idahoan with 'Theater' in His Blood;" Interviews with Bethine Kenworthy, February 8, 2001, May 24, 2001.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Name of Property Kenworthy Theatre  
County and State Latah County, Idaho

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## Major Bibliographic References

Deed Transfers, Grantors and Grantees, Auditors Office, Latah County Courthouse.

Historical Photograph Collection, University of Idaho Library Special Collections, Moscow, Idaho.

Kenworthy, Bethine. Interview, February 8, 2001.

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Section number 10 Page 1

Name of Property Kenworthy Theatre  
County and State Latah County, Idaho

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### **Verbal Boundary Description**

Original Town of Moscow, Block 5, Lot 2 and North 1/2 of Lot 3

### **Boundary Justification**

The nominated property consists of the entire lot that has been historically associated with the property.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page 1

Name of Property Kenworthy Theatre  
County and State Latah County, Idaho

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## Photographs

Photographer: Diane Krahe

Negatives on file at the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office

1. April 29, 2001  
South Main Street facade, Kenworthy Theatre, looking East.
2. April 29, 2001  
Setting, Kenworthy Theatre, looking Southeast.
3. April 29, 2001  
Kenworthy Theatre, entry and marquee, looking Southeast
4. April 29, 2001  
Ticket booth, Kenworthy Theatre, looking East.
5. April 29, 2001  
Ceiling light fixture, Kenworthy Theatre
6. April 29, 2001  
Light fixture, Kenworthy Theatre (one of six in building)
7. April 29, 2001  
Recessed light, Kenworthy Theatre, balcony
8. April 29, 2001,  
Proscenium detail, Kenworthy Theatre.

ALMOST FAMOUS FRI SAT 7 AND 9:30

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ALMOST FAMOUS FRI SAT 7 AND 9:30

Kenworthy Theatre

Moscow, Latah County, Idaho

Photo #1 of 8





GOODIES  
OPEN  
SUNDAYS  
11 TO 5

ALMOST  
FAMOUS  
FRI SAT  
7 AND 9 30

ONE  
WAY

Kenworthy Theatre

Moscow, Latah County, Idaho

Photo # 2 of 8

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ORTH

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FAMOUS

FN SAT

7 AND 9X



Kenworthy Theatre

Moscow, Latah County, Idaho

Photo #3 of 8



Kenworthy Theatre  
Moscow, Latah County, Idaho  
Photo #4 of 8



Kenworthy Theatre  
Moscow, Latah County, Idaho

Photo #5 of 8





Kenworthy Theatre

Moscow, Latah County, Idaho

Photo # 6 of 8



Kenworthy Theatre

Moscow, Latah County, Idaho

Photo # 7 of 8



Kenworthy Theatre

Moscow, Latah County, Idaho

Photo #1 of 8