

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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NATIONAL
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 Oneida County Courthouse
other names/site number 000454

2. Location

street & number Court Street N/A not for publication
city, town Malad N/A vicinity
state Idaho code ID county Oneida code 071 zip code 83252

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> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

County Courthouses in IdahoNumber 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.

Signature of certifying official

Idaho State Historical Society

Date

8/3/87

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:) _____

Automatically listed in the
National Register

11-27-87

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)

Modern Movement/Art Deco

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls brick

roof unknown

other terra cotta

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Oneida County Courthouse is a detached, rectangular, two-story public building on a raised basement story. The front elevation of the building has five bays with a centered entrance. The entry bay is outset, and each flanking bay is setback successively from the plane of the entry. The entry has two sets of identical doors with a small vestibule between. The original entry doors are intact. They are double doors with large single panes etched with an Art Deco style border. Above the doors is a fixed transom light etched with the words "Oneida County." The building's structural framework of steel and concrete is veneered with pressed brick laid in common bond, with the exception of soldier rows above the windows and below the cornice and header rows laid as window sills. Bricks are laid to create a mottled effect, ranging in color from yellow to burnt orange. The concrete foundation is outset slightly to form a watercourse. The roof is flat. Cream-colored terra cotta cast with foliate, bundled sheaf, and zigzag designs decorates the fluted pillars either side of the entrance, the entry surround, string courses at the cornice, and planters either side of the front steps. The entrance, surrounded with geometric and foliate terra cotta pillars successively set back, places the building in the Art Deco style popular locally and used for several southeast and south central Idaho public buildings.

The interior of the building retains a number of period features, including its plan with a central hall leading to a lateral rear hallway; red, black, and green terrazzo floors; plaster walls with large-scale ceiling molding, stair rail capped with yellow tiles; tiled water fountain insets; original hallway light fixtures; and second-story skylights.

Within the past three to five years the perimeter walls of the building have been furred out on the interior, insulated, and replastered to match the original plaster. At the same time, double-paned windows with false muntins designed to approximate the original industrial steel sash windows were installed. While the loss of original windows has some effect on the building's integrity, the remaining original fabric conveys the important characteristics of the Art Deco style, and the building conveys a sense of the period in which it was built as a part of the WPA in Idaho.

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

architecture

politics/government

Period of Significance

1939

Significant Dates

1939

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

architect - Sundberg and Sundberg

builder: Olsen and Sons

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

The Oneida County Courthouse is significant under criterion "A" in the context of the development of county government as supported by WPA and PWA monies throughout the Depression years. 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 Art Deco style features, including its brick veneer, terra cotta detailing, and five-bay front. The remaining original fabric conveys the important characteristics of Art Deco style, and the building conveys a sense of the period in which it was built as a WPA project.

Because the building is part of a finite and endangered group of resources associated with the WPA in Idaho and because it is associated with a relief program that had exceptional impact on the Idaho landscape and economy during the Depression years, the building is presented for nomination before it reaches the 50 year mark.

Oneida County received substantial support for construction of its new courthouse in 1938, when the WPA regional office in Portland, Oregon, allotted a \$28,350 grant toward construction of a courthouse estimated to cost \$63,000. To fund the county's part of construction costs, the county held two bond elections. The first, held August 9, 1938, failed to obtain the necessary two-thirds majority. The second, held at the request of the Malad chamber of commerce and other local organizations, passed 394 to 76. Architects Sundberg and Sundberg of Idaho Falls were chosen to design the courthouse, and a Rigby contracting firm, Olsen and Sons, obtained the bid for construction. The courthouse was completed in September, 1939. The courthouse replaced an Italianate courthouse constructed in 1882.

☐ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Etulein, Richard W. and Marley, Bert W., The Idaho Heritage.
(Pocatello: Idaho State University Press) 1974.

The Idaho Enterprise. (Malad City: Malad, Idaho) Thursday, 16 March, 1939;
21 September 1939; 25 December 1941.

Howell, Glade F., Early History of Malad Valley: A Thesis presented to the
Department of History Brigham Young University, March 1960.

☐ 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 acre

UTM References

A 112 397360 4671030
Zone Easting Northing

C

B
Zone Easting Northing

D

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nomination includes the Oneida County Courthouse building and the property on which it sits, Tax number 2307 and tax number 1988 all in Block D, Malad Townsite, Malad.

☐ 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

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5/13/87

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

The Oneida courthouse is one of three nearly-identical courthouses designed by Sundberg and Sundberg for 1938 WPA projects. The other two, Jefferson and Jerome county courthouses, have similar two-story massing, interior plans, and five-bay fronts with elaborate terra cotta entries. Like most of Idaho's county courthouses, the Oneida 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.



ONEIDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

MALAD, IDAHO

JENNIFER EASTMAN ATTEBERY, PHOTOGRAPHER

SEPTEMBER 5, 1986

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VIEW FROM WEST/SOUTHWEST

PHOTOGRAPH 1 OF 2



ONEIDA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
MALAD, IDAHO
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VIEW FROM EAST | SOUTHEAST
PHOTOGRAPH 2 OF 2