An aerial photograph of the Swan Falls Dam, a large concrete structure with multiple spillways, situated on a wide river. The surrounding landscape is rugged and hilly, with some buildings and infrastructure visible in the foreground. The image is in black and white, giving it a historical feel.

ADA COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COUNCIL
2006 PRESERVATION PLAN
FOR CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT
OCTOBER, 2006

*Early view of Swan
Falls Dam. Source:
ISHS 73-51.21 c.*

*"To forget one's ancestor's is
to be a brook without a
source, a tree without root."*

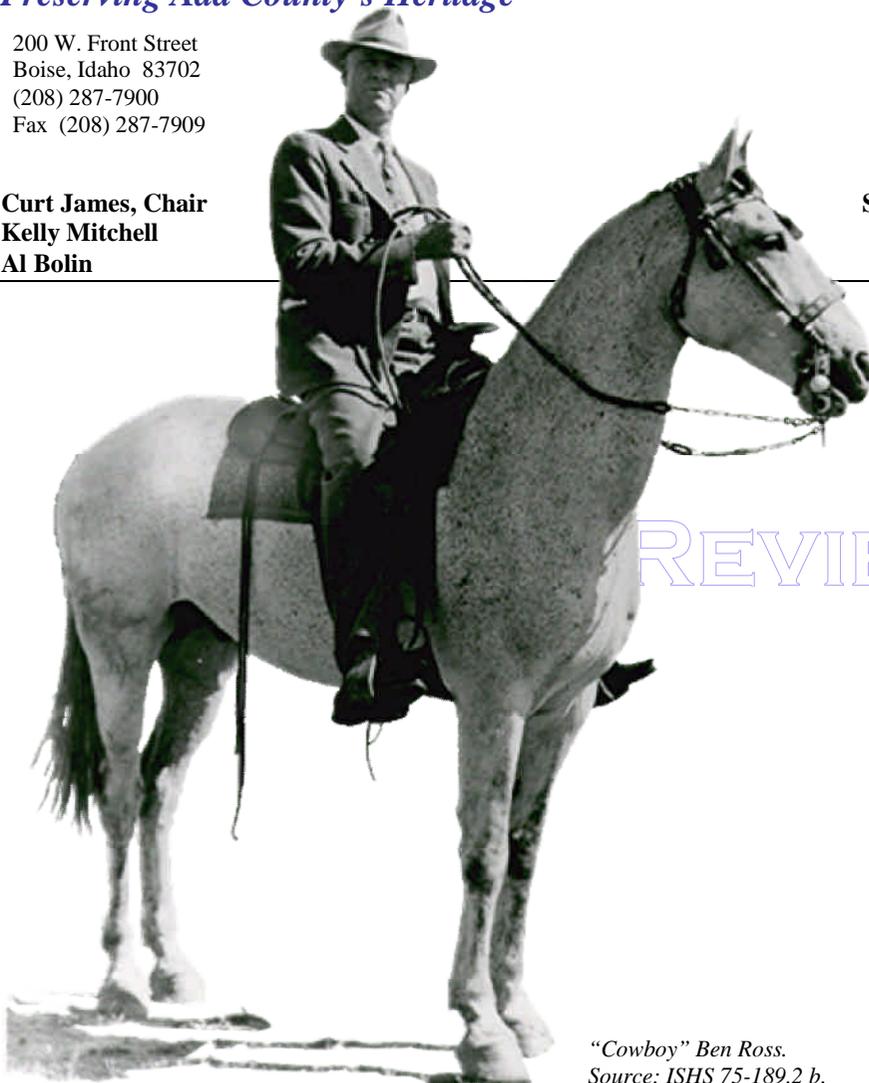
-CHINESE PROVERB

ADA COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COUNCIL

Preserving Ada County's Heritage

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Curt James, Chair
Kelly Mitchell
Al Bolin



*"Cowboy" Ben Ross.
Source: ISHS 75-189.2 b.*

WWW.ADAWEB.NET/HPC



Sandra Schmidt, Vice-Chair
Bryan Nickels
Jake Putnam

Jack Clark, Secretary
Jessica Shine
Brian Tandrow

*"There is no mere
happenstance about
doing worthwhile things.
You've got to plan for it."*

C. BEN ROSS,
FIRST NATIVE BORN GOVERNOR OF IDAHO
(IN OFFICE FROM 1931 THROUGH 1937)

Rick Yzaguirre, Chairman

Prepared on behalf of the Board of Ada County Commissioners:
Fred Tilman

Judy Peavey-Derr

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**AND PROBABLY A FEW OTHER FOLKS
THAT WE MAY HAVE
UNINTENTIONALLY FORGOTTEN.
PLEASE ACCEPT OUR SINCERE
APOLOGIES IF WE HAVE.**



Hay field and horse team, courtesy of Simplot Corp.

The basic framework for this plan is derived from Report # 450 of the Planning Advisory Service - *Preparing a Historic Preservation Plan* by White and Roddewig.

TABLE OF CONTENTS



FOREWORD	1
INTRODUCTION	5
PURPOSE	9
HISTORIC CHARACTER	11
PAST PRESERVATION EFFORTS	37
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEYS	49
HISTORIC PRESERVATION LAW	61
INTEGRATION WITH LAND USE DECISIONS	69
PUBLIC SECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES	71
PRESERVATION INCENTIVES	75
PRESERVATION EDUCATION	77
GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES	79
SUMMARY	91
APPENDIX I: ABOUT THE COUNCIL	95
APPENDIX II: OVERVIEW OF PRESERVATION GROUPS AND AGENCIES	103
APPENDIX III: TIMELINE OF EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS	113

*Hand hewn sandstone of
Commanding Officer's
Quarters, Fort Boise.
Source: HABS ID,1-
BOISE,12A-5.*

*“Have a good plan,
execute it violently,
and do it today.”*

GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

FOREWORD

The Council's tagline is "*Preserving Ada County's Heritage.*" While this phrase succinctly says what we strive to do, it does not say why. There are many reasons and too little space to give justice to them all. But throughout the existence of civilization, the works of humankind have embodied the age in which they were created. They link the past with the present, telling us who we are and hinting at what future achievements are possible. Throughout history these works have been at times lost to acts of nature and the misdeeds of man, but for the most part they tended to survive for generations, being carefully looked after and preserved for their intrinsic values. It was not until the rapid changes associated with the 20th century that buildings started to be seen as having a much shorter useful life. As technologies were created and change accelerated over time, the laws of economics all too often found it cheaper to destroy the past than to adapt buildings to the changing times. The pace of change has continued to increase, resulting in fewer buildings being left to connect us with our past. The result too often is that places have lost their soul. This plan represents our attempt at helping to preserve Ada County's soul.

Prior to embarking upon this plan Ada County Commissioner Judy Peavey-Derr asked: "**What can we do to preserve our remaining agricultural heritage?**" A quick answer would have been to spend a lot of taxpayer money to buy and preserve significant sites and structures, but the tax revolts that have hit the states surrounding Idaho have made it obvious that this was not a viable solution. So the Council dug deep to see if a realistic answer does exist. We started with a puzzle, and by asking some simple questions we gained a much clearer vision of possible solutions.

We asked "**What defines Ada County's heritage?**" In answering this question we compiled a fairly comprehensive timeline of events significant to Ada County's history. We found that transportation networks, including the earliest Native American trails, the Oregon Trail, early freight and stage roads, the Oregon Short Line Railroad,

the interurban trolley systems and the local, state and federal road systems have all been key to where and when development has occurred in Ada County. We found that the Boise River and its tributaries was the key to early settlement of the area, providing a means of sustaining the early pioneers, acting as a significant barrier in the County's early days and eventually leading to extensive irrigation that reclaimed a vast desert area. We also found that in the past the County was far larger than it is today and that there is significant history worthy of preservation outside of Boise City.

We asked "**What has the Council done thus far in *Preserving Ada County's Heritage?***" We found that the Council has done extensive survey work to form the foundation of its efforts, that the main emphasis of the Council to this point has been to educate the public about historic places and the benefits of historic preservation, and that encouraging the private preservation of historic sites and structures is the most realistic and cost effective means of preserving our shared heritage.

We asked "**What is out there that is worth preserving?**" We found extensive surveys had been conducted countywide to detail the resources that were in existence at the time of the surveys. We found that a small portion of the properties surveyed are significant enough and well enough preserved to warrant inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. That while our surveying efforts have been comprehensive in scope, there are some resources that have been overlooked, and there are some resources that we need to learn a lot more about. We found that reconnaissance level surveys have been completed for most of the County, though there are many intensive level surveys that need to be recorded, and there is a need to learn more about sites that pre-date white settlement of this area.

We asked "**Who else cares about *Preserving Ada County's Heritage?***" We found that historic preservation is not just a dry subject dealt with by a handful of people serving on commissions

and societies; instead it is an integral part of the mission of most local, state and federal agencies. Our school systems teach Idaho history to fourth grade students. Various agencies have resource management plans for protecting historic sites and structures under their jurisdiction. And preserving our heritage is key to the area's economic development, as it provides tourists with another reason to visit our area and it creates a depth and texture that attracts people to come here to live, work and play. We found that there are a lot of folks that can help us share the responsibility of *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*, including the general public - both from their donations of time, money and artifacts toward preservation charities and in their use and patronage of preservation facilities.

As part of our question about who else cares about preserving our heritage we also asked, **“Who provides funds specifically for heritage preservation?”** We found that there are a sprinkling of grant opportunities available today. Most are for \$5,000 or less. And many are strictly for “bricks and mortar,” not for education or research. We found that the largest source of funding, up to \$500,000, is from transportation enhancement grants aimed at enhancing the user experience of our surface transportation systems. Developing historic sites as part of a park site opens additional grant funding opportunities, as do private funding sources.

We asked **“What is the legal basis for *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*?”** We found the federal, state and local laws that enable preservation and the court decisions that have held that preservation is a valid exercise of the police power. We also found that since 1975 the County has been empowered by the State of Idaho to levy a property tax for historic preservation that would amount to more than \$3,000,000 per year, though we also found that virtually no county in the state of Idaho has implemented such a levy.

We asked **“How is *Preserving Ada County's Heritage* integrated into our land use decision-making process?”** We found that the County has many regulations in place to preserve our heritage as

land redevelops, but that there are leaks in our regulatory bucket. But we now know where most, if not all, of those leaks are located and we'll make mending our bucket a priority. We also found that continuity in protecting these resources is often lost when an area is annexed to one of the cities in Ada County, suggesting an inattention to preservation, particular of our agricultural heritage, in the respective comprehensive plans and implementing regulations for some jurisdictions in the County. We've made review of these factors an implementation strategy to pursue in the future.

We asked **“What is the public sector's responsibility in *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*?”** We found that the answer to this question has changed over time. In the early days of the Council, providing some talented, energetic and passionate volunteers with some seed money, some small grants and a limited amount of paid staff support was enough. But today, the grants have gotten smaller over time, the Council has added programs that require additional paid staff time (such as award programs, the Council's website) and the Council has expanded from five members to nine members. Our situation is analogous to the ‘80/20 rule,’ which states that 80% of the work takes 20% of the effort, while the remaining 20% of the work takes 80% of the effort. We are now into the part of the work that takes additional effort, and additional volunteer Council effort translates directly to additional effort for paid staff.

We asked **“Where does the funding come from for *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*?”** We found that funding has varied greatly over time, but that the effort, dedication and enthusiasm of the Council has always exceeded the funds available for their efforts. A small portion of funding has come from grants administered by the Idaho State Historical Society's State Historic Preservation Office. Until recently, most, if not all, of the remainder has come from the County's general fund via the budgets of the Board and Development Services. Currently these funds come solely from Development Services and are supported directly from development fees. We found that it is important to recognize the monetary value

of the time invested by the mostly professional volunteer members of the Council, as the full Council easily represents about \$400 per hour in free talent. Without their efforts, far more money would be needed to accomplish a fraction of what they have accomplished so far.

We asked **“What incentives are provided to the private sector for *Preserving Ada County’s Heritage*?”** We found that there are federal tax credits for restoring and rehabilitating income-producing properties and that conservation and preservation easements can sometimes be used as charitable contributions to reduce federal and/or state income tax liabilities. We found that all across our nation states and local communities have developed their own incentives to encourage preservation, such as reducing property taxes, and providing access to local grants and low-interest loan programs. If Idaho and/or Ada County were to implement similar programs, we would not be blazing new trails. We also found that recognition of owners’ preservation efforts – through programs such as the annual County Treasures awards – are a low cost and effective means to encourage *Preserving Ada County’s Heritage*.

We asked **“What educational efforts have been undertaken toward *Preserving Ada County’s Heritage*?”** We found a long and varied list of past Council accomplishments, and we found that partnering with other groups in these efforts has been a key to achieving the quantity and quality of such efforts, while minimizing the cost to taxpayers.

Having asked all these questions we ended by asking ourselves **“What are the County’s goals for *Preserving Ada County’s Heritage*?”** We started by looking at our existing Comprehensive Plan goals and the goals of preservation plans of nine western states, which we distilled down to eight goals. We then asked ourselves what we had learned from asking all the preceding questions in our plan and from this crafted policies and implementation strategies designed to fix our ‘leaky bucket,’ to chart our future course for

Preserving Ada County’s Heritage and to answer Commissioner Peavey-Derr’s question of “What can we do to preserve our remaining agricultural heritage?”

So, in this document we have a plan for *Preserving Ada County’s Heritage* because of its importance in defining our communities and adding greatly to our quality of life. The question that remains is, **“Is this a ten year plan for success or will it be a fifty year plan for failure?”** The answer is in the policy direction from our elected officials, the funding that is dedicated to making this plan a reality and in the dedication, passion and hard work of our volunteer Council.

“...A community needs a soul if it is to become a true home for human beings. You, the people, must get it this soul.”

POPE JOHN PAUL II



Meridian's Manville Fruit Company. Source: ISHS 35/16.



*The Ridenbaugh Canal, southeast Boise.
Source: ISHS 75-40.3.*



An early ranch. Source: ISHS P1994.4.12.

PUBLIC R

INTRODUCTION

As former governor C. Ben Ross is quoted as saying on our title page, you need to plan in order to achieve worthwhile things. This Council has been charged with a very worthwhile thing – *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*. It is a rich pioneer heritage that adds depth, meaning and quality to our communities. It enriches our lives in countless ways and contributes greatly to the quality of our existence. This plan represents the Council's best effort at planning to achieve something very worthwhile for our community.

This plan is the Ada County Historic Preservation Council's first truly comprehensive attempt at planning the future course of historic preservation within the jurisdiction of Ada County. The impetus for creating this document came about as the result of a serendipitous convergence of events:

1. Commissioner Peavey-Derr asked the question "What can we do to preserve our remaining agricultural heritage?"
2. Development Services Director Gerry Armstrong suggested that the Council needed a strategic plan, something the Council had been struggling to find the time to do.
3. A comprehensive plan update process was underway, necessitating a thorough review of the historic and cultural resources element by the Council.
4. The Council discovered an article in the November/December 2005 issue of The Alliance Review entitled "Planning for Successful Preservation," which summarized how to prepare a preservation plan. It turned out that we had already done 40 to 50 percent of the work as part of our annual reports to the Board of Ada County Commissioners and other efforts.
5. The Council also needed a resource document in order to be more efficient and effective, one that would quickly get new Council members up to speed. We felt that a plan would answer this need as well.

The limited time frame for creating this plan and the lack of a budget for its production are both serious obstacles that have had to be overcome – with considerable hard work and dedication – in making this plan a reality. Its strength is that it gives the Council direction for accomplishing stated goals and policies. The challenge is finding the time and resources to be assured that the recommendations within the plan have a reasonable chance of success. This is because, under the current policy and regulatory environment, any private properties "preserved" within Ada County could potentially be redeveloped upon annexation to one of the cities within the county. In other words, there is insufficient continuity between the County's preservation policies and land use regulations and those of the cities. Unfortunately, attempting to correct this situation is far beyond the scope and resources of this project and this additional effort is left as a future implementation strategy.

As the Council set about the task of participating in the Comprehensive Plan update, which in time expanded into this preservation plan, a subcommittee was formed consisting of four members of the Council:

- Curt James
- Sandra Schmidt
- Al Bolin
- Bryan Nickels

In addition, the entire Council was involved in various aspects of reviewing the plan as it was formulated, and a number of members participated in subcommittee meetings and other behind-the-scenes tasks. The task of coordinating this subcommittee and soliciting involvement from other interested people and groups within Ada County was the responsibility of Steve Malone, who at the time the project started was a staff planner charged with facilitating all of the activities of the Council.

WHY PRESERVE?

Primarily, the built environment expresses the soul of a place. It can add a richness, warmth and quality to our lives or provide a sense of cold, lifeless sterility. The best of our historic structures provide the former. They accomplish this due to their pedestrian scale, the use of natural, local building materials and techniques, and the individual expression of the owner's desires and the craftsman's skill, creativity and imagination. Their humanity is palpable. We are naturally drawn to such places and we tend to invest ourselves in them. They become semi-public places that offer as much to the community as they do to their owners.

THE VALUE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Few people would argue the aesthetic value of most historic preservation efforts: grand old buildings, ancient archaeological sites and pioneer landscapes have an almost inherent beauty. Because of this, most people are willing to discuss the possibilities of social and political returns for preserving architectural and other historic resources.

But today more than ever, the true benefit of preservation must be considered: the economic benefit. To speak to people at all levels of government and business whose responsibility is the bottom line of a balance sheet, preservationists need to be able to speak the language of economics.

The ability to understand and explain the monetary value of an historic resource is paramount to justifying its continued existence. Too often, property owners believe that newer is better, cheaper and more likely to generate sufficient revenue to recoup an investment. Though this is often an inaccurate and short-sighted view, one that ignores the soul of a place and sees a town as nothing more than a collection of buildings and infrastructure, we must be prepared for it and be able to show the sense in less destructive courses of action.

Historic sites and preservation efforts enhance our regional economy: historic sites draw tourists to our area and increase the length of their stays; building restoration projects create additional local jobs; rehabilitated buildings act as great incubators for small, creative businesses; restoration goes hand-in-hand with reuse, which allays the cost of extending services to outlying areas; historic buildings are often cheaper to maintain with their natural facades and durable floor and roof surfaces, and the creation of historic districts usually precedes economic revitalization in an area.

Almost no new buildings, with their thin veneers of fake stone, glass or stuccoed foam, have the warmth, honesty and grandeur of the buildings of past generations. Buildings today are built to be disposable, whereas historic buildings were built to last and were created for a specific purpose. They tell us that they were built with the future in mind, to create a legacy for our children and grandchildren.

While the Council does not advocate saving every old building in Ada County, we do recognize the value of saving as much of our history as is practical. It gives depth and meaning to our communities and promotes an interest in understanding the efforts of our predecessors in creating a special place that we call home.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

In creating this document, the Council sought the broadest possible participation from all interested citizens. In the early drafting of the plan, representatives from the many (very busy) local government agencies in the area were invited to participate, though few accepted the offer. A small group of individuals, including Tim Breuer, Susan Stacy, Claudia Druss and members of the State Historic Preservation Office, met initially in late January 2006 with some of our Council members. About 50 percent of the plan had been drafted at that time. The response to the proposed effort was very encouraging, as it was clear the result would be a resource document that could be very

beneficial to preservation groups throughout southwest Idaho, if not throughout the entire state.

After this meeting it seemed that getting folks to come to us to engage in the plan was not a realistic prospect, so the Council decided to take our proposal on the road. The audience for review and comment included the preservation commissions of the area, students and faculty at Boise State University and ordinary folks that attended various Council-sponsored events.

