

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AUG 13 1987

National Register of Historic Places
Registration FormNATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Madison County Courthouse
other names/site number 012085

2. Location

street & number East Main St. N/A not for publication
city, town Rexburg N/A vicinity
state Idaho code ID county Madison code 065 zip code 83440

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

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

Name of related multiple property listing:
County Courthouses in Idaho

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☒ 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 ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Thomas J. Green
Signature of certifying official

8/3/87
Date

Idaho State Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☒ 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:) _____

William B. Bushong 9/22/87

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

government/courthouse

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

government/courthouse**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th CenturyRevivals/Beaux Arts

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concretewalls brickroof unknownother terra cottametal

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Madison County Courthouse is a detached two-story public building. The original rectangular plan of the building has been modified with the addition of a compatible one-story brick addition to the west and rear elevations of the building. This addition is well set back on the west wall. The front elevation of the building has seven bays with an outset, centered entrance. The building has a buff-colored pressed brick veneer laid in common bond. The foundation is concrete; the roof is flat. The entrance is demarked with a balustraded entablature supported on terra cotta columns in the Corinthian order. Outset brick pilasters divide the building into vertical bays, also with terra cotta capitals in the Corinthian order. Above the second-story windows is a terra cotta molding, surmounted by an attic story with grilled vents and a denticulated metal cornice.

The interior of the building retains a number of period features, including its plan, marble and tile hall floor, marble wainscoting in the hallway and stairwells, plaster walls, ceiling moldings, hallway pilasters, wood door moldings and single-pane office doors. The plan is based on a lateral front hallway, with double hallways perpendicular to it. Either side of the front hall is a stairway leading to the second floor.

Alterations to the building include the side and rear addition, which is set well back from the front elevation and which leaves the original structure clearly discernible. Windows have been replaced with metal-frame windows set into the original openings. Also, replacing the original entry doors are double metal-frame doors, set in the original molded wood frame. While the loss of original doors and windows has some effect on the building's integrity, the remaining original fabric conveys the important characteristics of Beaux Arts Classicism, and the building conveys a sense of the post-World War I period in which it was built.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

architecture
politics/government

Period of Significance

1920-1937

Significant Dates

1920

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

architect: C. A. Sundberg

builder: Charles Zollinger

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Madison County Courthouse is significant under criterion "A" in the context of the development of county government in Idaho. The building is significant under criterion "C" in the context of the architecture of Idaho's county courthouses and as a local example of institutional architecture. The building retains its original monumental massing and most of its Beaux Arts features, including its brick veneer, terra cotta detailing, seven-bay front, and formal interior plan and decorative features. The remaining original fabric conveys the important characteristics of Beaux Arts Classicism, and the building conveys a sense of the post-World War period in which it was built.

Madison County was established in 1913 by act of the Idaho legislature, and the county seat was located in Rexburg by a popular vote of nearly ten to one. Construction of a courthouse was considered upon formation of the county, but was delayed by World War I labor and cash shortages. In the interim the second story of a commercial building, the Webster-Winter building, was rented for county offices. The site for the building was purchased with county funds appropriated December 16, 1918, and a bond election held April 25, 1919, passed easily. Local labor for the project included the contractor, Charles Zollinger, and the architect, C.A. Sundberg. The courthouse was completed and county offices moved into the building in December 1920.

The Madison courthouse is one of two classical courthouses designed by C.A. Sundberg early in his career, and it is the more ambitious and elaborate design of the two. The other building, Power County Courthouse built in 1925, has similar two-story massing and symmetry but is much plainer, apparently influenced by the Prairie style. Like most of Idaho's county courthouses, the Madison courthouse is the most ambitious and stylistically elaborate architectural design in its locality and its region and deserves National Register listing on that basis as well as for its contribution to our understanding of the range of architectural designs used for courthouses in Idaho.

☐ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Crowder, David. Rexburg, Idaho; the First 100 Years 1883-1983.
Caldwell: Caxton Printers, 1983, p. 177-179 and 203-205.

Beal, Samuel M. The Snake River Fork Country. Rexburg: The Rexburg Journal, 1935.

Idaho Falls Daily Post. 2 January 1921, p. 3.

☐ See continuation sheet

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:

Idaho Architectural and Historic
Sites Inventory

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property _____ less than one _____

UTM References

A

1	2	4	3	7	4	9	0	4	8	5	2	7	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

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

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

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

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nomination includes the Madison County Courthouse and the property on which it sits, in block 34, Original Rexburg Townsite, beginning at the southeast corner of lot 4, thence west 264 feet, thence north 165 feet, thence west 8 feet, thence north 165 feet, thence east 272 feet, thence south 330 feet to the point of beginning.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries are based upon the legally recorded block and lot parcels on which the courthouse is located.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jennifer Eastman Attebery, State Architectural Historian

organization Idaho State Historical Society date June 23, 1987

street & number 210 Main telephone (208) 334-3861

city or town Boise state Idaho zip code 83702



Madison County Courthouse

Rexburg, Idaho

photograph by Jennifer Eastman Attebery

March 12, 1987

negative on file at Idaho State
Historical Society

view from SE

photograph 1 of 1