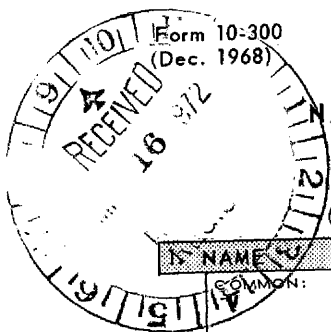




Form 10-300
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

PH0037435

STATE: Idaho	
COUNTY: Ada	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
001	OCT 18 1972

1. NAME COMMON: Oregon Trail	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION	
STREET AND NUMBER: From T2N, R2E, Sec. 36 to T1N, R3E, Sec. 24 - of Boise About 8 miles southeast	
CITY OR TOWN: Boise	
STATE Idaho	CODE 16
COUNTY: Ada	CODE 001

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District ☐ Building ☐ Site ☒ Structure ☐ Object ☐	Public ☒ Private ☒ Both ☐	Public Acquisition: In Process ☐ Being Considered ☐ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☒ Preservation work in progress ☐	Yes: Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☒ No: ☐
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural ☐	Government ☐	Park ☐	Transportation ☐
Commercial ☐	Industrial ☐	Private Residence ☐	Other (Specify) ☐
Educational ☐	Military ☐	Religious ☐	
Entertainment ☐	Museum ☐	Scientific ☐	
Comments ☐			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNERS NAME: Bureau of Land Management and multiple private ownership	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE: Idaho
	CODE

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Ada County Courthouse	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN: Boise	STATE: Idaho
	CODE
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY:	
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local ☐	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE: Idaho
	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Idaho	COUNTY: Ada	ENTRY NUMBER 001	DATE OCT 18 1972
-----------------	----------------	---------------------	---------------------

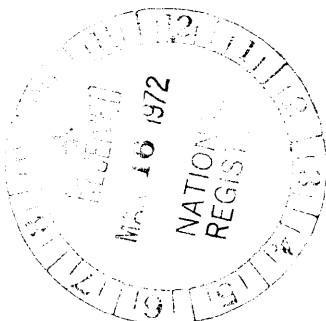
FOR INFO USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent ☐	Good ☒	Fair ☐	Deteriorated ☐	Ruins ☐	Unexposed ☐
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered ☐			Unaltered ☒		
				Moved ☐		
				Original Site ☒		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old wagon tracks of the Oregon Trail may be seen almost continuously from the northeast quadrant of Section 36, R2E, T2N, through the northwestern and northeastern quadrants of Section 31, R3E, T2N, Section 32, R3E, T2N, Sections 4, 10, 15 (northeastern quadrant), 14, and 24, R3E, T1N. The Trail, at some points eight tracks wide, traverses sagebrush covered land, finally meandering down from the rimrock to the Boise river.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☐20th Century ☐15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☒

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☐losophy ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itarian ☐Conservation ☐Military ☒Theater ☐Music ☐Transportation ☒

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

By 1840, settlement of the United States was pushing up against the barrier of the permanent Indian country -- mainly a plains area thought to be mostly the great American desert -- and westward pressure was sufficient to lead some of the more enterprising frontiersmen to migrate to the Oregon country. The route they followed had been developed over the years by fur hunters, and in 1836 a wagon belonging to a missionary (Henry Harmon Spalding) had gone over the later Oregon Trail across the Snake River country to Fort Boise, where it had arrived as a cart. Then a group of expansionists from Peoria had come out to examine the feasibility of an Oregon Trail in 1839; two years later, a regular emigrant party (part of a California group that was diverted to Oregon) came through. Another Oregon-bound company made the trip in 1842, and the next season a great migration of some 800 tool wagons past Fort Boise and over the Clue Mountains to the Columbi. Several parties came in 1844, and the 1845 migration brought an additional 3,000 settlers to Oregon.