Once a reasonable working draft was ready the plan was made available to the general public, as follows:

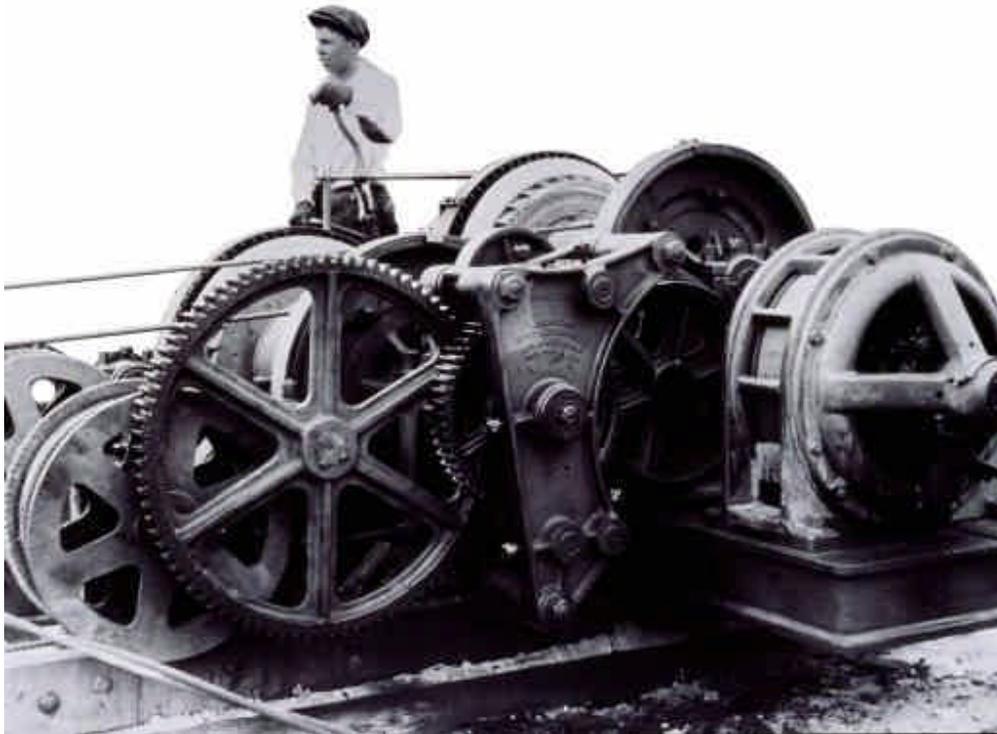
- A copy was posted on the Council's website,
- A general e-mail announcement was broadcast to local

preservationists in the area,

- Members of the Council visited with historic preservation commissioners for the State of Idaho, Gem County, Canyon County, Meridian, Eagle and Boise,
- Comment cards were distributed at all of the Council's public events in spring and summer 2006,
- Ada County elected officials and others were enlisted in helping us get the word out as they interacted with preservationists and interested citizens in the course of their normal duties.

These efforts were made to assure the plan's usefulness, both to our Council and the community that we serve. The input from this select group was used to refine the plan toward a final version that the Council hopes to have formally adopted by the Board of Ada County Commissioners.

7 DRAFT



Hoist used at Table Rock quarry. Source: ISHS 3760.

“Men often oppose a thing merely because they have had no agency in planning it, or because it may have been planned by those whom they dislike.”

ALEXANDER HAMILTON



Arrowrock Dam under construction. Source: ISHS 1158-20.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this plan is to attempt to comprehensively assess the County's historic preservation needs, goals, policies and implementation strategies for the next 10 to 20 years and to establish the basis for creating a shorter term strategic plan outlining immediate actions the County can undertake toward *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*.

To paraphrase from the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the Ada County Historic Preservation Council and the Board of Ada County Commissioners finds that:

- The spirit and direction of the County are founded upon and reflected in its heritage;
- The historical and cultural foundations of the County should be preserved as a living part of our community life and development in order to give a sense of orientation to the people of Ada County;
- Historic properties significant to the County's heritage are being lost or substantially altered, often inadvertently, with increasing frequency;
- The preservation of this irreplaceable heritage is in the public interest so that its vital legacy of cultural, educational, aesthetic, inspirational, economic, and energy benefits will be maintained and enriched for future generations of Ada County;
- In the face of ever-increasing extensions of urban centers, highways, and residential, commercial, and industrial developments, the present governmental and nongovernmental historic preservation programs and activities are inadequate to insure future generations a genuine opportunity to appreciate and enjoy the rich heritage of our County;
- The increased knowledge of our historic resources, the establishment of better means of identifying and administering them, and the encouragement of their

preservation will improve the planning and execution of County and County-assisted projects and will assist economic growth and development; and

- Although the major burdens of historic preservation have been borne and major efforts initiated by private agencies and individuals, and both should continue to play a vital role, it is nevertheless necessary and appropriate for the federal government to accelerate its historic preservation programs and activities, to give maximum encouragement to agencies and individuals undertaking preservation by private means, and to assist local governments and local preservation groups within Ada County to expand and accelerate their historic preservation programs and activities.

The focus of the County's historic preservation efforts centers on historic sites and properties within unincorporated Ada County, plus vestiges of the historic functions of county government in incorporated areas, such as the courts and jails. Through the Council, the County also assists the historic preservation efforts of other groups, agencies and municipalities within Ada County and collaborates with those of adjacent jurisdictions.

The Council has seen ebbs and flows during its history, as personalities have come and gone. A primary goal of this document is to even out these ebbs and flows by creating a concise resource document that clearly states the Council's goals, provides a detailed historic context for the County, provides a history of the Council's past efforts and achievements and analyzes the County's current regulatory foundation for encouraging historic preservation. With this information at hand, the current Council is poised to accelerate the pace of its progress toward *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*.

"The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see."

WINSTON CHURCHILL



Eagle's former Ballantine stop (along State Street, east of Eagle Road) for the Boise Valley Traction Company's interurban trolley. Source: ISHS 62-53.3.

HISTORIC CHARACTER

By attempting to define the historic character of Ada County we seek to discover what is important to preserve. Our historic character is defined by the events, places and personalities of our past. It describes the unique character of our communities and our importance within a regional, national and international context. It chronicles the toils and travails that led to the creation of our built environment and enumerates the many factors that make Ada County a unique and special place to live, work and play.

Being the county seat, the state capital and Idaho's largest city, Boise City is the center of Idaho government and the largest commercial center in the state. A significant portion of the state's history has occurred in this vicinity due to the commercial, legislative, and judicial centers that are located here. For that same reason, the events of Boise dominate the history of Ada County. For that reason, it was decided to portray the County's history as a timeline rather than as individual histories of each present and former community. It enables us to assure representation of the entire county while providing a very concise history of the area, with the added advantage of clearly being able to see how events relate to each other over time. It is also a framework that is easy to expand, improve upon, and update in future editions of this plan.

OVERVIEW FROM PREHISTORY THROUGH INITIAL WHITE SETTLEMENT

The prehistory of Idaho includes documented evidence of Native Americans at least as far back as 14,000 years ago, with the oldest being the Clovis culture. Evidence suggests that approximately 8,000 year ago evidence that permanent houses, bows and arrows, and pottery first came into use in the area. Around approximately 1710 AD Shoshone bands acquired horses for transportation, which were descended from those brought to North America by the Spaniards. They began to ride to seasonal trading and food gathering areas, forming trails that would eventually be used by fur traders and

later by emigrants in America's great westward expansion. This native population was decimated, first by smallpox and other previously unknown diseases spread from European sources, as well as negative impacts to their traditional food sources, and later by the efforts of the military to round them up and place them on reservations.

White settlement of Idaho was preceded by fur trapping, which was eventually dominated by Canada's Northwest Company and Britain's Hudson's Bay Company in the early 1800s. Exploration by trappers, missionaries and military expeditions gradually allowed for a western migration along routes such as the Oregon Trail.

Ada County did not see appreciable settlement and development until 1862, when gold was discovered at Grimes Creek in neighboring Boise County. It was at this point that Boise City's importance as a crossroads and trading center was established, leading to the establishment of Fort Boise in 1863. Farmers and merchants found that supplying the rush of miners was as profitable as mining itself, and it provided an incentive for them to permanently settle the region.

The timeline that follows details the significant people, places and events that followed the first pioneers of this area.



*"If you want to
understand
today, you have
to search
yesterday."*

PEARL S. BUCK

Hauling a turbine to Swan Falls Dam. Source: ISHS 73-51.18 a.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS, PLACES AND PEOPLE OF SIGNIFICANCE TO ADA COUNTY



1785 The Northwest Ordinance establishes the public land survey system based upon sections, ranges and townships that is the basis for property ownership in Idaho and most of the United States.

1805 The first white exploration of Idaho as part of the Lewis and Clark expedition. This marks the beginning of written, recorded history in Idaho.

1811 Astorian parties under Wilson Price Hunt explore portions of southern Idaho, becoming the first known white men to visit the Boise region.

1812 Robert Stuart's returning party of Astorians pioneer a major portion of the Oregon Trail route.

1813 John Reid establishes a winter fur trading post near the mouth of the Boise River. He is killed by Indians in 1814.

1819 Donald MacKenzie encounters a large intertribal gathering on the Boise River and recognizes the need to negotiate peace with the Indians to open the fur trade in southwestern Idaho.

PRE-1820



-
- 1821** England's Northwest Company merges with Canada's Hudson's Bay Company.
 - 1833** (May) Bonneville party explores Idaho, discovering the Boise River Valley and exclaiming "Les Bois!" – the woods.
 - 1834** (August) Canada's Hudson's Bay Company establishes Fort Boise at the confluence of the Boise and Snake Rivers near Parma, Idaho.
 - 1835** Hudson's Bay Company establishes Fort Hall in eastern Idaho.
 - 1836** Missionaries Eliza and Henry Harmon Spaulding and Narcissa and Marcus Whitman are the first settlers to bring a wagon as far as Fort Boise.
 - 1839** Thomas Jefferson Farnham's Oregon Dragoons cross Boise Valley to scout the route of the Oregon Trail.

-
- 1840** Beaver trapping declines and the last fur trade rendezvous is held.
 - 1841** Preemption Act (squatter's rights) allows purchase of up to 160 acres of public land for \$1.25 per acre.
 - 1841** (September 1-2) First "Oregon Delegation" reaches Fort Boise on the Oregon Trail.
 - 1843** John C. Fremont surveys the Oregon Trail with Kit Carson as Chief Scout.
 - 1843** First Oregon Trail wagons cross Idaho.
 - 1847** Joel Palmer publishes account of his journey along the Oregon Trail, *Journal of Travels: Over the Oregon Trail in 1845*, encouraging others to follow.
 - 1848** Oregon Territory established. Includes all of the future state of Idaho.

-
- 1853** Washington Territory created, which divided the future Idaho between Washington and Oregon Territories.
 - 1854** (August 20) Ward party attacked and 18 of 20 members killed on the Oregon Trail south of Middleton. This area was originally within Ada County.
 - 1855** Hudson's Bay Company abandons their southern Idaho fur trade posts, Fort Hall and Fort Boise.
 - 1859** Oregon becomes a state, and a portion of Idaho east of the present shared boundary is transferred to Washington Territory.

PRE-1860



St. Michael's Episcopal Church near BSU.
Source: HABS ID,1-BOISE,10-2.

- | | | |
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| <p>1860 Franklin – Idaho’s first town – is established in southeastern Idaho.</p> <p>1862 Homestead Act – 160 acres of public land for free, provided land is worked and lived on for 5 years.</p> <p>1862 Morris Hans Knudsen, cofounder of Morrison-Knudsen Construction Company, is born.</p> <p>1862 (July 4) Boise River floods, filling the Boise Valley from bluff to bluff and all the way to Caldwell Canyon.</p> <p>1862 (July 12) Boise County is formed in Washington Territory, encompassing all of present day southern Idaho.</p> <p>1862 (August 2) Gold is discovered in the Boise Basin by George Grimes and Moses Splawn.</p> | <p>1862 (August 9-10) Tim Goodale leads a wagon train that establishes an Oregon Trail alternative route through the Payette Valley. The route was in the vicinity of present day Highway 16.</p> <p>1863 (May 18) Gold discovered at Jordan Creek in the Owyhee Mountains by Michael Jordan.</p> <p>1863 First sandstone quarry established at Fort Boise, source of ‘Boise Sandstone.’</p> <p>1863 ‘Beaver Dick’ Leigh establishes a ferry across the Boise River near where Highway 21 now crosses the river, choosing the site because it was one of the few places where the Boise River was contained within a single channel.</p> <p>1863 (March 4) Idaho Territory is established, encompassing Montana and most of present day Wyoming.</p> <p>1863 (June) O’Farrell Cabin , first house to “shelter women and children” in Ada County, is built.</p> <p>1863 (July 4) Fort Boise is established by Major Pinkney Lugenbeel (Battles of Gettysburg and Vicksburg also fought on this date).</p> <p>1863 (July 7) Original plat of Boise is drawn up. It is not recorded until 1867.</p> <p>1864 First right is granted to divert water from the Boise River for</p> | <p>irrigation (for Boise Townsite and Fort Boise).</p> <p>1864 T.C. Catlin stakes out a homestead that includes Eagle Island. Secures water right number 4 on the Boise River.</p> <p>1864 M.B. Palmer digs Middleton ditch near Star, which eventually leads to establishment of Middleton and encourages the settlement of the Star area.</p> <p>1864 (July 26) First Boise-based paper is printed – the Tri-Weekly Statesman.</p> <p>1864 (August 1) Stage service from Salt Lake City established by the Overland Stage Company.</p> <p>1864 (October 10) Boise Shoshoni Indians sign Treaty of Fort Boise but were never compensated, and the treaty is never ratified by the United States Senate.</p> <p>1864 (December 4) McClelland Ferry established across Boise River at approximate location of present day Capitol Boulevard.</p> <p>1864 (December 7) Territorial capitol is moved to Boise.</p> <p>1864 (December 12) Boise City is incorporated.</p> <p>1864 (December 22) Ada County established and named after Ada Riggs, daughter of one of Boise</p> |
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1860s

City's founders. Includes much of today's Canyon and Washington counties, and pieces of other counties.

1865 (February) District court is established.

1865 (February 6) Ada County is created.

1865 (February 27) Boise City School District # 1 is established.

1865 (May 26) Last fighting of the Civil War.

1865 (September 14) First mention of Chinese workers arriving in Boise.

1866 Alfred Nobel invents dynamite, facilitating mining and construction of public works, such as roads and canals.

1866 Ada County's first jail is constructed.

1866 St Michael's Episcopal church is Boise's first church.

1866 (April 9) Initial Point surveyed, the basis for all surveys in Idaho.

1866 (April 12) Shoshoni sign Bruneau Treaty to obtain area around Silver City in the Owyhee Mountains, but are never compensated and the treaty is never ratified by the U.S. Senate.

1866 (December 28) Idaho legislature, overwhelmingly controlled by Confederate sympathizers, repeals the oath of allegiance to the United States.

1867 Amateur baseball begins in Boise.

1867 (March 2) First horse race in Boise.

1867 (March 11) First National Bank of Idaho founded, which eventually becomes US Bancorp.

1867 (July 17) A reservation is formed at Fort Hall (near Pocatello) for purpose of removing the Boise Shoshoni from the Boise Valley.

1867 (November 18) Boise City's government is formed.

1867 (November 25) Boise City's original townsite is officially recorded.

1867 (December 4) First bridge over the Boise River in Boise is established by McClelland (private toll bridge near Capitol Blvd).

1868 Treaty of Fort Bridger negotiated by Shoshone tribe, which gives 1.8 million acres to local tribes.

1869 John Hailey establishes a stage line from Kelton, UT, establishing a mail and freight route to Boise. While primarily a freight route, some emigrants use this Kelton Road after taking the train to Utah.

1869 (May 10) The transcontinental railroad is completed at Promontory, Utah.

1869 (June) Dr. Ah Yu petitions for all Chinese children to be allowed to attend public schools.

1869 (September 24) **Black Friday.** Financial panic spreads as a result of speculators attempting to corner the gold market.



*Chinese parading down Capitol Boulevard, approximately 1912.
Source: Denver Public Library 21512.*

1860s



An inmate of the Idaho Territorial Prison. Source: ISHS.

- 1870** Boise City's charter is granted by President U. S. Grant.
- 1872** The Mining Act is enacted. It allows miners to purchase up to 160 acres of land for \$2.50 per acre.
- 1872** (March) U.S. Assay Office opens for business (construction was completed in July 1871).
- 1872** (March 21) Idaho territorial prison receives its first prisoners, who are transferred from the Idaho City prison.
- 1873** Timber Culture Act – ability to claim additional 160 acres of public land if 40 acres planted in trees (later reduced to 10 acres).
- 1873** (October 1) National financial panic brought on by the failure of the financiers of the Northern

Pacific Railroad. This delays the extension of a railroad through Idaho.

- 1874** Joseph Glidden receives a patent for barbed wire, making more efficient farming and ranching possible.
- 1875** (September 4) The first telegraph line is installed in Boise.
- 1876** (January 24) Boise forms a volunteer fire department. A fire house was acquired on April 11th.
- 1876** (Spring) The Ninth Street bridge is destroyed by flood.
- 1877** The Desert Land Act is passed. Up to 640 acres for \$1.25 per acre, provided some irrigation improvements were made.
- 1879** The United States Geological Survey is created. Original focus is to map mineral resources and geologic features. Later focus expands to include the study of irrigation potential.
- 1879** Boise gets local telephone service.
- 1879** (February 20) Washington County is created from the northern half of Ada County (Payette County plus parts of Adams and Gem counties would later be created from parts of Washington County).
- 1879** (April 5) Fort Boise is renamed as Boise Barracks.



Boise's Central Fire Station. Photo by John Tinker, Idaho Statesman (1974).

1870s



An engine of the Oregon Short Line Railroad.
Source: ISHS 73-80.4.

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| <p>1881 The first piped water system is installed in Boise in the Overland House Hotel.</p> <p>1881 The Historical Society of Idaho Pioneers is formed, which later encouraged the creation of the Idaho State Historical Society.</p> <p>1881 The water rights doctrine of prior appropriation replaces riparian rights, establishing the notion of first in time, first in right. This becomes the basis for modern water rights law in Idaho.</p> <p>1881 The first Ada County Courthouse is constructed.</p> <p>1881 The Territorial legislature passes a law “to prohibit the keeping of places of resort for smoking opium or frequenting same.”</p> <p>1881 (February 4) The Boise Independent School District is created.</p> <p>1882 Eastern investors organize Idaho Mining and Irrigation Company to</p> | <p>construct what will come to be known as the New York Canal.</p> <p>1882 The Chinese Exclusion Act passed, suspending the immigration of Chinese. Initially for a ten year period, but it becomes permanent in 1904.</p> <p>1883 (September 23) Regular train service on the Oregon Short Line Railroad begins in Ada County, with stops in Kuna and Orchard.</p> <p>1883 (October 17) The Boise Free Library Association is formed.</p> <p>1884 A local chapter of Women’s Christian Temperance Union is formed in Boise.</p> <p>1884 Mary Hallock Foote, author and illustrator, moves to Idaho.</p> <p>1884 Arthur Foote, engineer for Idaho Mining and Irrigation Company, arrives in Idaho and proposes a 75 mile long canal to irrigate lands between Boise and Snake Rivers. The project is started, but fails due to financial setbacks.</p> <p>1884 (January) Boise’s first telephone exchange is established.</p> <p>1884 (February) The Oregon Short Line Railroad is completed through Idaho.</p> <p>1884 (May 13) Financial panic is caused by the collapse of a half dozen stock houses and two major banks.</p> <p>1885 Harry W. Morrison, co-founder of Morrison-Knudsen Construction Company, is born.</p> | <p>1886 The Territorial Capitol is built in Boise.</p> <p>1886 (June 26) Idaho Central Railway is incorporated to extend a railway spur from Nampa into Boise.</p> <p>1887 The Historical Society of Idaho Pioneers formed (must be emigrant before July 1, 1865).</p> <p>1887 (June 6) First National Bank of Idaho is formed, eventually to become one of the largest financial services companies in the United States – US Bancorp.</p> <p>1887 (July 4) Boise gets an electric light system consisting of 20 incandescent lights in downtown.</p> <p>1887 (September 5) The first train reaches Boise on the Idaho Central Railway.</p> <p>1888 (January 13) The Big Shiver of ’88 hits Boise as the temperature drops to minus 28 degrees Fahrenheit.</p> <p>1889 The Idaho Central Railway merges with the Oregon Short Line Railroad.</p> <p>1889 The first water district is established in Boise.</p> <p>1889 (February 7) Elmore County is created, partly from the original Ada County.</p> <p>1889 (August 6) The Idaho constitution is adopted (ratified on November 5, 1889 by a vote of the people).</p> |
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1880s



The source of the nation's first geothermal heating district.
Source: Office of the City Historian, Boise.

- 1890** Boise's first geothermal well is drilled near the Old Penitentiary.
- 1890** Boise's first power plant is built, the Electric Light Company.
- 1890** W. E. Pierce comes to Boise. He will later become a prominent land developer.
- 1890** A post office is established at Hunter (present day Meridian).
- 1890** (July 3) Idaho becomes the 43rd State.
- 1891** The Boise orchestra (founded late 1880s) is renamed Boise Civic Orchestra.
- 1891** Morris Hill Cemetery, Boise's first municipal cemetery, is purchased.
- 1891** The Ridenbaugh Canal is completed.
- 1891** The first classes are held at the College of Idaho (later named Albertson College).
- 1891** (March 7) Canyon County is created, partly from the original Ada County.

