

PH0353019

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED SEP 9 1975

DATE ENTERED APR 29 1977

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

HISTORIC

* Moore-Cunningham House

AND/OR COMMON

Cunningham House

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1109 Warm Springs Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Boise

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY

Ada

CODE

001

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 ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr & Mrs. Harry Bettis

STREET & NUMBER

1602 East Jefferson

CITY, TOWN

Boise, Idaho

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Ada County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

1974

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Historic American Buildings Survey

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

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 Moore-Cunningham house is a large brick mansion in the French chateau/Queen Anne style. Its most prominent feature is a three story square tower set at a 45 degree angle. An open observation area at the third story level is topped by a hipped roof rising steeply to a ridge once decorated with elegant iron cresting. (The loss of this cresting is the only significant alteration to the house and could be restored from early photographs.)

Band courses of gray sandstone accent the top level of windows, and inset panels of corner-set bricks give textural interest to the corner tower. Gables and dormers on the third floor are richly decorated with bronze cresting and finials. The principal west-facing gable has Queen Anne cut shingling, notable for a pendant fan pattern starting at the apex.

The large curving veranda which sweeps around the corner tower is of massive rusticated sandstone supporting columns in clusters of three. The main entrance to this porch is accented by a pedimented gable with bronze cresting. Another small open porch at the second floor level tops the main veranda.

The interior arrangement is typical of large houses of the period. From a large entry hall the staircase rises with two landings to the floor above. To the left through an arched opening are visible connected parlor and dining room. The kitchen is in the rear of the house, with pantry, servants's quarters, and a narrow back stairway.

Upstairs bedrooms are arranged along a central hallway with narrow stairs continuing upward to the third floor attic space. Two additional servants' rooms are on this level.

A handsome wooden carriage house with loft above is a short distance southwest. It is more clearly Queen Anne in character, finished as it is with cut shingles.

Moore's daughter, Mrs. John Cunningham, inherited the house and lived there until her death in 1963. Because the house has been occupied only by a caretaker for more than a decade, and because Mrs. Cunningham changed it very little in the half-century before that, it is remarkably unaltered and capable of precise restoration.

The trees, shrubs, and well maintained yard provide a setting which is essential to the historic integrity of this property.

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

1892

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

James King

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was designed by Idaho's first architect with professional training. It was built for Christopher W. Moore, one of the founders of the First National Bank of Idaho in 1867, and one of the state's wealthiest men when Idaho was admitted to the union in 1890. Moore was a partner in the water company formed to exploit the natural hot water wells drilled in 1890 east of the city. In addition to a huge Moorish palace called the Natorium (1892-1934), which housed a large swimming pool, Turkish baths, saloons, card rooms, and other delights, the chief promoters of the hot water project decided to build palatial houses for themselves on newly popular Warm Springs avenue. (Up until then, Grove street--where Moore had an elegant residence that this one replaced--had been the fashionable residential street.) The house of H. B. Eastman, two doors east, was destroyed by fire in 1956, leaving the Moore house the grandest survivor of this early geothermal development. The Moore house was the first in the project heated with natural hot water; it and 200 others in the neighborhood still use the 170 degree water. This venture in commercial geothermal power for space heating (as distinct from restort use of warm springs) finally has proved to be the pioneer development of an important new energy conservation--and relatively pollution free--possibility which now holds considerable promise for the future. Commercial geothermal power sources soon were developed in Italy (1904), New Zealand, Iceland, Mexico, Salvador, Japan, and Russia, as well as in one or two other places in the United States, including a similar space heating arrangement in Klamath Falls, and a major electric power development in Lake county, California.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Early development of western geothermal resources, Journal of the West (January 1971), 10:53-71.

An Illustrated History of the State of Idaho (Chicago, 1899), 242-245.

Architecturally Significant and Historic Buildings of Boise, Idaho (Boise, 1970), 9.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 2

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	1
ZONE	EASTING

5	6	6	0	6	0
NORTHING					

4	8
4	7
2	8
3	1
0	

B

ZONE	EASTING

NORTHING			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Arthur A. Hart, Director

ORGANIZATION

Idaho Historical Society

DATE

September 4, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

610 North Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

208-384-2121

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

Merle W. Wells

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

4 Sep 75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Detlev C. ...

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

4/29/77

ATTEST:

Charles ...

DATE

7-29-77

Acting KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



1. Moore-Cunningham House
2. Boise, Idaho
3. Garrett Photography, Duane
4. 1974 Garrett
5. Garrett Photography, 714 W.
State, Boise, Idaho
6. View from the northwest,
from the corner of Warm
Springs and Walnut.
7. One *of 1*