The part of the trail they traversed through Idaho generally was a hard one, although two Hudson's Bay Company fur trade posts -- Fort Hall and Fort Boise -- served as welcome oases. Other Idaho landmarks on the Oregon Trail include Soda Springs (one of the astonishing natural attractions on the entire trip), Salmon Falls (where fish could be obtained from the local Indians), Snake River crossing near present Glenn's Ferry, and the hot springs east of later Mountain Home. Those who could not get across Snake River had to travel the more difficult route opened in 1842 down the south side, but they also found hot springs to marvel at when they passed Givens Springs.

Friction with the Indians in the Snake country made the trail somewhat dangerous following the Ward massacre of 1854. Fort Boise and Fort Hall had to be abandoned, but military escorts were supposed to meet and to guard emigrants on the trail. Unfortunately, the system did not always work, especially in 1860 when the Otter party met disaster. A fight at Massacre Rocks in 1862, however, pretty well wound up that kind of hazard on the Oregon Trail: while settlement came to the Snake country immediately after that, and from then on, Indian hostilities were directed mostly against stages, freighters, and settlers, instead of against emigrants.

(Con't on additional sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ghent, W.J., The Road to Oregon. 1929.

Lavender, David, Westward Vision: The Story of the Oregon Trail. 1963.

HR
NO
UTM

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE			
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	43° 33' 38"	116° 09' 19"			
NE	43° 33' 38"	116° 09' 19"			
SE	43° 29' 19"	116° 00' 33"			
SW	43° 29' 19"	116° 00' 33"			

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Idaho	16	Ada	001
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Idaho	16	Elmore	039
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Merle Wells, State Liaison Officer		
ORGANIZATION Idaho State Historical Society	DATE Feb. 22, 1972	
STREET AND NUMBER: 610 North Julia Davis Drive		
CITY OR TOWN: Boise	STATE Idaho	CODE 16

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name Merle W. Wells

Title State Liaison Officer

Date February 22, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert W. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 10/18/72

ATTEST:
Henry J. Rogers
Keeper of The National Register

Date 10/12/72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Idaho	
COUNTY	
Ada	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	OCT 18 1972

(Number all entries)