- 1891** (August 22) Boise Rapid Transit Company initiates the first electric trolley service in Boise.
- 1892** The first geothermal heating district in the United States is formed, the Boise Warm Springs Water District.
- 1892** The Columbian Club is formed.
- 1892** The invention of the pneumatic-tired "safety" bicycle starts a national cycling craze.
- 1892** A metal truss bridge is constructed across the Boise River at Broadway.
- 1892** Boise's sewer system is established.
- 1892** (February) C.W. Moore residence at Walnut and Warm Springs becomes the first home in the nation heated by geothermal energy.
- 1892** (May 25) The Boise Natatorium, site of a 125 foot geothermally heated pool and amusement park, opens for business.
- 1893** A post office is established at Orchard.
- 1893** (January) Depression of 1893, one of worst in American history, causes greater than 10% unemployment for half a decade.
- 1893** (August 17) A branch freight train line is extended to downtown Boise.
- 1893** (August 18) The townsite of Meridian is platted.

- 1894** The Carey Act is passed, allowing transfer of state regulated canal companies to private enterprise if water is diverted to public lands.
- 1894** St Alphonus Hospital is opened (at 5th and State).
- 1894** First free circulating library is established in Boise by the Columbian Club.
- 1895** The townsite of Orchard is platted.
- 1895** (February 1) Boise Conservatory of Music opens.
- 1895** (June 2) Veteran's Home (on State Street) is dedicated.
- 1896** Idaho becomes the fourth state to give women the right to vote.
- 1896** The town of Hunter is renamed Meridian.
- 1896** (May 14-June 17) Boise and Payette Rivers flood, considered greatest flood of known magnitude. Some bridges were damaged. 35,500 cfs peak flow.
- 1897** Meridian's first creamery is built.
- 1897** First paving of Boise city streets.
- 1897** (February) Meridian Sun newspaper started.
- 1897** (April 19) Boise River floods again. Second greatest flood of known magnitude. 29,500 cfs peak flow.
- 1897** (October 12) First Idaho Intermountain Fair opens.
- 1898** First telephone in Meridian.

1890s



Idaho Governor Frank Steuenenberg.
Source: University of Utah.

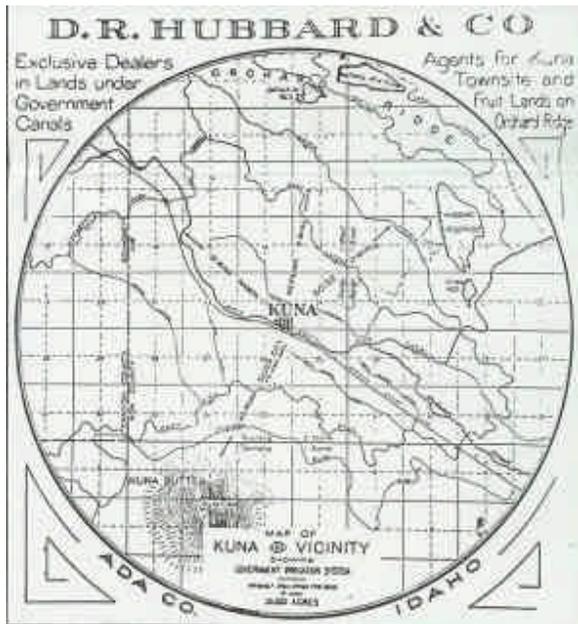
- 1900** St Luke's Hospital is opened.
- 1900** First telephone line in Meridian.
- 1901** Swan Falls dam is first hydroelectric facility built on the Snake River. Provides electricity to mines in the Owyhee Mountains.
- 1901** Idaho's first long distance, high voltage power transmission line built from Swan Falls to towns of Murphy, Dewey and Silver City.
- 1901** Columbian Club secures a Carnegie Library for Boise.
- 1901** (September 20) Boise's original Chinatown is condemned. It is razed and subsequently relocated to Front Street.
- 1902** Meridian Independent Telephone Company is organized.
- 1902** First commercial baseball begins in Boise (Instate League).

- 1902** Electricity is provided to Boise and the Pearl mining district, powered by a waterwheel in the Payette River at Horseshoe Bend.
- 1902** Idaho Intermountain Fair is relocated to Fairview and Orchard.
- 1902** (May 25) Boise Fire Department formed, replacing previous volunteer fire service.
- 1902** (June 17) National Reclamation Act of 1902, also known as the Newland Act, allows the federal government to provide initial capital investment to construct irrigation facilities. U.S. Reclamation Service established.
- 1903** (August) Meridian is incorporated
- 1903** (December 7) Star townsite is platted.
- 1904** A bridge is built across the Boise River at Star, Idaho.
- 1904** Boise Valley Railway begins constructing an interurban rail line from Boise to Nampa along Ustick Road.
- 1904** (August 10) Payette-Boise Water Users Association organized. The cooperation of this group of landowners was key to the Boise Project moving forward.
- 1904** (September 26) Eagle townsite is platted.
- 1905** Star incorporates as a city.
- 1905** (March 27) Payette-Boise Project first authorized (becoming named the Boise Project in 1911). The

- Project would eventually irrigate 390,000 acres.
- 1905** (May 2) Boise's Carnegie Library is dedicated.
- 1905** (December 30) Governor Steuenberg is assassinated in Caldwell.
- 1906** Ezra Meeker retraces the Oregon Trail to publicize its preservation.
- 1906** Joe Albertson, founder of Albertson's supermarkets, is born.
- 1906** A mill, dam and company town are constructed east of Boise at Barberton.
- 1906** (January 18) Stewart Decree adjudicates priority of water rights on the Boise River. Tom Davis receives Water Right #1.
- 1906** (May) 2,777 Boise school children erect Pioneer Monument on statehouse grounds to commemorate Ezra Meeker's visit and the memory of the Oregon Trail.
- 1906** (May 3) Meridian grants a franchise for electric light service.
- 1906** (June 8) Antiquities Act is enacted to protect historic resources on federal property.
- 1907** Boise's first park, Julia Davis Park, is established in the year that she passes away.
- 1907** Idaho State Historical Society is

1900s

- established.
- 1907 Kuna post office is established.
- 1907 (May 1) Ustick townsite is platted.
- 1907 (May 9) The Haywood Trial begins, Idaho's Trial of the Century. It involves the assassination of Governor Frank Steunenberg, allegedly on orders from top officials of the Western Federation of Miners.
- 1907 (August 16) Boise and Interurban Railway completed between Boise and Caldwell.
- 1907 (Labor Day) Pierce Park is opened on the site of the future Plantation Golf Course.
- 1907 (September 23) Kuna townsite is



Advertisement for land in Kuna, circa late 1900s.
ISHS 74-91.47.

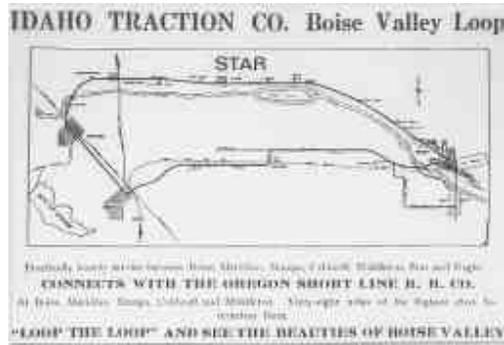
- platted by D.R. Hubbard and F.H. Teed.
- 1907 (October 16) Last and most severe bank panic during the National Banking Era in the United States. It is caused by an effort to corner the stock of the United Copper Company.
- 1908 Kuna's first school is established and is initially housed in a tent.
- 1908 The Palmer-Wehr store is established in Star, eventually becoming the Star Merc.
- 1908 (February) The western end of the New York Canal is completed from Indian Creek to Deer Flat.
- 1908 (July) First interurban rail service to Meridian (franchise granted on March 20).
- 1908 (October 1) Henry Ford introduces his Model T, beginning the age of mass produced transportation.
- 1908 (October 10) The Boise River Diversion Dam is completed.
- 1908 (November 14) The Pioneer Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is organized.
- 1909 Enlarged Homestead Act is enacted, raising the allowable



Graders being hauled by traction engines at Lake Lowell, Canyon County. Source: HAER ID,14-NAMPA.V,1B-50.

- homestead acreage from 160 acres to 320 acres. In 1912 the law was amended to reduce from five years to three years the length of occupancy needed to prove the claim.
- 1909 The Meridian Times is established.
- 1909 (January 9) J.R. Simplot is born.
- 1909 (February 22) The New York Canal is completed and gates of the Diversion Dam opened for the first seasonal irrigation water.

1900s



The route map of the "Valley Loop" electric railroad.
Source: John Bertram, Planmakers.

- 1910** Closure of many Owyhee County mines leads to increased use of Swan Falls power for residential and commercial purposes in the Treasure Valley.
- 1910** Tourtellotte and Hummel is formed, perhaps Idaho's most noted architectural firm.
- 1910** Meridian passes a bond to construct a public water system.
- 1911** (April 19) The first airplane flight in Boise is made at the Intermountain Fair.
- 1911** (May 11) The Eighth Street bridge constructed over Boise River, replacing a private toll bridge constructed by McClelland.
- 1911** (November 9) A railroad is constructed from Barberton to the site of Arrowrock Dam, becoming the United States government's first public railroad.
- 1912** Harry Winford Morrison and Morris Knudsen form a partnership

- to create a construction company that by 2000 evolves into WGI, Inc. Among its major projects are Hoover Dam in 1936 and the Alaska Pipeline in the 1970s.
- 1912** The O'Farrell Cabin restored by the Daughters of the American Revolution.
- 1912** The Idaho Traction Company is formed. The "Valley Loop" trolley system is complete, which provides circulating service to Boise, Eagle, Star, Middleton, Caldwell, Nampa, Meridian, and Ustick.
- 1912** The United States Reclamation Service purchases canal systems owned by the New York Canal Company and the Idaho-Iowa Lateral and Reservoir Company.
- 1912** The central portion of Idaho Statehouse building is constructed.
- 1912** (May 3) The Diversion Dam power plant begins operation. It will supply power for the construction of Arrowrock Dam.
- 1913** Boise Barracks closes.
- 1913** Construction of Arrowrock Dam commences.
- 1913** The State of Idaho issues the first automobile license plate.

- 1913** The Public Utilities Commission is formed to regulate domestic water supply rates.
- 1913** (December 23) The United States Federal Reserve Act is passed.
- 1914** Moses Alexander is elected first Jewish governor in the United States.
- 1914** The Pinafore Operatic Company is founded in Boise.
- 1914** (July 28) World War I begins when Austro-Hungary declares war on Serbia after Archduke Ferdinand is assassinated in Sarajevo on June 28.



The restored 1863 O'Farrell Cabin on Fort Street, Boise.
Staff photo.

1910s

- 1914** (August 15) The Panama Canal opens.
- 1915** A national prohibition law is enacted.
- 1915** (September 13) Kuna is incorporated.
- 1915** (October 4) Arrowrock Dam is dedicated. At the time, it is the highest dam in the world (384 feet tall from base of foundation).
- 1916** The State Highway Program begins.
- 1916** The Stock-Raising Homestead Act is enacted to increase the size of a homestead claim up to 640 acres in order to encourage settling of the driest parts of the United States.
- 1916** Five Treasure Valley electric companies combine to form Idaho Power.
- 1916** (June 30) The Boise and Arrowrock Railroad is abandoned and sold at auction.
- 1916** (September 26) The Boise Zoo is started to house an escaped circus monkey.
- 1917** The first State Fair is held in Boise.
- 1917** (April 6) The United States enters WWI to make “the world safe for democracy.”
- 1918** (June) The first of about a half dozen Chautauquas visits Kuna, a traveling variety show with singers, lecturers and other performers.

- 1918** (November) World War I ends.
- 1919** (May 12) The first Music Week in Boise, the first ever such event in the United States.



Diversion Dam power house under construction March 20, 1912. Source: HAER ID,1-BOISE.V,1-A-37

1910s

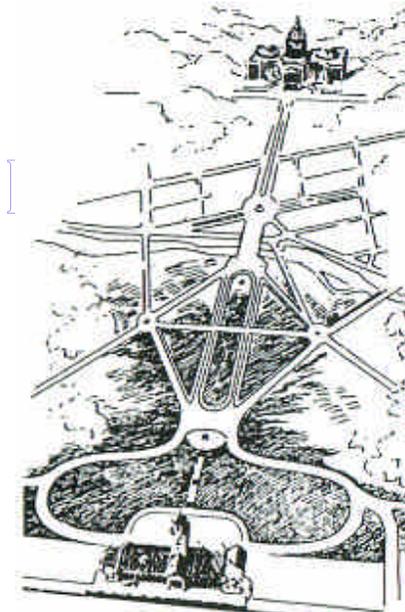


A drink coaster advertising Varney Air Lines.

- 1920** The Boise Zoo hires its first zookeeper.
- 1921** The East and West wings of Idaho Statehouse building are constructed.
- 1921** The Federal Highway Act is enacted to provide funding to help state highway agencies construct a paved system of two-lane interstate highways.
- 1922** Boise's first radio station, KFAU, begins broadcasting at Boise High School.
- 1923** The Morrison-Knudsen Construction Company is Incorporated.
- 1924** A Capitol Boulevard Plan is created for the area between the Boise Depot and the Idaho Statehouse.
- 1925** The Boise Depot is constructed.

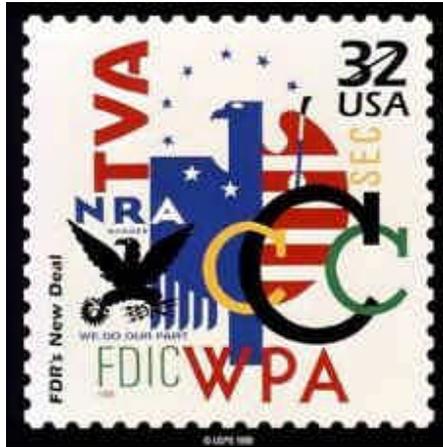
- 1925** (February 2) The Air Mail Act is passed to encourage commercial aviation.
- 1925** (April 16) The first train arrives at Boise's new depot on a new mainline track constructed by the Union Pacific Railroad.
- 1926** The first municipal Boise airport, Booth Field, is established on the present grounds of Boise State University.
- 1926** (April 6) First commercial airline service in the United States (by Varney Airlines, later part of United Airlines) begins between Pasco, WA and Elko, NV, with a stop in Boise.
- 1927** Kiwanis Club erects a stone monument on Bonneville Point to commemorate the first white explorers in the Boise Valley.
- 1927** (April 19) The Ada Theater opens, which is later known as the Egyptian Theater.
- 1927** (September 4) Charles Lindbergh visits Boise on a national tour of all state capitals.
- 1928** The Boise and Western Railway takes over Boise Valley Traction Company lines, continuing to use the line for freight hauling.
- 1928** Commercial radio begins when KFAU is purchased and rechristened KIDO.
- 1928** (May 26) Last passenger interurban railway service.

- 1929** Star disincorporates.
- 1929** The Ada County Dairymen's Association creamery is constructed in Meridian.
- 1929** Property on Eagle Island is purchased for use as a prison honor farm.
- 1929** Meridian celebrates Dairy Days for the first time.
- 1929** (October 29) **Black Tuesday.** Stock market crash leads to the Great Depression.



The Capitol Boulevard Plan.

1920s



A postage stamp commemorating the many programs of the New Deal. Source: USPS.

- 1930** Eagle Island Prison Farm begins operations.
- 1930** United Air Lines purchases Varney Airlines.
- 1930** (March 15) First passenger flight from Boise (to Salt Lake City).
- 1931** Idaho adopts a state income tax.
- 1931** Boise's Zoo gets its first Bengal tiger.
- 1931** Meridian installs "modern trickling filter [sewage] disposal plant."
- 1931** (September 15) Memorial Bridge (over Boise River on Capitol Boulevard) and Varney Airlines hangar are dedicated at a joint ceremony.
- 1932** The Municipal Rose Garden is established at Julia Davis Park.
- 1932** Boise Natatorium is damaged in a windstorm, eventually leading to its demolition.

- 1932** Boise Junior College is founded by Episcopal Church, and will eventually become Boise State University.
- 1932** Boise Art Gallery is opened.
- 1932** Plantation Golf Course is established.
- 1932** Boise enacts zoning regulations (Ordinance #1589).
- 1933** The Farm Credit and Agricultural Adjustment Act is passed to provide subsidies to farmers.
- 1933** The Assay Office is closed, and the building becomes the headquarters for Boise National Forest.
- 1933** (March 4) Franklin D. Roosevelt elected as president. The New Deal begins, providing federal relief, reform and recovery efforts that lead to expansion of federal authority over states.
- 1933** (June 16) National Industrial Recovery Act passed, establishing the National Recovery Administration (NRA) and the Public Works Administration (PWA).
- 1934** Barber Mill is dismantled.
- 1934** The Taylor Grazing Act creates grazing districts on public domain land to be managed by the Bureau of Land Management, and is intended to settle sheep/cattle range wars in favor of cattle interests.

- 1935** Resettlement Administration is organized to help poor families buy farms.
- 1935** Idaho requires all drivers to be licensed.
- 1935** (March 20) Idaho adopts temporary two year sales tax of 2 percent. It is repealed by referendum in 1936.
- 1935** (May 1) Relief Appropriation Act authorizes expenditure of nearly 5 billion dollars and establishes the Works Progress Administration (WPA).



1930s

- 1935** (August 21) The Historic Sites Act is enacted, creating the National Historic Landmarks program and a number of historic surveys (including the Historic American Building Survey).
- 1936** U. S. Senator William E. Borah is the first Idahoan to run for the presidency.
- 1936** The Boise-Payette Lumber Company abandons Barberton.
- 1936** (April 25) The sixth largest flood of Boise River leads to legislature appropriating money to improve the river channel and modify bridges.
- 1936** (December 3) The light cruiser USS Boise is launched at Newport News, Virginia, and commissioned on August 12, 1938. She would receive eleven battles stars for her service in WWII.
- 1937** The Farm Security Administration replaces the Resettlement Administration.
- 1937** Eagle Island Fish Hatchery begins operation.
- 1938** The second Ada County Courthouse opens for business.
- 1938** The Veterans Administration acquires Boise Barracks.
- 1938** Federal Aid Highway Act is passed, leading to a report on the feasibility of constructing a national network of “super highways.”

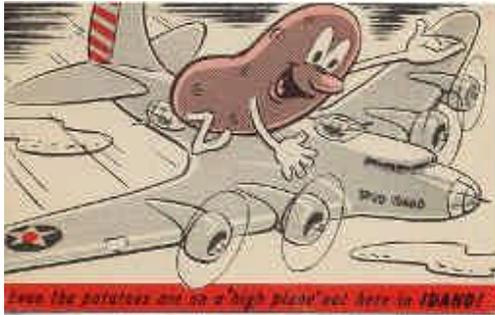
- 1938** The first painting of lane markings begins in Idaho.
- 1938** Boise Airport is moved from Booth Field (BSU) to Whitney Field.
- 1938** (July 11) Lieutenant Paul Gowen dies in a plane crash in the Panama Canal Zone. Whitney Field is renamed in his honor.

- 1939** Booth Field is sold to Boise Junior College.
- 1939** The world’s longest concrete runway is constructed at Boise Airport.
- 1939** (July 21) Joe Albertson opens his first supermarket in Boise.
- 1939** (September 3) WWII begins.



The 1938 Ada County Courthouse, circa 1950s. Source: Mark Ferm family.

1930s



A WWII postcard sent from Gowen Field.

- 1940** Idaho celebrates its fiftieth anniversary as a state.
- 1940** Boise's Idaho Forestry Building is completed by the CCC. It now houses the Log Cabin Literary Center.
- 1941** Bogus Basin is opened for skiing.
- 1941** The Defense Highway Act passed, which contains funding for aircraft landing fields at strategic locations.
- 1941** Army leases a portion of Boise Airfield for use as a training base for bombers.
- 1941** (January 15) The first Army Air Corps units are organized for assignment to Gowen Field.
- 1941** (March 3) Meridian is upgraded to a second class city.
- 1941** (December 8) U.S. declares war on Japan.
- 1941** (December 11) Germany and Italy declare war on the U. S.
- 1943** (February 13) Actor Jimmy Stewart arrives at Gowen Field for bomber training.

- 1943** (April 21) Flood waters spill over Arrowrock Dam, leading to decisions to increase the capacity of Anderson Ranch Dam and to build Lucky Peak Dam. 10,000 acres are flooded in the third largest flood on record, which exceeds channel capacity for 45 days.
- 1943** (November 14) Morris Hans Knudsen, co-founder of the construction firm Morrison-Knudsen dies.
- 1943** (December 17) Chinese Exclusion Repeal Act passed, allowing Chinese to once again immigrate to the United States.
- 1944** (May) First Women's Auxiliary Air Corps (WAAC) unit assigned to Gowen Field.
- 1945** (May 7) Germany unconditionally surrenders.
- 1945** (May 8) World War II ends.
- 1945** (September 2) Japan unconditionally surrenders.
- 1946** A T-Bar installed at Bogus Basin ski area.
- 1946** The Boise Airport Commission is established.
- 1946** The Indian Claims Commission established to correct injustices from acquisition of Indian lands.
- 1946** (July 1) The light cruiser USS Boise is decommissioned.
- 1947** The Idaho State Archives is established.

