

INVENTORY SHEET FOR GROUP NOMINATIONS: IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOISE, IDAHO

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE ~~IN IDAHO~~ TA)

✓ SITE NAME: Waymire, C. H., Building SITE NUMBER: 58

✓ LOCATION: 1521 North <sup>13th</sup> Thirteenth Street, Boise, Ada County (001), Idaho ~~83702~~

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Philip A. and Anita F. Murelaga  
1711 West State Street  
Boise, Idaho 83702

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Boise North, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the C. H. Waymire Building and the property on which it stands, parcel 0150, lots 4-6, block D, Brumback's addition to Boise City Original Townsite. Legal description on file at the Ada County Courthouse, Boise, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,64,320/48,30,890

DATE OR PERIOD: 1909

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: good unaltered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The C. H. Waymire Building is a 34-by-80-foot, two-story, flat-roofed business block of rock-faced cast stone construction. Its short front elevation faces North Thirteenth Street on the southwest corner of Thirteenth and Eastman streets. The first story was devoted to a single large shop space, approached by a central entrance and lighted by plate glass windows with ribbed base lights and prism glass mezzanine lights. These secondary lights have been screened or obscured, but the configuration is intact. The windows are extended on the right side of the facade to form a corner display window. On the left, a secondary entrance with its own upper mezzanine light gives access to the stairwell leading to the second story.

The second story is separated from the first by a wide smooth frieze and outset sill, above which the rock-faced block continues up to the parapet. Set into the upper facade are a continuous series of sills under and between the windows; a single window over the secondary entrance, two pairs of windows over the storefront, and a series of windows along the side wall, all double-hung sash with smooth-finished non-continuous lintels; a smooth band and a smooth, outset cornice, between which attic vents are placed and, on the facade, the words "C. H. Waymire" are centered; and a smooth-finished coping on the upper parapet wall.

A side entrance on Eastman Street has been closed. The frame stairs and sleeping porches which are outset at rear appear in the original drawings, in connection with the apartments to which the upper story was devoted.

#### SIGNIFICANCE:

The C. H. Waymire Building is architecturally significant as a straightforward, virtually unaltered, and locally imposing example of concrete block construction in a small commercial cluster intended to serve the new subdivisions in the North End of Boise.

The little neighborhood center of Hyde Park contains two other buildings of comparable or greater pretension than the Waymire block: a 1903 IOOF Hall by an unknown designer, and, a block away, Tourtellotte and Company's 1906-1911 Immanuel Methodist Church [site 41]. The Waymire block was built to house a grocer store, with the owner's apartment upstairs. With its non-institutional mission, it is less self-conscious stylistically than either of the other large-scale Hyde Park buildings. But an appreciation of its corner lot and of the importance of a substantial appearance is expressed in the use of concrete blocks, with the smooth string courses and flat cornice lines, in appreciably less elaborate than that of the stepped-gabled Rosedale IOOF Hall in South Boise [site 47], but it is a satisfying example of the material and form. The blocks were furnished and laid up by the team of Shaffer, Hawk, and Clark, whose block factory at Thirteenth and Alturas streets was probably responsible for the several cast-stone houses built between 1905 and 1911 and included in the Harrison Boulevard Historic District (National Register, February 29, 1980). The company was presumably responsible as well for the row of one-story cast-stone storefronts which extends south along Thirteenth Street from the Waymire building.

Clarence H. Waymire had the following listing after his name in the 1906-07 city directory:

Wholesale and Retail Groceries, Grain, Flour and Feed, Bakery Goods,  
Milinery, Shoes, Cigars and Barber Shop . . . .

Just about everything, in short, that a family in the North End of Boise might like to run to the corner to pick up, rather than go downtown. Waymire was listed in 1911 only as a "grocer," but there is no reason to think he would have reduced his stock in his expanded quarters. These were first announced in 1906, but a building permit was not issued until 1909. The projected cost was \$1,000 which seems low even for such a simple building. Some economy, however, must have been part of the attraction of cast stone.

#### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

(Boise) Idaho Statesman, May 10, 1906, 3, p. 3, c. 1; May 14, 1909, p. 5, c. 2; August 10, 1909, p. 5, c. 3.

Polk and Company. Boise City Directories. 1906-1907, 1911.

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 408C. Collection book and drawing loan book references to C. H. Waymire in 1909. Tracings signed John E. Tourtellotte and Company.



Tourtellotte and Hummel Architecture in Idaho  
Waymire, C. H., Building, site #58  
1521 North Thirteenth Street  
Boise, Ada County, Idaho

Photographer:  
Patricia Wright  
1980

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

View from east-northeast

Photograph one of one