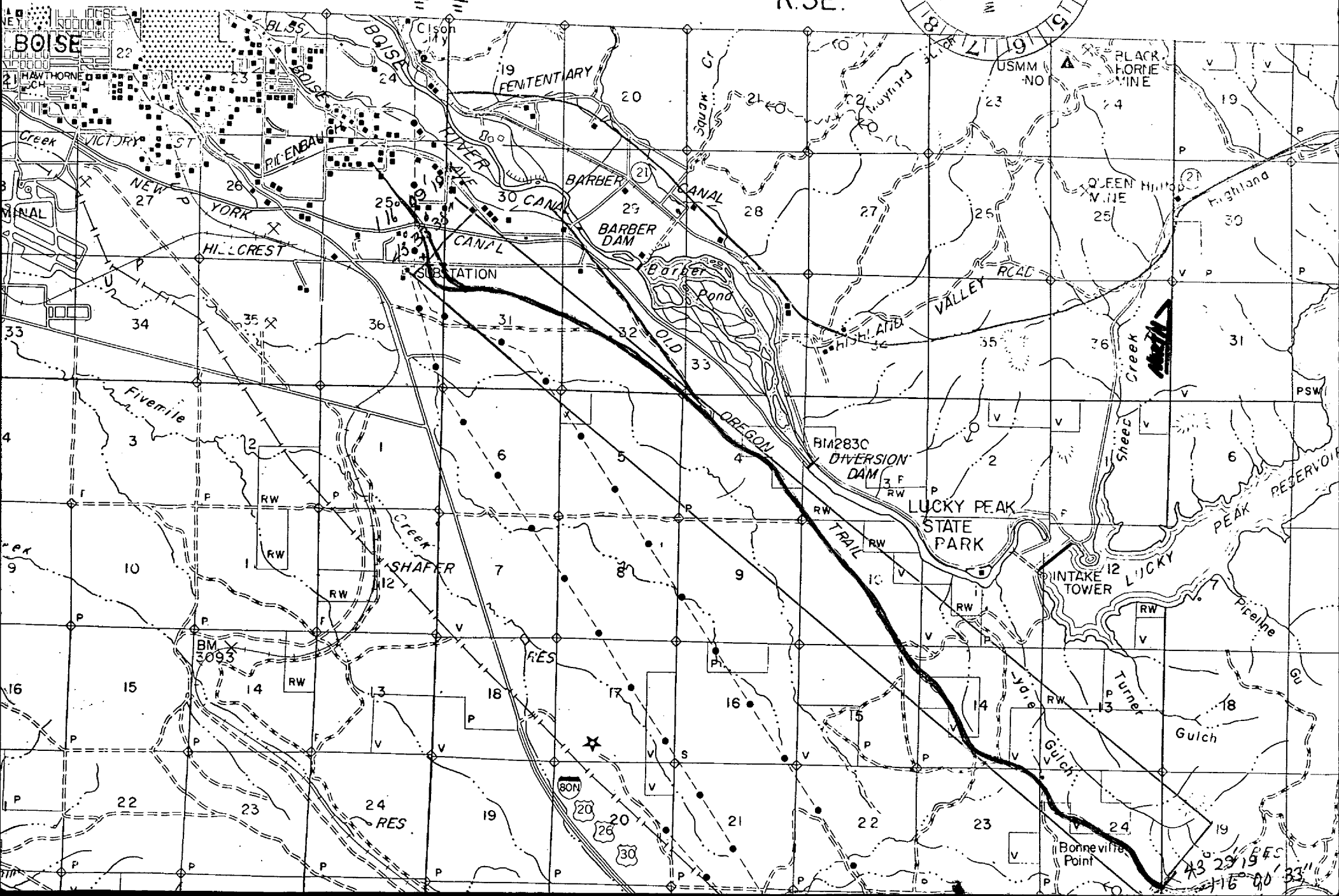
8. SIGNIFICANCE (Con't)

Much of the Idaho portion of the main Oregon Trail continued in use as a stage and freight route, as well as an emigrant road, after 1862. And with transcontinental railway service available along the general route at the beginning of 1884, the road reverted largely to an emigrant route, since passenger and freight traffic began to shift to the railroad. Covered wagons, though, continued to haul emigrants westward over the Oregon Trail for years after the coming of the railroad, and from 1862 on, hosts of Idaho, as well as of Oregon and Washington settlers, arrived in their new Pacific Northwest home communities that way.

1884



UTM
11/568224/4823413
11/576488/4816759

A circular stamp with a clock-like border. The text inside the circle reads "RECEIVED" at the top, "MAR 16 1972" in the center, and "NATIONAL REGISTER" at the bottom. The border contains numbers 1 through 12.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Idaho	
COUNTY Ada	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER OCT 18	DATE 1972

1. NAME

COMMON: Oregon Trail

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

From T2N, R2E, Sec. 36 to T1N, R3E, Sec. 24 - About 8 miles southeast
of Boise

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY:

Ada

CODE

001

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

Bureau of Land Management - Kuna and Bennett Planning Unit

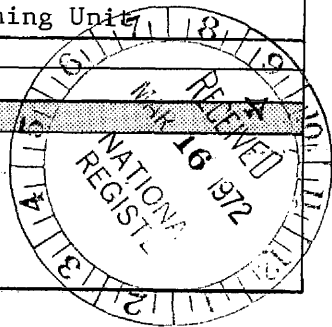
SCALE: 1" = 1 mile

DATE: 1966

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Idaho	
COUNTY Ada	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER OCT 18 1972	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Oregon Trail

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

From T2N, R2E, Sec. 36 to T1N, R3E, Sec. 24 - About 8 miles southeast
of Boise

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY:

Ada

CODE

001

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Thomas W. Schoder

DATE OF PHOTO: 1964

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Idaho State Historical Society

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Looking northwest down the Oregon Trail toward Boise valley.