- 1947** The first Airport Master Plan is prepared.
- 1947** Simplot Co. headquarters is moved to Boise.
- 1947** Gowen Field is reactivated as an Air National Guard field.
- 1947** The Cold War begins, triggering an arms race and fears of communist infiltration in the United States.
- 1948** All Indian schools in Idaho are closed and Indian children start attending public schools.
- 1949** Local option gambling is allowed.
- 1949** The National Trust for Historic Preservation is founded.
- 1949** (June 11) Garden City incorporates as a village.



The crew of the B-17 bomber Yankee Doodle, September, 1942 at Gowen Field. Photo courtesy of the Idaho Military History Museum at Gowen Field.

1940s



Basil Rathbone being interviewed on KIDO-TV.
Source unknown.

- 1950** The Idaho Historical Museum at Julia Davis Park is dedicated.
- 1950** Boise's first wastewater treatment facility is constructed at Lander Street.
- 1950** Anderson Ranch Dam is completed on the Boise River's south fork. The dam's primary purpose is to facilitate reclaiming land for agriculture. At the time it is the tallest earthfill dam in the world.
- 1952** (July 13) The Boise Air Terminal is dedicated.
- 1953** Ada County's first juvenile detention home is built.
- 1953** The Idaho legislature abolishes local option gambling.
- 1953** State Highway 20-26 is renamed Chinden Blvd (derived from CHINese gARDEN). A mail-in contest determines the new name.

- 1953** Meridian Joint School District #2 is formed.
- 1953** Businessmen form the Keep America Beautiful campaign to discourage dumping and littering.
- 1953** The Ditch Safety Committee is formed to improve canal safety.
- 1953** (July 12) Idaho's first TV station is established – KIDO-TV, Boise.
- 1954** The first issue of the Garden City Gazette is published.
- 1955** Star Fire District is formed in response to a 1953 mill fire at the northeast corner of Star Road and State Street.
- 1955** (July 6) Lucky Peak Dam is dedicated. Its primary purpose is for flood control.
- 1955** (August 1) A section of the New York Canal breaks, flooding 200-300 acres of farmland.
- 1955** (November 2) The *Idaho Statesman* runs headline "Three Men Admit to Sex Crimes" leading to near hysteria over homosexuality in Boise. The result is the "Boys of Boise" trial, which ruined the careers and lives of several Boise citizens.
- 1956** (June 29) Federal-Aid Highway Act passed, which leads to 46,508 mile system of interstate freeways. The Highway Revenue Act of 1956 provides a dedicated source of funding for the project.

- 1956** (August) The first professional director is hired for the Idaho State Historical Society.
- 1956** (November) Meridian opens a new sewage treatment plant.
- 1957** Major local employer Boise Cascade (now Boise) is formed from Boise-Payette Lumber Company, Cascade Lumber Company and Valsetz Lumber Company.
- 1957** Natural gas is extended to Meridian.
- 1958** Boise-Stanley Highway Association is established (State Highway 21).
- 1958** A contaminated well closes Mora School (located east of Kuna).
- 1958** (July) Boise Transportation Planning Organization is formed, becoming the Boise Metropolitan Transportation Study in 1964
- 1959** (June 7) Ann Morrison Park is dedicated.
- 1959** (August 20) The Big Mud Bath of 1959 occurs. Cloudbursts, coupled with a recent wildfire, cause debris flows over 10" deep.
- 1959** (September 26) Ada County enacts subdivision regulations.

1950s



I-184, known first as I-180N and then Business Loop I-80, shortly after dedication in 1968. ITD photo.

- 1961** Boise is made a first class city, allowing the city to more easily annex suburbs.
- 1961** (September 17) The Idaho Zoological Society is formed.
- 1962** The Highway Act is passed, providing aid that is conditioned upon comprehensive planning.
- 1962** Rachel Carson's book *Silent Spring* leads to banning of the pesticide DDT.
- 1962** A new ski lodge opens at Bogus Basin.
- 1962** (October 18-29) The Cuban missile crisis.
- 1963** The Clean Air Act passed to control and prevent air pollution.
- 1963** Eagle Sewer District is formed.
- 1963** (November 22) President John F. Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas, Texas.
- 1964** Night skiing begins with installation of lights on the main slope at Bogus Basin.

- 1964** The Urban Mass Transit Act is passed to encourage public transportation.
- 1964** (December 21-23) Several rivers in Southwest Idaho flood, cutting Boise off from train and bus service. Peak discharge is estimated to be a 100 year event.
- 1965** Boise Junior College is granted four year status.
- 1965** Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation is created.
- 1965** The Idaho Urban Renewal Law is passed, setting the stage for redeveloping parts of downtown

- Boise.
- 1965** (March 24) Idaho adopts a permanent sales tax of 3%.
- 1965** (August 23) Boise Redevelopment Agency (later to become Capital City Development Corporation) is established to redevelop Boise's deteriorating downtown core.
- 1966** The concept is approved for a "green belt" along the Boise River.
- 1966** Albertson Foundation is established by Joe and Kathryn Albertson.
- 1966** The Freedom of Information Act is passed.



Idaho Soldier's Home, Boise. Early 20th century postcard.

- 1966** Karcher Mall is built in Nampa.
1966 (October 15) The National Historic Preservation Act establishes the federal historic preservation program.
1966 (November 11) The old Idaho Soldier's Home is closed and a new facility is commissioned on the grounds of the Veterans Administration Hospital.
1967 Boise Shoshoni land claims to the Boise Valley are settled in controversy as part of the Fort Bridger Claim.
1967 The Western Idaho Fair is relocated to the corner of Glenwood and Chinden.
1967 Boise adopts the Greater Neighborhood Renewal Plan.
1968 (April 26) Ada County adopts its first Comprehensive Plan.
1968 (May 20) Ada County's first zoning ordinance is adopted.
1968 (September 26) The Garden City Gazette ceases operations.
1968 (December 12) Boise "Bypass" I-80N and "West Connector" I-180N are completed. The West Connector extends from Maple Grove to Isaac's Canyon interchange.
1968 (December 30) Boise's first urban renewal plan (Idaho R-4) is adopted. The second plan (Idaho R-5) is adopted May 3, 1971.

- 1969** ARPANET, the precursor to the internet, is constructed.
1969 The Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) is established.
1969 The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is passed, requiring environmental analysis for any major federal action. The Environmental Protection Agency is also established.

- 1969** The Idaho Human Rights Commission is created.
1969 The Idaho State Legislature starts meeting annually.



View from Tenth Street looking east as Boise prepares for urban renewal. Source: ISHS 72-57.5.

1960s



The Assay Office, home to the State Historic Preservation Office. Staff photo.

- 1970** The Clean Air Act establishes National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to protect health and the environment.
- 1970** (April 22) The first Earth Day is celebrated.
- 1971** The State Historic Preservation Office is established and commences a statewide survey of historic sites.
- 1971** The Idaho Supreme Court building opens.
- 1971** Boise passes the Greenbelt Ordinance, requiring that buildings and parking be setback 70 feet from the Boise River.
- 1971** President Nixon signs Executive Order 11593, entitled Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment, requiring federal agencies to amend their plans, policies and procedures to preserve, restore and maintain

- historic structures under their control.
- 1971** (May 25) Ada County Highway District is established by referendum.
- 1971** (August 24) The Snake River Birds of Prey Natural Area is established.
- 1971** (November 2) Eagle is incorporated as a city.
- 1972** The Federal Water Pollution Control Act is passed. It is amended in 1977 to become the Clean Water Act.
- 1972** The general use of DDT is banned.
- 1972** The second Alphonsus Hospital is constructed (1055 N. Curtis Road).
- 1972** The old Assay Office becomes offices for the State Historic Preservation Office.
- 1972** (January 1) Ada County Highway District commences operations.
- 1973** The Boise Civic Opera is formed.
- 1973** The Highway Act is passed. A portion of funding goes to Metropolitan Planning Organizations.
- 1973** Hewlett-Packard creates its Boise Division.
- 1973** (April) Boise Library moves to a new building

- located at corner of Capitol Boulevard and River Street.
- 1973** (September 8) The Boise Art Gallery opens, later becoming the Boise Art Museum.
- 1973** (October 3) The groundbreaking for One Capital Center marks the start of Boise's downtown redevelopment.
- 1973** (December 28) The Endangered Species Act is passed.
- 1974** An Emergency Operations Plans is drafted by Ada County and Boise Department of Emergency Services.
- 1974** Boise State College becomes Boise State University.



Buildings of the former Eagle Island Prison Honor Farm at Eagle Island State Park. 1998-2000 Ada County Historic Inventory sites 121-126.

1970s

- 1974** The Safe Drinking Water Act is passed.
- 1974** The term 'internet' is used for the first time.
- 1974** (August 8) President Nixon resigns.
- 1975** Idaho enacts historic preservation legislation.
- 1975** Idaho enacts a local land use planning act.
- 1976** The West Boise Wastewater Treatment Facility is built, Boise's second such facility.
- 1976** The Tax Reform Act of 1976 establishes incentives for preservation of historic structures with a commercial use.
- 1976** (April 19) The Boise City Historic Preservation Commission is founded.
- 1977** The Clean Water Act is passed to regulate the discharge of pollutants into waters of the United States.
- 1977** The Boise City Hall/Ada County Administration Building is constructed.
- 1977** Ada Planning Association (APA) is formed (previously Ada Council of Governments).
- 1977** The Gowen Field Wastewater Treatment Facility is built.
- 1977** Operation of Eagle Island Honor Farm is discontinued. Later in the year the property is set aside for development of a state park.

- 1978** Micron Technology, Inc is founded.
- 1978** The Oregon Trail is designated as a National Historic Trail.
- 1978** The Idaho Oral History Center is established by the Idaho State Historical Society.
- 1978** (September 5) Meridian adopts its first Comprehensive Plan.

- 1979** Boise adopts a Historic Preservation Plan.
- 1979** Land for Albertson Park is donated to Boise.
- 1979** The Archaeological Resources Protection Act is enacted to protect resources on federal or Indian lands.



*A Micron worker in the Company's implant facility.
Source: Micron.*

1970s



A young peregrine falcon.
Source: World Center for Birds of Prey.

- 1980** The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, or Superfund) is passed.
- 1980** (May 1) Interstate Highways I-80N and I-180N are redesignated I-84 and I-184. I-180N was the only three digit interstate highway number to have a suffix.
- 1983** (June 25) Eagle Island State Park is dedicated.
- 1984** The Morrison Center for the Performing Arts opens.
- 1984** The World Center for Birds of Prey is dedicated.
- 1984** Idaho's Protection of Graves Act (Idaho Statute Title 27, Chapter 5) is passed.

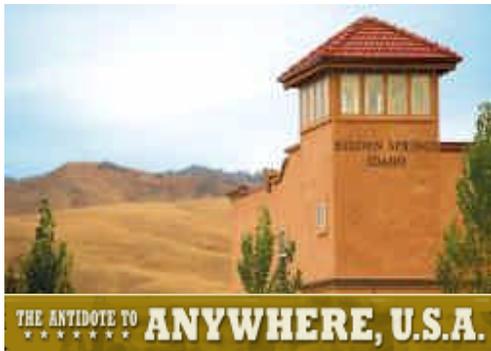
- 1984** (April 18) The first woman District Court judge to be appointed in Idaho, Deborah Ann Bail, takes the oath of office.
- 1986** (June 1, 1985) A statewide disaster is declared due to an infestation of grasshoppers.
- 1986** BSU's Simplot Micron Technology Center opens.
- 1986** (April 26) A nuclear reactor at Chernobyl suffers a disastrous explosion and fire.
- 1986** (November 3) Meridian's Historic Preservation Commission is enabled (ordinance 471).
- 1987** The National Transportation Act is passed, requiring justification for adversely affecting properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
- 1987** The historic Eastman building at 8th and Main is destroyed by fire.
- 1988** Boise Towne Square is opened and becomes the largest mall in Idaho.
- 1988** (August 25) The Ada County Historic Preservation Council is established.

- 1989** Idaho Heritage Trust is established, endowed by 50 cents from sale of every standard Idaho license plate.
- 1989** Harrison Boulevard Historic District in Boise becomes the first historic district in Idaho.
- 1989** (October 17) Kathryn Albertson Park is dedicated.
- 1989** (October 24) Eagle's Historic Preservation Commission is established.



Boise Towne Square, circa 2000. Photo by General Growth Properties.

1980s



*Hidden Springs, Idaho's first modern planned community.
Source: Hidden Springs.*

- 1990** Idaho celebrates the centennial of its statehood.
- 1990** The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act is passed, requiring the federal government and museums to return remains and related funerary objects to tribes and/or descendents.
- 1991** (January 3) The Canyon County Historic Preservation Council is established.
- 1991** (March 23) The nuclear powered submarine USS Boise is launched, and is commissioned on November 7, 1992.
- 1992** The World Wide Web is made public. A graphical interface is introduced in 1993.
- 1992** Linda Copple Trout becomes the first woman elected to the Idaho Supreme Court.
- 1992** Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy is established.

- 1993** The Idaho Military Historical Society is founded.
- 1993** (January 20) Joe Albertson dies.
- 1993** (August 4) The Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area is established.
- 1994** The original Swan Falls powerhouse is decommissioned.
- 1994** The World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame is established at Boise State University.
- 1995** The National Scenic Byway Program is established (it was enacted in 1991).
- 1995** The Idaho Black History Museum is founded.
- 1996** The Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy Annex is constructed.
- 1996** Hidden Springs, Idaho's first modern planned community, is approved.
- 1996** (January) The restored Bown House is open for public use.
- 1996** (August 26) The "Eighth Street Fire" burns

- 15,300 acres, and leads to terracing of the foothills to avoid a repeat of devastating 1959 mudslides.
- 1997** (March 20) Passenger train service to Boise is ended.
- 1997** (December 10) Star once again incorporates.
- 1998** The first Gene Harris Jazz Festival is held.
- 1999** (February) A deep well is activated which injects used water from Boise's geothermal heating system back into the aquifer in order to stabilize water levels.



*Swan Falls Dam, showing new powerhouse plus decommissioned unit.
Staff photo, 2006.*

1990s



The sign and logo for the Western Heritage Historic Byway. Source: ITD.

- 2000** The Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS) is created.
- 2000** Morrison-Knudsen Corporation becomes Washington Group International.
- 2000** (July 28) The Western Heritage Foundation is founded to create the Western Heritage Historic Byway.
- 2001** The Oregon Trail Reserve west of Highway 21 is dedicated.
- 2001** (March 3) Meridian Development Corporation is formed.
- 2001** (September 11) The World Trade

- Towers in New York are destroyed by terrorist attack.
- 2002** (July 1) Caldwell's Historic Preservation Commission is established.
- 2004** (June 11) The reconfigured "Wye" interchange of I-84 and I-184 is dedicated.
- 2005** Avimor Planned Community is granted approval by Ada County.
- 2005** (October) Dry Creek Historical Society is formed.
- 2006** Locally owned grocery chain Albertson's, Inc is sold to out-of-state investors.
- 2006** Idaho State Historic Preservation and Cultural Enhancement (ISHPACE) program is created to provide matching grants for cultural and historic preservation projects throughout the State.

- 2006** (January 16) The Star sewage treatment plant starts operation.
- 2006** (January 26) The Idaho History Center is dedicated.
- 2006** (August) Idaho sales tax is increased to 6 percent as part of a property tax relief scheme.



The Idaho History Center soon after it opened to the public. ISHS photo.

"I am not belittling the brave pioneer men but the sunbonnet as well as the sombrero has helped to settle this glorious land of ours."

EDNA FERBER

2000s



*New York Canal being widened by dredge October 24, 1910.
Source: HAER ID,1-BOISE.V,1-A-39.*

PAST PRESERVATION EFFORTS

Historic preservation in Idaho began in 1881 with the creation of the Historic Society of Idaho Pioneers, a grass roots effort intended to preserve for future generations the story of how Idaho came to be. It was followed in 1907 by the Idaho State Historical Society, a state agency with responsibility for several functions related to preserving Idaho's history.

A number of historical societies have operated in Ada County over time, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Sons and Daughters of Idaho Pioneers, the Columbia Club and others. These groups led a number of important historic preservation efforts, including restoration of the O'Farrell Cabin and other pioneer structures, and creation of the state's historical marker program that is now administered by the Idaho Transportation Department.

Preservation efforts in Idaho began in earnest in 1966 with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. This was later followed by state legislation, which allowed for the creation of historic preservation commissions in 1975. Boise City was the first city in Ada County to form such a commission (in 1976), with Meridian, Ada County, and Eagle forming commissions in the late 1980s.

Before embarking on this plan, considerable staff time had been devoted to an attempt to document all of the efforts of the Ada County Historic Preservation Council since its inception in 1988 (within the limits of the information available in the Council's files). The results are presented within the various sections that appear later in this document.

As part of its past preservation efforts, the Council has conducted extensive inventories of sites throughout the County, has endeavored to educate the public on the importance of historic preservation in many different ways, has encouraged individual property owners to

continue to preserve their historic properties, and found other creative ways of *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*.

The past preservation efforts can be broadly categorized as:

- Surveying and documenting historic sites,
- Education and outreach, and
- Preparation of plans.

The documentation of historic sites is covered in depth in the section of this document entitled Historic Resource Surveys, while education and outreach is covered in depth in a discussion of preservation education activity later in this document.

The third category, preparation of plans, is addressed here. In addition to the strategic plans and interpretive plan prepared by our past Councils, this Council attempted to look back as far as possible at the early efforts of a wide range of groups that have made plans for particular pieces of Ada County. The plans that we found are summarized below. The result of this analysis is that additional historic resources have been added to the County's inventory, new policies are being recommended, and the Council is much more aware of the many others in Ada County that also play a part in *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*.

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION FOR ADA COUNTY, 1973

BACKGROUND REPORT (1972)

This brief paragraph would appear to be the only item of interest in this summary report, however a more detailed document was prepared the following year:

Historical and geological sites and the areas around them are also coming under the attack of development. Perhaps

the most meaningful historical site in the county, the Oregon Trail, is currently being eyed as a future subdivision site. Geological landmarks and sites are not in as much danger since they are usually, by their very nature, not suitable for development. However, landmarks like Tablerock depend upon the open spaces around them to ensure their most dramatic presentation.

RESOURCE INVENTORY, PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS (1973)

Important aspects of this document include the listing of the highest priority historical sites and monuments, geological sites and monuments, and archaeological sites and areas to be preserved in Ada County. While many of these sites are currently protected by some means, there are a number that are under Ada County's jurisdiction that had fallen off our radar screen. The sites discussed in this plan are presented below with commentary provided by the Council as to their current status and/or condition (site numbers used in the report are noted in parentheses):

Historical Sites and Monuments

- **Initial Point (#2).** Site of the origination point for the public land survey system in Idaho. While this property is on the National Register, it is inadequately signed and needs some attention due to the impacts of off road vehicle use and other disrespectful use of the surrounding public land.
- **Shaw Mountain mines (#9).** This property appears to lie mainly within the public domain, under supervision of either the Bureau of Land Management or the United States Forest Service. Both of these agencies have programs that may aid in documenting and protecting these resources, though some County participation would also likely be instrumental in initiating this process.
- **Idaho City toll road (#11).** See comments for Shaw Mountain mines.

- **Thurman's Mill (#17).** Demolished prior to 1964. At the time the report was written, the mill ditch and minor artifacts were all that remained.
- **Strawberry Glen Bridge (#18).** Removed approximately 1980. A subdivision north of the bridge was approved about that time.
- **Rocky Canyon of Willow Creek (#20).** This appears to be on private property. The property includes parts of the Healey Toll Road and possibly other historic roads. It is not included in any survey of historic sites that has been completed by the County. A very small portion abuts the Avirmor Planned Community.



Initial Point. Photo by Idaho Transportation Department.

Geological Sites and Monuments

- **Rocky Canyon of Cottonwood Creek (#2).** See comments in the Historical section under Shaw Mountain mines, Idaho City toll road.
- **Lucky Peak mining district (#7).** Some, or all, of this district may, or may not, be on private property. There is considerable private property in the area of Aldape Summit,

while other adjacent lands appear to be primarily controlled by the BLM.

- **Rocky Canyon of Willow Creek (#8).** See comments under Historical sites.
- **Kuna Cave (#9).** It was noted in the Western Heritage Historic Byway Management Plan that Kuna Cave is located on private property.
- **Initial Point (#10).** See Historical section.
- **Third Bench (# 11).** This area saw limited development in the 1970s and there is some gravel extraction in progress in proximity to Pleasant Valley Road. One or more planned communities and/or expansion by Boise City is likely to include portions of this geologic feature and development pressure will be high due to views of the mountains and surrounding countryside. Few public lands exist today along the third bench.
- **Volcanic cones south of Gowen Field (within Idaho National Guard training range) (# 14).** This feature is on public land and an EIS was prepared in 1988 for the Orchard Training Area that mitigates the impacts on the area from use by the military.

