

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 22 1980

DATE ENTERED

NOV 28 1980

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

HISTORIC

Our Lady, Queen of Heaven Church

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Oreana

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Idaho

CODE

016

COUNTY

Owyhee

CODE

073

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☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDEN☒ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Roman Catholic Church

STREET & NUMBER

420 West Idaho

CITY, TOWN

Boise

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Owyhee County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Murphy

STATE

Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Idaho Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1972

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Idaho State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

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

Our Lady, Queen of Heaven Church is a coursed rubble structure dating from about 1883. Several obvious alterations dating from 1961 leave the historical fabric of the building visible.

The original structure was a one-story mortared lava rock building with a false front hiding its gable roof and a wooden cornice capping the parapet wall. Deep-set shuttered windows on the northwest and southeast exposures appear to be in period, as does the rear gable chimney of lava rock with one outset course. Also original to the structure were the three round-arched doors set in the facade and one similar doorway in the rear wall. These openings were supported by round relieving arches of dressed lava rock. Raised scroll devices decorated the wooden tympanums. The building also had a raised wooden porch and a triangular parapet wall, both replaced in the 1961 renovation.

Additions, easily distinguished from the above-described original construction, include gable-end buttresses, a large rear chimney, a belfry and cross, new doors and the porch piers and steps. These changes were made in a 1961 renovation accomplished by the Oreana community and groups throughout southwestern Idaho. This renovation included a complete interior remodeling in materials typical of the 1960's: a native stone floor, the apa-tone panelling, wrought-iron roof supports, filigree light fixtures, and a copper-toned ceiling. The church bell—dating from about 1904—was brought to Oreana from Our Lady of Tears Church, Silver City. The original paneled double doors were replaced with batten double doors dotted with small single lights.

A storage building to the rear of the church is built of coursed lava rock with a gable roof of dirt over full-length lumber shingles supported on purlins. Batten doors provide access on the northeast wall and the gable end facing northwest. Two ventilators framed from two-by-fours poke through the roof.

3 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
800-1899	☒ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1883 BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Pierson and Jim Kelly

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Our Lady, Queen of Heaven Church stands at a section corner where a saloon, school, hotel and general store clustered to form the early Owyhee County community of Oreana. The general store—remodeled into Our Lady, Queen of Heaven Church—is the only remaining building from this early group. The church and storage building are architecturally significant as an excellent example of early localized masonry construction efforts.

Michael Hyde, the founder of Oreana, arrived in Silver City in 1865. In 1868 he was the manager of the Golden Chariot mine during its difficulties with the Ida Elmore mine. Shortly after the ending of this affair, he entered the cattle business. He remained a cattleman the rest of his life except during the years 1872-1879, when he journeyed to eastern Oregon to manage a large mine. During his absence, his brother David watched over his stock interests. By 1883, he had become one of the largest stock and land owners in the territory of Idaho. In about 1883, he hired John Pierson and Jim Kelly, stonemasons, to build the general store. In August, 1883, he purchased the vacant Exchange Saloon building in Silver City and had it torn down and removed to his ranch. Here it was converted into a boarding house and saloon. The schoolhouse was also built during this year, as was the hotel. The area was designated as Oreana on November 12, 1885, with the establishment of a post office in the general store. Michael Hyde was appointed postmaster.

A harsh winter in 1887-1888 caused the collapse of Hyde's operation and the majority of his property was purchased by George W. Grayson of Portland, Oregon. Hyde remained in the cattle business until his death in 1922, but on a more limited scale. His brother Dave moved to the Bruneau Valley, built a hotel, and laid out the town of Bruneau. The youngest brother, Ben, remained in the area. He ran a store one-half mile north of the old one. However, in 1903 or 1904, he purchased the old rock store and moved his goods and post office back to the original site. In 1906, the Hyde ranch property was sold to J. M. Neil of Boise. Neil ran the ranch for a number of years. Eventually, the property became divided into three separate ranches.

In 1961, Albert Black, owner of the then unoccupied store, donated the property to the Catholic Church. A volunteer effort, headed by Father Merzbach of Nampa, involving groups from Nampa and other Southwestern Idaho towns as well as local residents, renovated the building to its present condition. Although the renovation added a belfry, buttresses, and a new porch, the exterior stone appearance is retained. The community effort demonstrated the value of the building as a local landmark.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Oreana

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5 minute

UTM REFERENCES

A 11 549 400 47 65 250

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The nomination includes Our Lady, Queen of Heaven Church, and the rock storage building behind it, at UTM point 11/549,400/47,65,250 with a margin of five feet around each structure.

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

Jennifer Eastman Attebery, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Idaho State Historical Society

DATE

20 Sep 80

STREET & NUMBER

610 North Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

334-2120

CITY OR TOWN

Boise,

STATE

Idaho 83702

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Maria Wells

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

20 Sep 80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Coral D. Shul
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11-28-80

ATTEST:

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Our Lady, Queen of Heaven Church

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Nettleton, Helen. "Historic Church Visited." The Dividend. January, 1980.

Owyhee County, Idaho. Silver City, Idaho: Press of the Owyhee Avalanche, 1898.

Defenbach, Bryon. Idaho, the Place and It's People: A History of the Gem State from Prehistoric to Present Days. Vol. I. Chicago: American Historical Society, 1933.

Forman, Kirby. "Oreana and the Pioneers of this Area." Owyhee Outpost. No. 7 (May, 1976), p. 29-33.

Sister Mary Rhoda. "Early Oreana." Owyhee Outpost. No. 7 (May, 1976), p. 1-3.

Idaho Avalanche. 25 August, 1883, p. 3, c. 3; 15 September, 1883, p. 3, c. 3; 3 November, 1883, p. 3, c. 1.



Old San Clemente Church
San Clemente, N.M.
Built 1700

Our Lady, Queen of Heaven Church
Oreana, Owyhee, Idaho

CP.

Photographer: Patricia Wright
1979

Negative on file at:
Idaho State Historical Society
Boise, Idaho

View from North

Photograph one of two

OCT 22 1980



Our Lady, Queen of Heaven Church
Oreana, Owyhee, Idaho

Photographer: Patricia Wright
1979

OCT 22 1980

Negative on file at:
Idaho State Historical Society
Boise, Idaho

View from South

Photograph two of two