Archaeological Sites and Areas

- **Sites along Indian Creek, Five Mile Creek, Sand Creek and the Boise River are noted as potential sites for archaeological exploration.** Currently subdivision development of these areas within unincorporated Ada County is only possible within the Boise City Area of City Impact Area. Within the Southwest District Overlay of Boise’s impact area it is required that all natural waterways be left in an unaltered state, thereby minimizing negative impacts to potential archaeological resources. Likewise, the Boise River Greenway Overlay District established setbacks and other measures for preserving resources along the Boise River. Crossing of most of these waters is likely to result in a crossing permit from the Corps of Engineers that triggers

Section 106 review, which would require a site investigation for historic and cultural resources.



Rocky Canyon (Cottonwood), May 2006. Staff photo.

WESTERN IDAHO FAIR MASTER PLAN, 1983

While the Fair is of historic interest, having celebrated its centennial recently, it is unlikely that there are any aspects of the current facility that need to be considered in this Plan. The Fair was moved to its current site at State and Glenwood in 1967. It appears from this Plan and Arthur Hart’s book detailing the history of the Western Idaho Fair that there are no known historic resources on the site.

DRAFT EIS, ORCHARD TRAINING AREA DEVELOPMENT, 1988

This plan states that in 1985-1986 the area was surveyed in transects with 200-meter intervals, plus specific investigations of areas of high cultural resource potential (playas, intermittent streams, mountain tops and butte tops). One unidentified site and the Higby

Rockshelter were documented within the areas of the range intended for use by the National Guard.

The Council has considerable assurance because of federal review processes that any cultural or historic resources with the Orchard Training Area will be avoided or adequately mitigated.

LUCKY PEAK MASTER PLAN, 1989

Produced by the Army Corps of Engineers. Historic facilities within the Lucky Peak site include the Mary Hallock Foote House site, the dam itself (constructed 1955), and possible pre-historic sites.. The plan provides little discussion of cultural or historic resources, though interpreting the aesthetic, ecological and cultural resources of the project and its environs is recommended. The plan gives brief mention to the Foote House, which had been located at the base of Lydle Gulch, including a suggestion to rebuild the exterior of the structure with interpretive facilities on the interior. This does not appear to be clearly stated in any implementation measures for the plan.

POTENTIAL PUBLIC PRESERVATION SITES, 1993

A report was issued in February, 1993 by the Boise City Heritage Preservation Committee on **Potential Public Preservation Sites**. The report does not mention any representation by Ada County staff, but the scope of the report does include areas within unincorporated Ada County. A total of 42 sites were listed.

The report identified the following sites that lie at least partially within unincorporated Ada County as potential preservation sites (the number in parentheses indicates the priority rank assigned by the report first, and the number in brackets is the site number):

- (1) Cottonwood Creek and Military Reserve Extension [15 and 16]
- (8) Barber Pool Area [41]
- (9) A “Rare Plant Reserve” north of Cartwright Road [6]
- (16) Stuart Gulch [7]

- (17) Polecat Gulch [5]
- (18) Pierce Gulch [4]
- (22) Southwest Boise Flats [34]
- (24) New York Canal [33]
- (32) Five Mile Creek [35]
- (33) Oregon Trail [31]
- (34) Eight Mile Creek [36]
- (35) Paris Lateral [37]
- (42) Braemere Property [42]



*New York Canal, main canal drop to Indian Creek, July 1918.
Source: ISHS 61-165.19.*

Few of these sites have thus far benefited from any focused preservation efforts. A nature preserve has been established in the Barber Pool area. Polecat Gulch has been preserved for public use and an application to create trailheads to the property was submitted to the County in 2006. Five Mile Creek and Eight Mile Creek have benefited from Ada County Code’s Southwest Planning Area Overlay District. This requires that streams and riparian areas within

the district be left in a natural state. Though the County has allowed minor changes in channel alignment, mainly because many of these channels have been altered by historic farming use of abutting properties. The requirement to leave these streams in a natural state has resulted in these creeks being preserved since these regulations went into effect around the late 1990s. In addition, the Army Corps of Engineers claims review authority over these streams, so a Section 106 review is required as part of the process for obtaining a permit to alter these streams.

The New York Canal and Paris Lateral are at least partially protected because Ada County's subdivision ordinance mandates a 30-foot setback from the normal high water line of such watercourses (per ACC 8-6A-7).

The County's comprehensive plan contains many policies for preserving what remains of the Oregon Trail, though it would be wise to enact specific regulations to assure that this actually happens. Some small sections of the trail were lost to development around the year 2000 as a result of not having such regulations in place.

Cottonwood Creek and the Military Preserve Extension are largely on properties owned by Boise City and the Bureau of Land Management, though a portion of the site is on state endowment land that could be sold in the future to finance school operations.

Many of the sites mentioned in this report are mainly open space sites. They contribute to Ada County's heritage by preserving historic vistas. Preserving large tracts of land is more of a function of the County's Parks and Waterways Department than it is of this Council, though the Council fully supports this endeavor.

A STUDY AND ACTION PLAN FOR IDAHO'S COMMEMORATION OF THE OREGON TRAIL SESQUICENTENNIAL: 1993 AND BEYOND

This plan provides an overview of the Oregon Trail and its alternate routes, documents available historic resources and summarizes existing efforts, such as preservation, education, and enhancement. It concludes by making the following recommendations:

1. **Commemorate the Sesquicentennial.** This anniversary has come and gone, so no need to analyze this subject.
2. **Education.** Among the recommendations that might be pertinent to the Council are Oregon Trail Maps/Brochures, and slide shows/video presentations. The Oregon Trail provides a unique opportunity for the Council to highlight the significance of the Oregon Trail to Ada County's history.
3. **Trail Marking.** The BLM has marked sections of the Oregon Trail and other historic roads in eastern Ada County, while various parks in the County commemorate, mark and/or interpret the Trail. As additional access is gained to parts of the trail currently in private ownership, this presents an opportunity to the Council to encourage the continued effort to mark and interpret this important historic resource.
4. **Special Events.** The special events envisioned were largely to promote the sesquicentennial. Some have survived as ongoing or periodic events.
5. **Marketing and Promotion.** This focused on coordinating efforts with jurisdictions along the length of the trail to maximize return on investment of effort and funds.
6. **Auto Tour Routes.** An auto tour route was established using highway system and other improved roadways that closely approximated the route of the Oregon Trail.
7. **Tour Route Signs.** Signs have been placed along the route, though currently it often is not clear when the route leaves or enters the interstate highway system.
8. **Facilities.** The plan calls for manned and unmanned visitor centers and interpretive displays to help interpret trail

facilities to travelers and residents. Facilities within Ada County include those in the Barber Pools area, within the Oregon Trail Reserve, obelisks marking the Oregon Trail route through Boise, and a proposed trailhead facility at the Oregon Trail intersection at Highway 21 in southeast Boise.

9. **Recreational Use.** The plan calls for monitoring any destructive use of the trail and recommends acquiring access rights across private property. It specifically calls for developing the trail for use by hikers, bikers and equestrians from Amity Road to Bonneville Point, and to create a trail that connects with the Boise River Greenbelt Trail.
10. **Research.** The report makes recommendations for further research. Within Ada County they recommend archaeological explorations at Fort Boise in areas facing disturbance by humans.
11. **Publications.** The plan encourages local entities to develop free handouts describing emigrant trail resources in their local area.
12. **Historic Protection.** The plan recommends that emigrant trail resources are properly addressed and recommended for protection within the comprehensive land use plans of jurisdictions that contain portions of the Oregon Trail.
13. **National Historic Trails.** This outlines the responsibilities for management of National Historic Trails. It recommends that ISHS work with other agencies and private interests to obtain this designation for alternate routes to the Oregon National Historic Trail.
14. **Visual Corridors.** The plan recommends maintaining scenic values and to reduce the risk of adverse impacts.
15. **Funding.** The funding information has become outdated and thus no attempt was made to analyze this information.

SNAKE RIVER BIRDS OF PREY NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN, 1995

Originally published in 1985, the management plan was updated in December, 1995 and in late 2005 the BLM was in the process of updating the plan again.

The land within the NCA is largely owned by the Bureau of Land Management. Notable exceptions in the proximity of Swan Falls Road are dairy farms along Kuna Cave Road and another along Poen Road, plus a dozen or so private residences along Poen Road.

The Council recommends adopting a comprehensive plan policy that explicitly states that no rezones are allowed within this area. It would be preferable for property owners that wish to develop to seek a land swap with the BLM for land outside the conservation area.

ANNUAL CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT REPORTS

An annual cultural resources management report for the Snake River Birds of Prey NCA is required to be prepared each year, with copies being provided to SHPO and other interested parties. Copies of such reports were not located during our research for this plan.

IMAGINE INTERPRETIVE MASTER PLAN FOR ADA COUNTY, 1995

The Council commissioned an interpretive master plan as a way to pull together all the interpretive efforts that had previously been made up to that point. The result, **Imagine: Interpretive Master Plan for Ada County** by Vicki Jo Lawson of Shared Visions, was completed in May 1995. Some progress was made toward implementing this plan, notably signage for three National Register properties, an updated driving tour and some walking tours of the smaller communities in the western part of the County. The present Council is committed to pursuing signage for the other National Register properties in unincorporated Ada County, and should begin

by determining the property owner's willingness to have such signs erected on their property.

There were some suggestions of the plan that are no longer deemed practical. One was an audio tour (too many format options, such as cassette tape, CD, digital). A specific project was not mentioned and it seems that distribution of such a product would make the per-unit cost prohibitively expensive, and it would likely reach few people. Another suggestion was working with a now defunct regional television travel program to promote County sites.

The current Council has created a new walking tour of Kuna and has updated an existing walking tour of Star. Future plans should include other walking, driving, and/or bicycle tours, an overview of Oregon Trail resources in the County, plus hands-on tours of individual sites throughout the County.

RIDGE TO RIVERS PATHWAY PLAN, 1996 UPDATE

This is a key planning document for Ada County, as compliance with this plan is a required finding for Planned Unit Developments and Master Site Plans. It is not required for standard subdivisions or rezones, and other hearing-level development review. However, for these processes, it is required that the development be in conformance to the applicable comprehensive plan. Boise's plan does require compliance, and the 1996 Ada County Comprehensive Plan's policy 5.1-11 requires "referring" to Ridge to Rivers in the development review process, while policy 9-3.1 calls for "evaluation" of the plan.

The significance of the plan from a historic preservation perspective is that it calls for setting aside portions of the Oregon Trail in East Boise for public use. The plan also encourages coordinated efforts (Recommendation 3.3) for educational signage efforts along trail corridors, such as the greenbelt and the Oregon Trail.

It is very significant that the plan calls for Ada County to take the lead in securing access to and managing the Oregon Trail corridor within its jurisdiction (Recommendation 4.6). The County's Parks and Waterways Department has recently been working toward fulfilling this mandate.

RESERVES MASTER PLAN, 1996

The Reserves Master Plan focuses on the future of Hull's Gulch/Camel's Back Park Reserves and the Military Reserve. There have been resource surveys conducted in various parts of these properties, though the resources found were of small significance and did not warrant listing the site on the National Register of Historic Places.

Plans for interpretation include documenting prehistoric and historic uses of the land, man's misuse of the land in Hull's Gulch/Camel's Back and Fort Boise and the use of an old toll road in the Military Reserve. These efforts are intended to be low-key, so as not to generate large crowds in these areas.

While the plan did not give specifics on the "old toll road" it is likely this is the Idaho City toll road that followed Shaw Mountain Road over Aldape Summit into Boise County.

BOISE RIVER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND MASTER PLAN, 1999

This plan identifies a number of educational opportunities along the Boise River, including interpreting historic resources. It notes two books describing the history of the Boise River: *When the River Rises* by Susan M. Stacy and *The History Along the Greenbelt* by Jim Witherell. The plan recommends seeking partners to participate in creating and implementing an interpretive program. The pathways represent an opportunity to interpret the area history, particularly to two groups of people that are very likely to utilize such facilities: pedestrians and cyclists.

The Boise River is in close proximity to many historic sites and structures that together give a fairly good overview of the development of Ada County. These include the Mary Hallock Foote homestead by Arrowrock Dam, the Diversion Dam and New York Canal, the former Barberton townsite and mill, Barber Dam, the Ridenbaugh and Penitentiary Canals, the Old Penitentiary, Julia Davis Park, the old 8th Street Bridge, Eagle Island and the early irrigation diversions around Star, plus many historic buildings in downtown Boise.

BOISE FOOTHILLS OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR PUBLIC LANDS, DRAFT, 2000

This document summarizes pertinent goals, policies and objectives related to open space for Boise City, Ada County, Boise County, Idaho Department of Lands, Idaho Fish and Game, Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service. It states that only a fraction of the area within the foothills has been systematically surveyed for cultural or historic resources. A total of 130 sites existed at the time the report was written, with the majority being surveyed after the “1996 8th Street Fire” (August 26, 1996). Of these, 100 sites are archaeological sites that cannot be disclosed to the general public.

EAGLE ISLAND STATE PARK MASTER PLAN, 2000

Purchased in 1929, the Eagle Island State Park site was originally created as a minimum-security prison site, and many remnant buildings of this operation and its farm were still in existence during the latest Ada County historic resources survey (1998-2000). The plan identifies three historical areas where preservation of historical integrity and structural integrity is of paramount importance, and it is stated that interpretation is to be emphasized. The historical areas identified include the slaughterhouse, the old prison dormitory and dairy barns.

PAYETTE RIVER SCENIC BYWAY CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN, 2001

The plan mentions two historic resources along the byway within Ada County – Eagle’s Heritage Park and the downtown Eagle historic area. They recommend Eagle as an interpretive gateway site and they mentioned creating a byway brochure, though it is not known if either of these objectives was accomplished. There are historic roads and a stage station in and around the Boise County/Ada County line. Developing interpretive facilities for these resources might have been a possibility for this plan, but it appears that an overriding goal was to use the plan to encourage visitors to stop at the many small communities along the route by placing interpretive facilities within each community.

The corridor is defined as the area visible from and extending along the highway from Eagle to New Meadows. The plan does not suggest appropriate land uses within the corridor, leaving open the possibility of development that could be incompatible with the goals of the byway.

PONDEROSA PINE SCENIC BYWAY, 2001

While this byway begins in Boise and terminates in Stanley, the plan focuses almost entirely on Idaho City, and as such does not provide any meaningful opportunity for it to be integrated with the Council’s interpretive plans.

OREGON TRAIL PARKWAY PLAN, 2001

This concise plan was used to celebrate the Oregon Trail by improving pedestrian access and enhancing the neighborhood along Boise Avenue, the historical pathway of the Oregon Trail into Boise City.

The plan has at least two values for our Council:

1. It provides a framework for the Council to use in achieving a similar project, in that it lists grant opportunities and

depends upon partnering with other groups (in this instance neighborhood groups) to make the plan a reality.

2. Any future efforts to interpret other sections of the Oregon Trail in Ada County should be integrated with the interpretive panels along this route and those at Barber Park and the Oregon Trail Reserve.

A VIEW TO THE FUTURE: A COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN FOR IDAHO, 2002

This plan sets the goals and objectives for preserving the historic and cultural resources of the State of Idaho. It discusses the role of the State Historic Preservation Office, provides an overview of Idaho's cultural resources and the trends affecting them, provides an overview of historic context frameworks and summarizes state and federal legislation that enables historic preservation. The plan represents a good foundation for entities within Idaho to begin their own preservation planning efforts, providing an excellent overview of the fundamentals of preservation planning.

BARBER POOLS MASTER PLAN, 2002

The United States Army Corps of Engineers prepared this plan. While it is somewhat wildlife-centric, since the Barber Pools area is an important wildlife habitat area, the plan does not turn its back to historic and cultural resources. There are objectives for providing public education of historic and cultural resources to the public, to provide interpretive signage for such resources and to complete a cultural resource survey of the area. The plan also recommends consultation with SHPO prior to any alteration of the land.

The headquarters for the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation is located within the Barber Pools area, next to the site of the Shakespeare Festival. This points out a potential for partnering with Parks staff in educating the public of this area's rich cultural resources, including many native sites of significance, many sites associated with the earliest days of white settlements in the Boise Valley, several early irrigation projects representative of the

evolution of public policy regarding desert reclamation, plus sites representative of the area's once dominate natural resource-based economy.

BARBER PARK MASTER PLAN, 2003

The site of Barber Park is important historically for its role in the various activities of the nearby Barber Mill and dam site, and for being located at the headgate of the Ridenbaugh Canal, an early canal system that led to development of large scale agriculture of the bench lands above the Boise River. The plan does not address any of the historic legacy of the park area, and there are currently no plans to interpret this information to the general public.

BOISE NATIONAL FOREST LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN, VOL 1, 2003

Through land swaps, it appears that less and less of the Boise National Forest exists within Ada County's jurisdiction, so the opportunities for Forest Service participation in the documentation and preservation of cultural resources in parts of the foothills may be lost. However the USFS does have an objective of preparing a cultural resource management area for lands under their jurisdiction. At one point their holdings included lands traversed by historic roads and possibly some historic mining activity.

WESTERN HERITAGE HISTORIC BYWAY CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN, 2004

The Western Heritage Historic Byway begins on Idaho State Highway 69 (SH-69) near the southerly boundary of the City of Meridian and extends 40 miles to Swan Falls Dam through high desert beauty abundant with historic, scenic and geologic wonders. At the time of its creation, it was one of only six historic byways authorized by the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD). The corridor management plan was adopted in September 2004.

The review process for establishing the Byway resulted in the following Vision Statement, Mission Statement and Goals:

VISION STATEMENT

The Western Heritage Historic Byway, where the Stone Age meets the Age of Energy, will provide to all visitors a unique opportunity to learn more about Idaho's pioneer history, gain a deeper appreciation of the state's archaeological past, and provide an engaging discovery of Idaho's high desert wildlife, its night sky, and geology in a pristine high desert setting.

MISSION STATEMENT

To protect, enhance, and achieve responsible stewardship of the wildlife, land, archaeology, and geology along the Western Heritage Historic Byway.

GOALS

- To preserve, enhance, and showcase select geologic, wildlife, scenic, historic, cultural and recreational resources along the byway, while respecting local residents and lifestyles.
- To attract local, regional, and international visitors to southwest Idaho to enjoy rewarding and memorable experiences of the people and places along the byway.
- To provide visitor services that consider access, safety, and convenience for people of all ages.
- To maintain the byway's unique cooperative partnership of local, state, private, and federal agencies in implementing byway improvements.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

- That the historic Silver Trail be designated on Ada County and Kuna Comprehensive Plan Maps.
- That the protection and preservation of historic barns and outbuildings along SH-69 be encouraged through comp plan policies and development ordinance incentives.



*Kuna's first school.
Photo from Kuna Library.*

- That interpretive signage along the byway be provided/upgraded regarding the history of the railroad, irrigation, and other important reminders of our past.

ANNUAL STATUS REPORTS

Annual status reports are recommended in the Corridor Management Plan, though it seems this has not happened.

STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION AND TOURISM PLAN, 2003-2007

This five-year plan is produced by Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, and a 2006 update is currently in progress. While cultural and historic resources have a minor role in this plan, the plan

does include a goal to “integrate historic, cultural and heritage opportunities in outdoor recreation and tourism.” Implementation strategies include involving other agencies in their planning efforts, strictly adhering to SHPO rules regarding protection of cultural and historic resources, and promoting Idaho’s historical and cultural resource sites as tourism destinations when appropriate.

It also points out the federal Recreation Trails Program of 1998, which provides funds to states for recreational trails and trail related projects. This is of interest to Ada County since the Oregon National Historic Trail bisects the County. This represents a potential funding source for plans to preserve and enhance sections of the Oregon Trail.

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

“The prudent heir takes careful inventory of his legacies and gives a faithful accounting to those whom he owes an obligation of trust.”

JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY



*Fort Boise circa 1870. Source:
Idaho State Historical Society.*

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEYS

Before any meaningful historic preservation effort can be undertaken, it is essential to understand available resources. We need to ask ourselves what should we attempt to preserve? This provides the context for determining the relative importance of any particular site. For instance, if a barn will be impacted by development, is it the only such barn in the County? Is it the best-preserved example of a particular type of barn? This sort of information provides the basis for prioritizing preservation efforts.

To this end the Council has commissioned several surveys over the years, with the result being that virtually the entire County has at least undergone some form of broad reconnaissance-level survey effort. Several areas have been surveyed more than once, and in order to maintain eligibility for CLG grants the existing surveys are required to be updated periodically in the future. This allows the opportunity to assess what resources have been lost over time and to add new resources as additional properties meet the 50-year threshold for consideration of eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

SURVEY LEVELS

There are two general levels of surveys for large areas: reconnaissance and intensive. Reconnaissance surveys are a once-over review of an area and an attempt to quickly characterize its resources. An intensive survey attempts to describe in greater detail the historic resources being studied in order to better assess each site's historic significance.

These surveys can potentially lead to an interest in obtaining even more detailed information, such as through a National Register nomination form. This requires a detailed history and an assessment of how the resource contributes to at least one of four criteria for listing on the National Register (this topic will be discussed in detail later in this plan). Documentation for HABS/HAERS/HALS (discussed in later chapters) is even more detailed, with the added requirement of measured drawings and large format photographs.

SURVEY TYPES

There are a number of approaches for determining what historic resources are considered in a survey. The vast majority of Council-sponsored studies use the systematic approach, where all resources within a discrete geographic area are considered. The Council has also sponsored a thematic approach survey where resources of a specific theme (e.g. irrigation) are considered. In addition, the Council co-sponsored one crisis approach survey within the Boise City Area of Impact, in which the properties surveyed were based upon the strength of the threat from urbanization. Yet another approach is the timeline approach, which was partially utilized in our thematic irrigation study. A timeline approach would look at structures in order of age or look at structures that pre-date a critical event.

GENERAL SURVEYS

1989

FARMSTEAD SURVEY

A farmstead survey completed in 1989 was conducted in response to a crisis of farmlands rapidly succumbing to urbanization within the Boise City Area of City Impact. It was performed by SHPO staff during 1985-1989. The initial effort was a reconnaissance level survey of 1880-1940 farmsteads within the project area (which only included those areas of most imminent change). This led to four sites being intensively surveyed because they were under imminent threat of development.

ADA COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES: A RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY

The Council began their task of *Preserving Ada County's Heritage* by commissioning a survey of sites of potential historic significance, entitled **Ada County Historic Resources: A Reconnaissance Survey** by Belinda Davis and Barbara Perry Bauer, which was completed in August 1989. This survey listed 174 sites throughout the unincorporated County and within the jurisdictions of Star, Eagle and Kuna.

1990

HISTORY OF THE SCHOOLS, BOISE, IDAHO

Oscar Nelson released a book entitled **History of the Schools, Boise, Idaho** in June 1990 that documents the public schools that have existed within the Boise Independent School District (which covers roughly one third of the developed area of Ada County). A small number of the schools were then and some are still now located within unincorporated Ada County. Documenting the school sites within the Meridian and Kuna school districts represents a potential opportunity to document and preserve the history of rural schools within Ada County. This was considered as a potential FY 1999 project for the Council to undertake, but it appears this never happened.

Doug Rutan wrote a history of the Meridian School District. The Council should endeavor to review this document prior to undertaking any effort to document remaining rural schools in the area.

A STUDY OF IRRIGATION AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF ADA COUNTY

A Study of Irrigation and the Development of Ada County by Belinda Davis, was completed in August 1990. This reconnaissance survey was conceived as one of perhaps several more detailed studies to explore appropriate themes, districts or structures throughout the County. The study detailed 243 sites thought to have been in existence prior to 1915. The consultant recommended detailed, intensive level investigations of five sites, that three other sites been investigated further, and that the entire Waldvoegel Canal be intensively surveyed, as it was found to be very rich in historic sites. There is no indication in Council files that any of these recommendations were implemented. Councilman Al Bolin, a retired Bureau of Reclamation engineer, began this follow up in March 2006. While it appears that it was too late for many of the sites recommended by the consultant, the follow-up work is being



*Callopy Gates, New York Canal
at Indian Creek. Staff photo.*

done and the results will be published in the future.

1991

STAR HISTORIC DISTRICT FEASIBILITY STUDY

Next came the **Star Historic District Feasibility Study** by Planmakers, which was completed in 1991. It detailed the history of Star, Idaho and provided a list of historic resources that might be included in a Star Historic District. The study recommended more intensive survey work, conceptual plans, identified potential projects, recommendations and actions for the Star community. It also recommended the formation of a Star History Committee, retaining the Star Depot for public use, and writing a booklet on the history of Star.

There is no record in the Council's files that a Star History Committee was ever formed, and there is no evidence of one in existence today, though employees of the Star Branch Library assumed this duty, at least for a brief time in 2005. The Star Depot has been restored and is currently used as a coffee shop. No comprehensive history of Star has yet been written.

A note in the July 16, 1992 Council minutes expresses some displeasure with this report, in that it led to the 1992 Star Historic



Star's First School, built 1870s, moved to Star 1887. Source: ISHS 2179.

District Feasibility Study. That study determined that a historic district in Star was not feasible, contrary to the findings of the 1991 study.



The former home of Dr. O. W. Hall, one of the structures envisioned to be part of a proposed Star Historic District. 1998-2000 Ada County Inventory site #33.

1992

STAR HISTORIC DISTRICT, PHASE I

In August 1992 a report entitled **Star Historic District, Phase I** by Kate O'Brien Reed was prepared as a follow up to the recommendations contained in the 1991 feasibility study of Star. This study began by evaluating the 93 potential historic properties identified in the initial 1989 reconnaissance survey and the 1991 Star feasibility study for whether they met minimum eligibility requirements for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The report concluded that there were not enough thematically related historic buildings of sufficient integrity to warrant a National Register Historic District in the Star area.

The minutes of April 9, 1992 state that the consultant advocated a multiple listing approach, which would approach Star as a rural agricultural district. This recommendation was never acted upon.

BOISE CITY AREA OF CITY IMPACT WINDSHIELD SURVEY OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

Also in August 1992 the report **Boise City Area of City Impact Windshield Survey of Historic Resources** was completed by Donna Hartmans. The purpose was to identify historic resources under threat by rapidly increasing urban development. It surveyed three areas: areas north and south of the old Ustick townsite in west Boise (Ustick Road, between Five Mile and Cloverdale), an area from around West State Street north to the southern end of Seaman's Gulch Road, and an area of east Boise that includes Table Rock, the Oregon Trail and the Barber mill and townsite. Most of these areas are now within the jurisdiction of Boise City.

Boise City has for a number of years been working with residents in the vicinity of the Ustick townsite to create a master plan for preserving and enhancing this area. This has been a long term, ongoing effort that still has not reached a conclusion. As a result, developers have discovered the narrow modular lots that were created by the townsite plat, and as a result the area is now predominated by modern "shotgun" houses (sometimes called "snouthouses"). The prospects for continued preservation of historic residences in this area is not good, as the majority of older residences lack sufficient floor space sought by current buyers and the increased land value at some point will favor replacing them with more modern structures that fulfill current market demands. Increased traffic on Ustick Road could lead to widening that would threaten the few remaining commercial buildings located near Mumbarto Road. If this were to happen there would be virtually no historical cohesiveness left to the neighborhood.

The West State Street area has seen intense development over the past decade, thanks to the provision of public sewer and water to the area by the City of Boise and United Water of Idaho. This has lead

to losing nearly all traces of the old interurban street car system in this area, which is a vitally important link to our past and the initial reason for much of the early development along this corridor. All the sites studied were identified as being under eminent pressure from development and/or road widening or other public improvements.

The East Boise area faired better. The controversial expansion of Warm Springs Mesa was redesigned to avoid building on the ridgeline of the area, but it is not known if this avoided all impacts to the archaeological resources noted in the report. In addition, the development of land south and east of Barber Park provided an opportunity for the bulk of the Oregon Trail remnants in the area to be preserved, including the Kelton Ramp just west of Highway 21. The County is currently in the process of attempting to protect the remaining remnants east of Highway 21 to Bonneville Point.

1993

ADA COUNTY MINE OUTLINE

The Council's files contain an "Ada County Mine Outline" that contains no information as to author or the date compiled. The Council's 1993-1994 Strategic Plan suggests that it was compiled by Sharon A. Murray in 1993, a council member at that time. There is no indication in the Council's files whether the Council had thoughts of pursuing this as a thematic study or if they had intended to incorporate it into their outreach and education efforts. The outline lists about three dozen Ada County mine sites. The majority of the mines are far from any paved roads, and thus not under any pressing threat of development.

NORTHEAST BOISE FOOTHILLS CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY FINAL REPORT

In August 1993, a final report entitled **Northeast Boise Foothills Cultural Resources Survey Final Report** by Science Applications International Corporation was presented to the Council. This was an intensive sample study performed with the help of BSU students with the intention of giving the Council an understanding of the

prehistoric and historic cultural resources located in the northeast Boise Foothills.

The report recommends the following:

1. Conducting limited additional surveys in the project area to test the reliability of “defined sensitivity sectors,”
2. Refining the sampling approach used in this study and applying it elsewhere in the foothills,
3. Developing a long term arrangement with state universities to jointly conduct surveys that would provide valuable information to the County and provide opportunities for students to gain field experience, and
4. Conducting surveys in the fall when vegetation is reduced and ground surface visibility increases.

A review of Council files would seem to indicate that the recommendations of this report were not acted upon, with the exception of a reliability test, which was performed in 1995 as part of the assessment of Dry Creek Valley resources.

This survey points out the weakness of most of the surveys conducted by the Ada County Historic Preservation Council – that they were conducted almost exclusively from the public right of way, which would make many resources on large acreages inaccessible to the survey takers.

1995

A CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY OF SELECTED PARCELS IN THE DRY CREEK VALLEY

A Cultural Resources Inventory of Selected Parcels in the Dry Creek Valley, Ada County, Idaho by CGM Services, Inc was completed in August 1995. This was a **Class III** archaeological inventory of 718 acres in the Dry Creek Valley northwest of Boise, Idaho. The effort was noted as being part of an attempt to inventory cultural resources “on all unincorporated land within Ada County.” Property owners in the area offered considerable resistance to this survey, which limited the study’s scope. The report contained no recommendations relating to the preservation of resources found in the study, but did recommend continuing the testing of survey sampling methods noted in the 1993 northeast foothills report.

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT



*The Schick-Ostolasa
Farmstead, an early
pioneer dwelling located
next to Dry Creek. Ada
County 1989
Reconnaissance Survey
site #50.*

1998

ADA COUNTY HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY PHASE I FINAL PROJECT REPORT

The County began a comprehensive reconnaissance-level survey in 1998, choosing to split the project into three phases. The first phase produced **Ada County Historic Sites Inventory Phase I Final Project Report** by Renewable Technologies, Inc. This report focused on the northwestern portion of the County, primarily the Star and Eagle areas, inventorying a total of 100 sites.

The consultants recommended completing two additional survey phases, which were completed in 1999 and 2000. They also recommended a National Register Multiple Property listing for “historic farmsteads of rural Ada County.” This was done in 2002.



*The former Star depot for the Boise Valley Interurban Railway, now a coffee shop.
1998-2000 Ada County Inventory site #28.*



*A concrete-stave double silo east of Meridian.
1998-2000 Ada County Inventory site #218.*

1999

ADA COUNTY HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY PHASE II

The second phase of the comprehensive reconnaissance survey was completed by The Arrowrock Group, Inc in August 1999 with the production of **Ada County Historic Sites Inventory Phase II**. The scope of this phase was the entire western half of Ada County as split by Hwy 55 and Pleasant Valley Road, excluding the extent of Phase I and the incorporated limits of Boise, Kuna and Meridian. It surveyed 200 properties.

The consultants recommended that portions of Joplin Road be investigated as a potential historic district, specifically in the area of the Joplin Farm at the end of Cloverdale Road. It also recommended Ustick Road from Cloverdale to the County line as another potential historic district related to the interurban line that ran down Ustick, due to the use of the line to ship products to market from local farms and dairies.

Nothing in Council records indicates that there was consideration of following up on these recommendations. A recommendation to incorporate survey results into Ada County's planning process would be partly implemented in 2000.



*Water tank at former Orchard townsite.
1998-2000 Ada County Inventory site #358.*

2000

ADA COUNTY HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY PHASE III

The third phase of the comprehensive reconnaissance survey was completed by The Arrowrock Group, Inc in August 1999 with the production of **Ada County Historic Sites Inventory Phase III**. This covered the remaining eastern half of the County, excluding properties within Boise city limits, and it covered a few sites in the Phase II area that were overlooked plus properties within the city limits of Kuna. A total of 102 sites were surveyed.

The survey recommended that there be follow up to determine how sites inventoried in the vicinity of Avalon Orchard Tracts (an early 1900s plat) relate to this development. It was also recommended to gather oral histories from six specific individuals, and to further investigate Kuna Orchard Tracts, Avalon Orchard Tracts, and the communities of Orchard, Mora and Pleasant Valley. It was once again suggested that Ada County incorporate the survey results into their planning processes.

With the exception of the last suggestion, there is no indication in Council records that there was any implementation of these recommendations.

2001

Some time after the three phase comprehensive survey of historic resources was completed, a GIS theme was created to map the locations of all of these properties. It is speculated that this work was likely completed in early 2001. While this effort is invaluable, it fails to include all the historic resources within the County, or at least there are many resources identified in pre-1998 studies that are not included in this GIS theme. This has been problematic, as at least one important historic resource, the Schick-Ostolasa Farmstead, was not identified when the Hidden Springs Planned Community was being reviewed. The result of this was that the public was almost asked to provide funds to purchase this property (at a cost of about \$150,000), even though its preservation should have been a condition

of approval for the development. While the potential for further such instances is remote, County staff shall endeavor to map the results of older studies and clearly establish that all sites surveyed by the County be considered as part of the development review process in Ada County to minimize the prospect of sites being overlooked in the future.

Also in 2001, the three-phase comprehensive reconnaissance survey results were compiled into the Council's first book: **Patterns of the Past: The Ada County Historic Site Inventory**. This book also contained specific recommendations for the Council. Largely they echo the recommendations of the 1998, 1999 and 2000 surveys, with the following exceptions:

1. Compile and publish a comprehensive research guide and bibliography related to Ada County's rural and agricultural history.
2. Provide a series of public presentations on Ada County's rural history. An alternative would be to put together a small traveling display that could be set up at libraries, museums, city halls, shopping malls and other public gathering places in the county.
3. Create a series of maps displaying historical sites and events, based upon distinct themes of the County's development. Themes could include mining, farming, ranching, early settlements,

community and rural development, early transportation systems, and agriculture-related industries. These could be developed using the County's GIS mapping system, with the potential of eventually making this information available on the internet.



Old stone bridge near former community of Pleasant Valley. 1998-2000 Ada County inventory site #402.

RESOURCE REPORTS FOR MAJOR LAND USE PROPOSALS

Proposed large developments, such as planned communities, are required to investigate and document historic resources in and near their sites, hopefully to influence how the sites are designed. As such, these proposals often generate new information about cultural and historic resources in the County. A major component of these sorts of developments is an attempt to create a unique identity, which often draws heavily on the history of the site. As such, plans for interpreting this history is often a key to implementing marketing strategies for these developments, which creates a vested interest by developers to be thorough in performing this research.

2004

AVIMOR PLANNED COMMUNITY

The Avimor planned community is located on the Spring Valley Ranch in the Boise Foothills east of Highway 55. An 1897 map labels the ranch headquarters (located in Boise County just north of the planned community) as "Howell." A historic road, Broken Horn Road, leads through the property to the former mining town of Pearl.

As part of the application process the developer performed a record search through the State Historic Preservation Office. The only surveys conducted on the site were those by the Idaho Transportation Department in connection with Highway 55, though a historic farmstead and former stage stop are located just north of the project boundary in Boise County. In addition, a surface survey was conducted in 2003. It was noted in the report that historic use by Native Americans is likely, and historic maps indicate that several residences were located on the Spring Valley Ranch property in the past (this property is vastly larger than the Avimor site). The report concludes by recommending at a minimum that a professional cultural resource inventory be performed for those areas to be impacted by development in order to facilitate planning the developable areas of the site.

2006

THE CLIFFS PLANNED COMMUNITY

SWCA Environmental Consultants performed an intensive pedestrian survey of the subject property, recording a number of previously undocumented sites, including two with eligibility on the National Register of Historic Places. The final report contains recommendations for documenting these two sites and one additional site that requires additional investigation. SHPO approved these recommendations and the developer agreed in writing to abiding by them.

This site overlooks several very significant sites in Idaho's history: historic Native American encampments, Lucky Peak Dam, the Mary Hallock Foote home site ruins, the New York Canal and Diversion Dam, the Barber Dam, pools and town site, Bonneville Point, the Oregon Trail and the Kelton Road. If the community is approved, these resources should be interpreted for future.

REVIEW DRAFT

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS

There are a number of properties within Ada County that have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Summary information about these sites can be found on the National Park Service website, and copies of nominations can be requested from the State Historic Preservation Office. Those properties nominated by the Council are described below.

1991

DRY CREEK ROCKSHELTER

A National Register Nomination was completed for **Dry Creek Rockshelter**, a prehistoric site in the Boise Foothills. Because of its sensitive archaeological nature it is not possible to publish detailed information about this important resource.

1997

BOISE-SILVER CITY ROAD

The Council was successful in nominating a segment of the **Boise-Silver City Road** in Kuna to the National Register of Historic Places on July 15, 1997. The road is significant as it was the main stage and freight route between Boise and Silver City until the Oregon Short Line Railroad reached Nampa in 1883. The road was primarily used by freighters after this time, on into the twentieth century. This portion of the road is located on private property.

2002

MITTLEIDER FARMSTEAD HISTORIC DISTRICT

A National Register nomination was submitted for the **Mittleider Farmstead Historic District**. This property was homesteaded prior to 1910, but it was not a viable farm until irrigation finally reached the property a short time later. The farm buildings on the site date from the mid to late 1940s, with the house having been built in the early 1940s. The property is significant in that it showcases the transition from traditional building forms to post-war farm building types, materials and technologies.



Mittleider Barn. Site 264, 1998-2000 Ada County Historic Sites Inventory.

MULTIPLE PROPERTY DOCUMENT

Also in 2002, a **Multiple Property Document** was submitted to the National Park Service. This document provides the historical context portion of a National Register nomination for agricultural properties within Ada County. The intent was that this would reduce the individual cost of listing properties. However, no proposals to list agricultural properties have since been made.

2004

STAR CAMP QUAKER REVIVAL GROUNDS

A National Register nomination was submitted for the **Star Camp Quaker Revival Grounds** in Star. The property was placed on the Register on April 27, 2005. It is significant as being representative of an example of Religious Revivalism in America in the mid-20th century in a small rural community. A barn-like tabernacle is the only surviving structure on the site.



Concrete rubble at the site of Star Camp, a religious revival camp now owned by the Friends Church. 1998-2000 Ada County Inventory site #15.

2005

SCHICK-OSTOLASA FARMSTEAD

A consultant was hired in late 2005 to finalize a National Register nomination for the **Schick-Ostolasa Farmstead**, which is located in the Dry Creek Valley within Hidden Springs. The property is significant in that it was built around 1868 (possibly earlier) and the property has seen relatively little interior alteration since the late 1800s. A review of County records suggests that perhaps a dozen pre-1870 structures remain in a relatively unaltered state in Ada County, virtually all of which are within Boise City limits. Of these, no more than a handful exist in their original context. If this information proves accurate, that would make the Schick property the oldest surviving pioneer structure outside of the City of Boise that remains on its original foundation and within its original context.

The nomination form recommends further study of the site and its buildings to securely date them and understand their construction techniques. Comparing the farmstead to others in the area will reveal a greater knowledge of early homesteads, their inhabitants and how they lived.

The property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 23, 2006.

OTHER DETAILED SURVEYS

HABS/HAERS/HALS

Dozens of Historic American Buildings, Historic American Engineering Record and Historic American Landscape Survey reports have been prepared for sites within Ada County, most within Boise City Limits. Information about these sites can be found through various websites, including the American Memory project of the Library of Congress.

PLANS FOR FUTURE SURVEYS

Several policies/implementation strategies have been developed as a result of the process and analysis of creating this Preservation Plan and are included in its final section. These include following up on consultants' recommendations as noted in the analysis above and performing a periodic update of the Ada County historic resources inventory (approximately every 10 years). As part of the public review process for this plan, input was solicited as to the need for any additional studies.



*"The laws of a nation form
the most instructive portion
of its history."*

EDWARD BIGGON

Diversion Dam shortly after completion November 22, 1908. Source: HAER ID,1-BOISE.V,1-A-35.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION LAW

Federal legislation has formed the foundation upon which Idaho’s historic preservation legislation is based. Therefore, we begin by summarizing the progression of Federal historic preservation legislation over time. These acts generally only affect activities on

public and tribal lands, with the possible exception of Section 106 review under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which can also affect projects receiving Federal funding or requiring Federal approval.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

THE ANTIQUITIES ACT OF 1906

Enacted June 8, 1906, this act makes it a crime to harm any historic or prehistoric resource on federal property. It gives the President authority to proclaim historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, or other objects of historic or scientific interest on lands owned or controlled by the Federal government. It gives the Secretaries of the Interior, Agriculture and War the authority to allow examination of ruins, excavation of archaeological sites and gathering of objects of antiquity within their respective jurisdictions.

THE HISTORIC SITES, BUILDINGS AND ANTIQUITIES ACT OF 1935

Enacted August 21, 1935, this act created the National Historic Landmarks program, the Historic American Buildings Survey, and led over time to the creation of the Historic American Engineering Record and the Historic American Landscapes Survey.

THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966

The legal basis for historic preservation took a dramatic turn with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which was enacted on October 15, 1966. The Act:

- Establishes the National Register of Historic Places, which also includes National Historic Landmarks.
- Provides a process for placing sites on the Register that requires consultation with the property owner.
- Provides for the curation of historical records and artifacts and provides standards for documenting historic properties.

- Certifies local governments for participation in the National Register of Historic Places program in order to receive allocation of grant funding administered through the National Park Service.
- Provides that at least every four years that the State Historic Preservation Office shall review significant threats to properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register.
- Outlines the process for creating and maintaining state historic preservation programs.
- Authorizes grants to states, the National Trust, and Indian tribes, as well as for threatened National Landmarks and for protection of religious properties.
- Requires the development and implementation of a comprehensive preservation education and training program.
- Requires that any federal undertaking take into account the effect upon any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register (commonly referred to as Section 106 review).
- Creates a fund for carrying out the provisions of the Act.
- Requires that the heads of federal agencies take responsibility for the preservation of historic properties owned or controlled by such agency (Section 110).
- Establishes the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.
- Authorizes participation in the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property.

- Requires (under Section 304) that any public official receiving grant money under the Act is required not to disclose information to the public about the location, character or ownership of an historic resource if there is a risk that such disclosure may:
 - Cause a significant invasion of privacy;
 - Risk harm to the historic resources; or
 - Impede the use of a traditional religious site by practitioners.
- Establishes a National Center for Preservation Technology and Training.
- Plus other programs not directly related to the likely endeavors of Ada County.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 1 1593

President Richard Nixon issued this order, instructing Federal agencies to direct their policies, plans and programs such that federally owned sites, structures or objects of historical, architectural, or archaeological significance are preserved, restored and maintained. This required Federal agencies to locate, inventory and nominate to the National Register of Historic Places all properties under their control that appeared to meet minimum standards for listing on the Register. It also required greater consideration before property was sold, demolished or substantially altered.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES PROTECTION ACT OF 1979

An act intended to protect archaeological resources on public and Indian lands and to foster increased cooperation between the government and the professional archaeological community. It establishes a permit system for excavating or removing archaeological resources from public land.

TAX REFORM ACT OF 1986, AS AMENDED

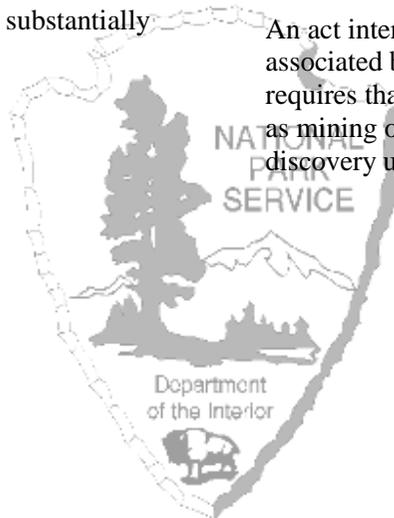
It wasn't until 1976 that the nation's tax laws were modified to try to provide some financial incentives to preserve privately owned historic structures. These incentives were updated by the 1986 Tax Reform Act. Enumerating the specifics of these incentives is beyond the scope of this Plan, as the Act has been revised over time and not all provisions apply to all cases. Generally, these incentives are for income-producing properties that are listed on the National Register.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 1987

Section 4f of this act requires justification for adversely affecting properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT OF 1990

An act intended to protect any Native American graves and associated burial goods discovered on Federal or tribal lands. It requires that if such items are discovered as part of an activity such as mining or agriculture, that such activity be stopped in the area of discovery until the appropriate Federal agency is notified.



STATE LEGISLATION

IDAHO STATUTES TITLE 18, CHAPTER 70, SECTION 35: DAMAGING CAVES OR CAVERNS UNLAWFULLY.

This statute makes it a misdemeanor to damage a cave or cavern or to remove any archaeological artifacts found within a cave or cavern without the permission of the owner.

IDAHO STATUTES TITLE 27, CHAPTER 5: PROTECTION OF GRAVES.

This statute prohibits the willful disturbance or destruction of human burial sites, prohibits possession of artifacts or human remains taken from a grave other than as authorized, and provides for professional archaeological excavation.

IDAHO STATUTES TITLE 31, CHAPTER 8: PROPERTY TAX LEVY

Idaho Statute 31-864 provides that counties (not cities) may levy a tax of “not more than twelve one-thousandths percent (.012%) on each dollar of market value for assessment purposes of taxable property within the county” to fund historic preservation societies and museums within the county that operate as non-profit corporations. This statute allows for such funds to accumulate up to an amount equal to twice the annual levy authorization. Based upon a valuation in 2005 of applicable taxable property in Ada County of about \$28 billion dollars, this provision could enable the collection of more than \$3 million dollars per year for historic preservation purposes.

This funding mechanism was discussed with SHPO staff. To their knowledge, there is no jurisdiction in the State of Idaho that takes advantage of this funding source.

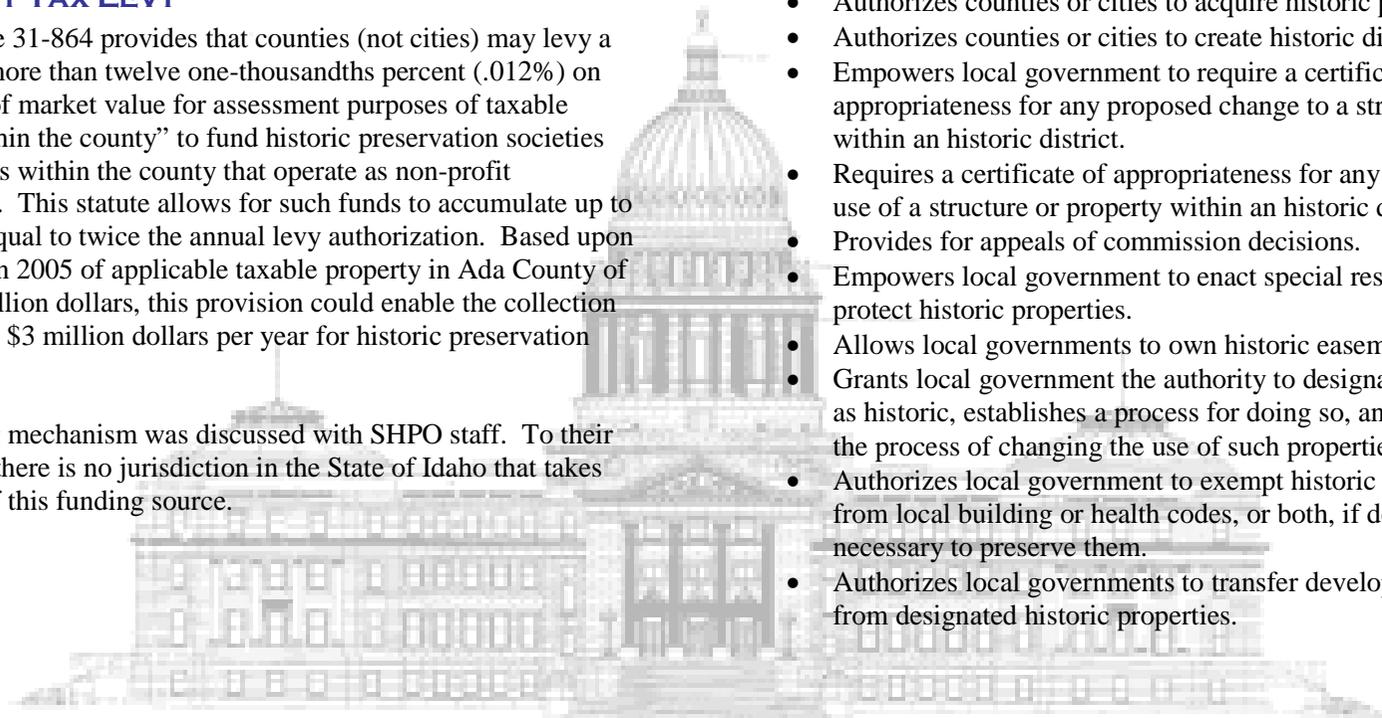
IDAHO STATUTES TITLE 67, CHAPTER 41: STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Establishes the ISHS, provides for designation of historic sites, sets penalties for damage to archaeological or historical sites and requires permits for excavation of archaeological sites.

IDAHO STATUTES TITLE 67, CHAPTER 46: PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC SITES.

Enacted in 1975, this statute allows for the following:

- Creation of preservation commissions.
- Enumerates the powers and duties of commissions.
- Grants authority for a property tax levy to fund preservation commissions.
- Authorizes counties or cities to acquire historic properties.
- Authorizes counties or cities to create historic districts.
- Empowers local government to require a certificate of appropriateness for any proposed change to a structure within an historic district.
- Requires a certificate of appropriateness for any change in use of a structure or property within an historic district.
- Provides for appeals of commission decisions.
- Empowers local government to enact special restrictions to protect historic properties.
- Allows local governments to own historic easements.
- Grants local government the authority to designate properties as historic, establishes a process for doing so, and allows for the process of changing the use of such properties.
- Authorizes local government to exempt historic properties from local building or health codes, or both, if deemed necessary to preserve them.
- Authorizes local governments to transfer development rights from designated historic properties.



COUNTY LEGISLATION

ADA COUNTY CODE TITLE 8 CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE D: HISTORIC PRESERVATION

A chapter of the Ada County zoning code dealing with Historic Preservation and the duties and responsibilities of the Ada County Historic Preservation Council was enacted on August 25, 1988 as Ordinance 192. Originally codified as Title 8, Chapter 20, in 1999 it was moved to Title 1, Chapter 10, Article A, and in 2004 it was moved to Title 8, Chapter 7, Article D. The ordinance has changed little since it was enacted, being closely modeled on the state enabling legislation. Minor changes in the number of Council members and other details have been made from time to time. The Council is currently pursuing changes to put such details in the bylaws, thereby avoiding the need for the long public hearing process required for amendments to the zoning code.

ADA COUNTY CODE SPECIFIC HISTORIC PRESERVATION REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

BUILDING REGULATIONS

The Ada County Building Division has accepted alternative means or methods of construction documented by any provision of any approved or adopted code. This includes ASTM STP 1258, as found in Preservation and Rehabilitation by Stephan J. Kelly, which provides alternative means of determining how older methods of construction can be calculated to meet current requirements.

ACC 7-2-2, Exceptions to Regulations

This provision exempts agricultural buildings from building permit review, as long as they are not used as a residence, as a place used by the public or as a place of employment where agricultural products are processed, treated, packaged, or sold.

ACC 7-2-3, Adoption of Codes

This provision details building codes adopted by Ada County. This includes the 2000 International Building Code appendix J, supplemental accessibility requirements for qualified historic buildings and facilities.

ZONING REGULATIONS

ACC 8-1B, Nonconforming Property, Use or Structure

ACC 8-1B-4E, Nonconforming Use

Ordinance 389, enacted on June 14, 2000, added this provision, which exempts properties listed on the National Register from the regulations of ACC 8-1B-4, Nonconforming Use. This would appear to allow any current or former use of a National Register listed property, even if the use is currently prohibited in the zone. It also allows a nonconforming use to be expanded or extended and does not force the nonconforming use to become conforming if the use or a structure housing the use sustains damage that requires repairs that exceed more than 50 percent of its current assessed taxable value.

ACC 8-1B-5E, Nonconforming Structure

Ordinance 389, enacted on June 14, 2000 added this provision, which exempts structures listed on the National Register from the regulations of ACC 8-1B-5, Nonconforming Structure.

This provision allows a nonconforming structure to be damaged by more than 75% of its assessed taxable value without it being forced to become conforming. The nonconformity of such structures generally relates to building setbacks (often reduced over time due to roadway widening), so this provision would allow a structure to be rebuilt within a setback (i.e. outside of the currently allowable buildable area) rather than requiring that any reconstruction conform to current setback requirements.

ACC 8-2A-6, Non Farm Subdivision

The purpose statement allows the clustering of rural residential development under this provision in order to preserve natural, historic and cultural resources. A non-farm subdivision allows a doubling of available density in exchange for the temporary preservation of 75% of the open space of the site. The open space is not permanent. Once the site becomes eligible for a rezone (after public sewer and water and other services are available), the open space can be redeveloped, putting the future of any historic resources in doubt.

ACC 8-2E, Planned Community District

Each planned community allowed by Ada County creates its own development regulations, which can include unique regulations written specifically for the planned community, or it can adopt all or portions of the Ada County Code.

Ideally all historic resources for a planned community would be identified up front and included in their development plan and natural features analysis for the property with the developer's intentions for such resources being clearly stated in the development plan. However, the plans for the first two planned communities approved by Ada County are non-specific about what should become of identified historic resources.

ACC 8-2E-4B(2) requires that the goals, policies and objectives proposed for a planned community address several factors, including "special or sensitive areas." In addition, ACC 8-2E-4B(11) requires a dedicated open space plan, which may include historic and/or cultural resources. Finally, ACC 8-2E-7 requires a finding that the proposal must comply with all local, state and federal plans and regulations.

The requirement to address special or sensitive areas is open to interpretation and needs to be more specific. The Council recommends a Section 106-level review as a minimum requirement.

ACC 8-3C, Southwest Overlay District

This district requires that streams be left in a natural state. A 30-foot setback from the high water line of the stream is required for new subdivisions (per ACC 8-6A-7A). The only crossings allowed are for road or utility crossings. Stream corridors are important areas for learning about Native American cultures, as they were sites for hunting, fishing, and other uses.

Because the streams are left in a natural state with a 30-foot buffer, site archaeology should remain intact. And any crossings that require a federal permit would require a Section 106 review of historic and cultural resources prior to any construction.

ACC 8-3D, Planned Unit Development

The purpose statement of this provision states that a planned unit development is an appropriate tool to protect historic resources. The planned unit development process allows for the clustering of uses and relaxation of development standards in order to achieve the PUD's purposes.

ACC 8-3G, Boise River Greenway Overlay District

This district acts in much the same way as ACC 8-3C to preserve archaeological sites. It differs in that a 100 foot setback from the Boise River floodway is required for all fences and structures, providing additional protection to possible archaeological sites.

ACC 8-4J, Dedicated Open Space Standards

This provision lists "use associated with an historic structure" as being compatible within a dedicated open space area.

ACC 8-4E, Master Site PlanACC 8-4E-4D Natural Features Analysis

Item 6 of this provision requires an analysis of existing historic resources "as identified on the Ada County historic resources inventory." This term is undefined in the Ada County Code, however the subtitle of *Patterns of the Past*, the results of reconnaissance surveys conducted on behalf of the Council in 1998, 1999 and 2000, is *The Ada County Historic Resources Inventory*. Therefore, this provision has been interpreted as applying only to those properties listed in the book. This is flawed, as discussed earlier in this plan, because:

1. The County's surveys are limited to properties that are viewable from the public right-of-way, and
2. It was noted that a number of important resources were inadvertently overlooked as part of the surveys leading to this book.

ACC 8-4E-4I, Historic Features

This requires that site development "conserve identified historic features" to the greatest extent possible. No other Ada County Code provision imposes this requirement, though it should probably be required for subdivisions, planned unit developments and planned communities as well.

ACC 8-6, Subdivision

ACC 8-6-3D. Natural Features Analysis

As under a master site plan, item 6 of this provision requires an analysis of existing historic resources “as identified on the Ada County historic resources inventory.” See the discussion under master site plan (ACC 8-4E-4D) for additional information. A natural features analysis is also required for any planned community (per ACC 8-2E-4B(4)).

ACC 8-6A-7. Design Standards, Watercourses

Watercourses, which by definition include a natural or man made channel or conveyance system for carrying water, require a 30-foot structural setback from the normal high water line. This helps prevent negative impacts to historic canals and to natural creeks and rivers that were potentially used by Native Americans.

ACC 8-21A, Hidden Springs

The regulations for Hidden Springs are found at ACC 8-21A. They identify three resources that were recorded as part of studies commissioned by the Council in 1989 and 1991. The specific plan contains general statements regarding the preservation of the 130+ year old farmstead. Fortunately, in 2006 the developer entered into an agreement whereby the County will obtain title to the remaining farmhouse and most outbuildings if a portion of the Hidden Springs boundary is adjusted in the future to allow further development east of Hidden Springs.



*Former Governor Cecil Andrus reports for jury duty.
Painting by Zella Strickland.*



COURT DECISIONS

Court decisions, especially those at the highest levels of the State and Federal judiciary are helpful in clarifying the limits of authority of regulatory agencies. The case of Penn Central was crucial in establishing the legitimacy of historic preservation, while also explicitly stating what aspects of New York City's preservation activities and accomplishments supported their authority.

PENN CENTRAL

In the decision for *Penn Central Transportation Company v. New York City*, 428 U.S. 104, 98 S. Ct. 2646 (1978), the U.S. Supreme Court for the first time recognized that protection of historic resources is a legitimate exercise of the local government "police power." The outcome of the case was influenced by the comprehensive manner in which the New York Landmarks Preservation Commission systematically surveyed the city to identify all potential landmarks and districts.



The historic 1938 Ada County Courthouse. Staff photo.



Petroglyphs, undisclosed Ada County location. Staff photo.

*“Research is to see what everybody
else has seen, and to think what
nobody else has thought.”*

ALBERT SZENT-GYORGYI

INTEGRATION WITH LAND USE DECISIONS

Ada County is the reviewing authority for development proposals within unincorporated portions of Ada County, while within incorporated areas the individual municipalities have responsibility. The previous sections provided an overview of Ada County's authority in regulating development as it relates to historic preservation. This section is an overview of how and when the development review process under the County's jurisdiction considers impacts to historic properties. Any required Federal or state review would be in addition to what is discussed here.

There are generally three levels of development review under the Ada County Code, as allowed under Idaho statutes Title 67, Chapter 65.

1. **Zoning Certificate Review:** Principally permitted uses, such as single-family dwellings, that do not require a master site plan require only a zoning certificate to assure that the use is allowed within the applicable zoning district, that the property is eligible for a building permit, the proposal complies with applicable overlay districts and the proposed development complies with applicable dimensional standards (buildings setbacks, lot size and required street frontage). No public input is required in this process and no conditions can be imposed upon these approvals.
2. **Administrative Level Review:** Other more common and smaller scale development proposals require administrative review. Such projects also seek the input of the public and affected public agencies, but no public hearing is required. A detailed report is compiled to document compliance with all applicable provisions of the Ada County Code and other relevant regulations. It is possible to condition the approval to ensure that required findings can be made. While it is possible to place limited conditions and terms of approval on these projects, there is no authority in these reviews to

require avoiding or mitigating impacts to historic sites and structures.

3. **Hearing Level Review.** Certain types of development have impacts beyond what development standards can reasonably be expected to account for, so this category of development proposals requires public review and allows the County to place conditions on the development to mitigate potential development impacts or in order to make the required findings for approval. Such reviews seek input from the public and affected public agencies and require notice to the public and a public hearing. Rezones and plats require a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission before a decision is reached by the Board. All other processes go directly to the decision making body, which is either the Planning and Zoning Commission or the Board of Ada County Commissioners, as specified in the Ada County Code.

As part of administrative and hearing level proposals, an analysis of compliance with the governing comprehensive plan is required prior to making a decision. Outside of areas of impact, the County's Comprehensive Plan is applicable (these are generally rural lands that allow a maximum density of one unit per 5 acres [10 acres maximum, unless development is clustered to temporarily preserve open space], with the exception of planned communities). Within areas of city impact, the comprehensive plan of the individual cities applies, though in reality, development is only possible within the areas of city impact for Boise, Star and Eagle. This is because the City of Meridian has a policy that they will not extend public services (mainly sewer and water) to unincorporated areas, so there are virtually no development proposals within their area of city impact. Currently a lack of sewer capacity in Kuna makes rezones, and thus more intense development, impossible in their area of city impact.

ZONING CERTIFICATES

Zoning certificates are issued for principally permitted uses or approved conditional uses. There currently is no required review of historic resources for principally permitted uses, other than compliance with applicable overlay districts. While enacting a provision to require an analysis of historic resources prior to issuing a demolition permit would seem to be a worthwhile pursuit, the reality is that permits for such activity are taken out in a very small minority of cases. So at best it would be a little bit like trying to fetch water in a very leaky bucket. Because of strong private property rights laws in Idaho it may be very difficult to craft such laws without making the County potentially liable for an uncompensated taking of the use of private property.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Uses that are principally permitted, but that are not exempt from Master Site Plan requirements, are required to prepare a natural features analysis as outlined under ACC 8-4E-4D. Section 6 of this code provision requires an analysis of existing historic resources as identified on “the Ada County historic resources inventory.” Once a resource is identified in the review process, it is up to the individual planner, in conjunction with the developer and the public, to determine how to mitigate any development impacts.

The Master Site Plan process also requires under ACC 8-4I that “The proposed site development shall conserve identified historic resources to the greatest extent possible.” While this sounds great, “greatest extent possible” is open to interpretation, and the Ada County Code does not define “identified historic resource.” Does this mean any structure on our inventory or a SHPO inventory? Regardless of condition, site integrity and/or uniqueness? The answer would always depend upon the particular circumstances, as a very unique or rare resource might be desirable regardless of condition, while a more common resource might only be required to be preserved if it were in exceptional condition.

A zoning certificate is also required for administrative approvals.

PUBLIC HEARING REVIEW

Applications that require public hearing review must consider historic resources if a master site plan is required, or if the property is being subdivided. The Subdivision chapter of the Ada County Code (ACC 8-6) has natural features provisions identical to those found in ACC 8-4E-4D (they are located at ACC 8-6-3D), however it does not have the additional requirement to preserve “resources to the greatest extent possible” as found under ACC 8-4I.

However, since a significant number of subdivisions are proposed under the Planned Unit Development Overlay District (ACC 8-3D), there is some ability to attempt to protect historic resources in such instances on a case-by-case basis. The PUD provisions are specifically intended to alter development standards to preserve things such as historic sites or structures.

At a minimum, it should be required that any development that proposes to destroy or negatively impact an historic site or structure should provide an analysis of alternatives that could potentially preserve the resources or mitigate the impacts.

*“Efforts and courage are not enough
without purpose and direction.”*

JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

PUBLIC SECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Ada County feels that the public sector needs to encourage the preservation of the County's historic legacy by preserving important structures, educating all segments of the population, regulating the use of land in order to be sensitive to historic and cultural resources and by being a good steward of our shared legacy. The best way to do this is for the County to lead by example.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF HISTORIC SITES

Ada County currently does not own any structures of historic significance, but it owns sites of historic significance:

- Barber Park is located adjacent to a portion of Barber Mill Site, an important sawmill and wood products production facility on the Boise River east of Boise. It is also near the headgate for the Ridenbaugh Canal.
- The site of Hubbard Reservoir is being sought by the County in 2006 for use as a park. It is significant in the story of irrigation and the development of rural Ada County.
- Up until 2002 the County owned the Art-Deco styled courthouse located east of the Statehouse in Boise. Unfortunately the sale did not have any stipulations as to the future of the building, despite it being listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and its long term fate is still unclear. It was in imminent peril of demolition for quite some time, but in 2006 received at least a two-year reprieve while being used as temporary office space during the restoration of the Statehouse located next door. To raise awareness of the importance of saving this building the County funded a history of the courthouse, the result of which is a book entitled *Echoes from the Ada County Courthouse, 1938-2001* by Arthur A. Hart. The purpose was to help the Legislature make an informed decision about the future of this important historic resource.
- In the future the County is slated to acquire the Schick-Ostolasa Farmstead, which will be maintained and managed by the Dry Creek Historical Society.

- The County owns land along Highway 21 that contains remnants of the Oregon Trail. Plans are under way to provide a trailhead and to acquire easements for the public over private property to the east of the proposed trailhead.

The County should enact policies stating that preservation of historic sites and structures that it owns is a high priority, and make it a matter of policy that if the County sells such a site, that due consideration be given to structuring the sales contract to assure that preservation of the site is the first consideration of the new owner. The County should also consider acquisition of historic properties that can be adaptively reused to meet the needs of government and/or the public.

STAFFING

Perhaps the easiest way for Ada County to be a leader in encouraging the preservation of dwindling historic resources in Ada County is to provide sufficient staffing devoted to this purpose. This assures consistent direction and support for the Council and provides an opportunity to create a strong foundation from which to work. The City of Boise has a five member staff in their Design Review/Historic Preservation division, plus three people in the Office of the City Historian. While Ada County does not have a need for design review since we don't have historic districts to administer, there is a significant need to follow through on previous efforts to encourage private property owners to preserve the many historic properties throughout the County that are important to us all.

At present staffing is limited (an average of eight hours per week). This level of commitment limits the potential effectiveness of the County's program, shifting the majority of the burden onto the Council and those that volunteer to assist the Council with its projects. Historically, staffing levels have been even less than this, which indicates a trend toward increased awareness on the part of

decision makers for the need to do more at a time of rapid change within the Treasure Valley.

FUNDING

Funding is also needed, especially a small discretionary amount that would allow the Council to react quickly to new opportunities. As is noted in Appendix 2, grant funding has declined over the past decade after accounting for inflation, and there are few grant opportunities that do not focus on ‘bricks and mortar’ work. As such, the County needs to provide some basic funding to assist the Council in its mission. Recent budget cycles have seen an encouraging level of support, though this is subject to change from year to year.

An analysis of the past funding for the Ada County Historic Preservation Council was undertaken as part of this Preservation Plan. The Council files were incomplete, so it is difficult to precisely quantify the amount of funding that the Council has received year to year, but there is adequate information to provide this brief overview.

CLG GRANTS

Since the Council’s inception in 1988, the Council has received around \$65,000 to \$70,000 in CLG grant funds. The largest grant received was \$6,500 in FY 2001. Currently, Ada County can receive up to \$3,500 per year, provided that Congress funds the program 100%, and providing that this amount is not diluted by more requests being made than there are funds available to fulfill them.

Increasingly, expecting the full \$3,500 appropriation is not realistic. In FY 2006 funding from the NPS was cut by 10%, and there were more CLGs submitting grant requests, resulting in a further reduction of the amount available to each CLG. Prior to 2000 this was never a problem, in fact the surplus funds were distributed to the CLGs that had requested funding based upon a set formula, which is why we have in the past received more than the base amount of \$3,500.

It is interesting to note that the funding from Congress has stayed static and on occasion has been reduced since 1988. The number of

CLGs in the state has increased during this time, so that the amount of surplus funds has diminished to the point where there was no surplus in FY 2006, even if the program had been fully funded. Since inflation has increased by about 60% over the past 17 years, the real value of a \$3,500 grant in 1988 has dropped to about \$2,200 in today’s dollars. Stated a different way, to keep with inflation, the \$3,500 grant in 1988 would need to be about \$5,600 today.

COUNTY FUNDS

Historically, County funds have come from the Board’s budget and the budget of the Development Services Department. A base budget of \$2,500 was requested by the Council in 1994 as a minimum amount to allow them to fund ongoing routine expenses, such as memberships, clerical supplies, and printing. It was noted in the August 13, 1992 Council minutes that a \$15,000 per year base budget was what was considered necessary to produce meaningful results from the Council’s efforts. Accounting for inflation, the same amount today would be in excess of \$20,000.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Funding from the Board of Ada County Commissioners was generally about \$5,000 per year from 1998 through 2005. In 2000 and 2001 this amount peaked at \$10,000. This amount was generally dedicated to one-time expenses, such as specific surveys, or research and production of a book or poster.

In 2006, all funding from the Board’s budget was removed, and the entire budget was placed within the Development Services budget.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Funding in the Development Services budget averaged around \$4,500 per year from FY 2000-2004. This was a base budget for expenses that would recur from year to year. It included most of the Council’s education and outreach efforts, such as small printing tasks, memberships, subscriptions, dues, meeting expenses, and moving the County Treasures sign from location to location.

For FY 2006, the Council was given its own budget under Development Services. The total amount was \$23,700, with \$13,000

being allocated for publication of a history of the old Ada County courthouse, and \$4,500 for one-time, grant-funded projects, of which 50% of the funds would be reimbursed by SHPO. Of the remaining \$6,200, \$4,000 was earmarked for Council training. This left a base budget of just \$2,200 to cover the Council's public outreach expenses, membership dues, and meeting expenses.

Of the \$2,200 "base budget," about \$1,300 of this would be needed to cover the expenses for all Council meetings and subcommittee meetings, leaving a mere \$900 for discretionary spending.

The budget approved for 2007 has been increased to adequately fund a base budget that provides for sufficient discretionary spending to allow the Council to react to opportunities when warranted. It provides sufficient funding to permit the Council to continue to build upon past successes. If this support is carried forward into the future, the Council's prospects for continued success are very good.

PUBLIC REVIEW



*The former Bank of Eagle, now DaVinci's Restaurant.
1998-2000 Ada County Inventory site #103. Staff photo.*



*Lining the New York Canal in 1910,
Source: HAER ID-17-A-42.*

PUB



*Diversion Dam control structure,
Source: HAER ID-17-A-9.*



*Farm Settlement Administration
supervisor and worker by an Ada
County canal, 1937.
Source: Library of Congress,
USF34- 015468-E.*

*“The lessons of the past should steer us
towards ensuring lasting legacies for
generations yet to be born.”*

HUN SEN

PRESERVATION INCENTIVES

NON-FINANCIAL INCENTIVES

Perhaps the most effective and least costly incentive tool is that of instilling the owners of historic properties with pride that they are the guardians of a small piece of our shared heritage. This is especially effective in cases where it may be marginally beneficial to demolish a structure and intensify the use of land. The sense of pride helps to balance the equation and at least forestall any decision to negatively impact important historic resources.

The County has two ways to instill pride in the owners of historic properties. The first is the annual County Treasure program, whereby the owners are honored at an annual ceremony and presented with an award. During that same year the County Treasure sign is placed at their property to make neighbors and passers-by aware of the significance of their property.

The second is to sponsor National Register nominations, whereby the properties can become listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This honor can add some intrinsic value to the property. This is because historic properties are somewhat like waterfront properties – there is a limited supply and it is not possible to create additional history overnight. How much value this adds has a lot to do with how much effort the property owner has put into maintaining the historic look and feel of the property and/or documenting its history. This added value becomes an additional disincentive to redevelopment.

FINANCIAL INCENTIVES

INCENTIVES FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Generally, owners of certain historic buildings who undertake substantial rehabilitation projects on income-producing historic buildings that meet accepted preservation standards can claim 20 percent of their rehabilitation costs as investment tax credits to be applied to their federal income tax liability. Owners that agree to façade or conservation easements that restrict the use of their property can often claim a charitable deduction for any resulting diminished value. A more specific and detailed accounting of available financial incentives is the purview of tax law experts and is beyond the scope of this plan.

INCENTIVES FROM STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

No state or local incentives currently exist. The regional office of the National Trust has offered assistance in attempting to set up such incentives, which would likely require changes to state statutes. Some possibilities are discussed below.

OTHER POSSIBLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION INCENTIVE TOOLS

Idaho and Ada County have the good fortune of not being trailblazers in the effort to preserve the artifacts of our past. Many talented and determined people in other states have pondered this issue for quite some time, resulting in a number of possible incentives that might be adopted here to provide a better economic basis for people to preserve historic sites and properties. However, each of these possible incentive tools would need to be reviewed for conflict with State Statute and the constitution. Amending state statutes to allow for specific proposals is also within the realm of possibilities.

Tools used in other states include property tax relief, property tax abatement and/or credit, property tax freezes, income tax credits, tax increment financing and low interest loan programs. All of these tools have an impact on each jurisdiction's ability to maintain adequate levels of revenue for other needs, though this impact is relatively small.



PUBLI

The County Treasure sign recognizes an owner's efforts at preserving an important local historic site or structure. Staff photo.

"Give encouragement (the incentive to action) you will have courage and be encouraged."

W. CLEMENT STONE

PRESERVATION EDUCATION

The Council recognizes the importance that education plays in encouraging the preservation of historic sites and structures. Education can instill pride of ownership, can allow owners to understand how to rehabilitate an historic structure and can help the public understand how a modest-looking site or structure can be very important to local history. With this in mind, the Council's educational efforts have been quite diverse, as is evidenced by the timeline in Appendix III. The types of efforts that have been undertaken toward *Preserving Ada County's Heritage* include:

- Sponsoring workshops by state and national history and historic preservation organizations.
- Creating guided and self-guided driving and walking tours within the County.
- Creating slide shows of area history.
- Recognizing significant historic resources in the County via the annual County Treasure sign program.
- Working with other local preservation groups to assist them in their educational efforts.
- Sponsoring history and historic preservation programs on Idaho Public Television.
- Sponsoring talks by local historians through the Idaho Humanities Council Speakers Bureau.
- Printing a poster of historic barns in the County.
- Publication of an inventory of historic structures in unincorporated Ada County, plus the incorporated limits of the cities of Star, Eagle and Kuna.
- Publication of a history of the 1938 Ada County Courthouse.
- Participating in various local community events to make the general public aware of the educational efforts of the Council.
- Creating the annual Making History Award, which recognizes people and organizations that are creating the County's future history today.

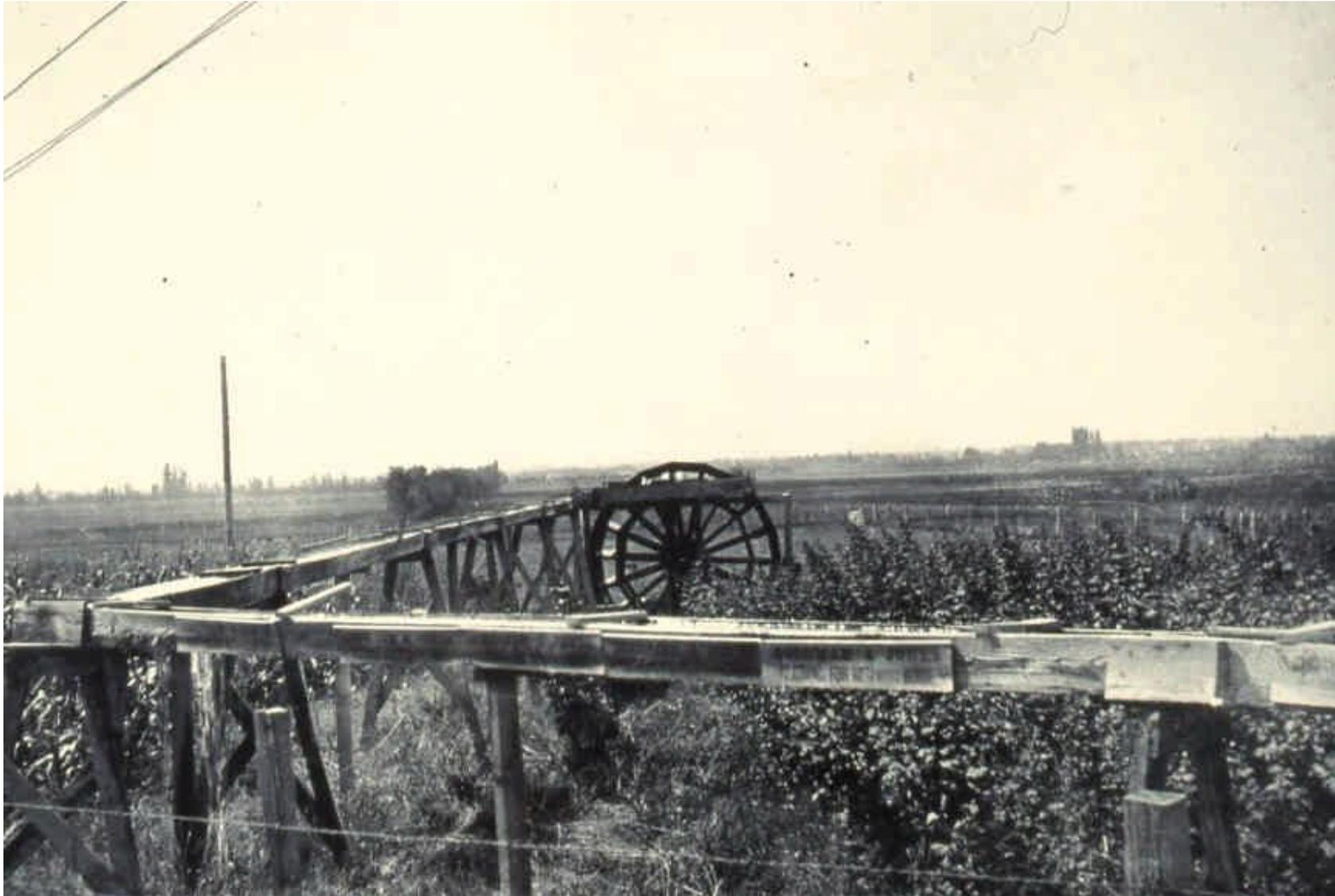
- Installation of permanent signage to interpret various National Register sites throughout the County.
- Providing a well organized, easy to use website to provide information to the general public and to act as a resource for other preservation groups in our area and throughout Idaho.

The Council intends to continue and expand most of these efforts, with an emphasis on using the planning process for this Preservation Plan as a means of integrating all of these efforts into a cohesive whole. For instance, signage will be coordinated with tour routes to make historic sites self-interpreted. Brochures and pamphlets will be updated and revised to give a consistent look and feel and to project a high quality image of the Council and Ada County.

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

"That men do not learn very much from the lessons of history is the most important of all the lessons that History has to teach."

ALDOUS HUXLEY



Historic view of a waterwheel and flume being used to raise water to irrigate higher ground. Source: ISHS 70-190.3.

GOALS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

The following are the goals, policies and implementation strategies that the Council has formulated as a result of the process of creating this plan. Careful analysis of each of the plan topics has resulted in identifying each of the stated policies and implementation strategies. While no plan can anticipate every possible opportunity, this plan represents the Council's best effort at determining the fastest, best and most economical means of *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*.

The goals of this plan came about after reviewing existing Council goals as stated in various strategic plans, reviewing the relevant goals in Ada County's comprehensive plan, and reviewing the goals of the preservation plans of nine western states. This resulted in formulating eight goals that can be summarized as follows:

- I. Public Participation**
- II. Historic Properties Identification**
- III. Integration with Regulations**
- IV. Networking**
- V. Public Policy Development**
- VI. Heritage Education**
- VII. Information Management**
- VIII. Council Education and Development**

This chapter is organized as follows:

- Goals are presented in **bold type**, preceded with upper case Roman numerals,
- Under each goal are policies that are presented in **normal type**, preceded by numbers.
- Under each policy are implementation strategies that are presented in *italic type*, preceded by lower case letters.

We envision that goals and policies will remain fairly constant, while implementation strategies will in time be accomplished and removed from this plan.

Every effort has been made to be as thorough and comprehensive as possible in creating these goals, policies and implementation strategies. However, no detailed plan can possibly foresee every possible need, and general plans often lack enough specifics to make clear the scope of what lies ahead. The goals, policies and implementation strategies that follows are the Council's best effort at finding the optimal balance between the general and the specific.

"Excellence is to do a common thing in an uncommon way."

BOKKER T. WASHINGTON

II. HISTORIC PROPERTIES IDENTIFICATION: Conduct and maintain a comprehensive ongoing program to survey, inventory, and register Ada County’s historic resources; ensure that the information compiled is sufficient to identify and, when applicable, to evaluate the significance of those resources; to update this information approximately every ten years or as deemed necessary.

1. Continue to monitor historic resources within the County’s jurisdiction to maintain CLG status.
 - a. Approximately every ten years recommend updating the County’s inventory of historic resources (perform the next update around 2010).
 - b. Periodically publish an official Ada County Historic Sites Inventory.
 - c. Post a supplement to the official inventory on the Council’s website as a means of documenting new properties that are added between editions of the published inventory.
2. Conduct new reconnaissance level surveys as needed.
3. Conduct new thematic surveys to create strategies for preserving specific types of sites/structures that perhaps hold the best potential for adaptive reuse by the public.
 - a. Work with the local granges to document the past and present grange halls in Ada County, including an analysis and intensive level survey of those that still exist.
 - b. Work with Kuna and Meridian School Districts to establish the history of schools in their districts, including an analysis and intensive level survey of any existing current or former school.
 - c. Consider surveying defunct town/community sites in Ada County,

such as Mora, Pleasant Valley and Orchard.

- d. Consider reviewing existing reconnaissance level surveys for a listing of barns in Ada County.
 - i. Follow up with an intensive level survey of the best example of each barn type found in the survey.
4. Identify any new intensive level surveys that are needed.
 - a. Follow consultant’s recommendations contained in “A Study of Irrigation and the Development of Ada County.” This 1990 report recommended an intensive review of a handful of historic irrigation structures throughout the County.
 - b. Consider further study of the Schick/Ostolasa Farmstead as recommended by the consultant that prepared the National Register nomination.
 - c. Perform intensive level surveys as recommended in the 1998-2000 reconnaissance surveys:



Star’s former Red Front Barn. Source: ISHS 78-43.11.

III. INTEGRATE WITH REGULATIONS: Incorporate historic preservation concepts in program and project planning in both the private and public sectors at the local level.

1. Periodically (about every five years) conduct a review of regulatory mechanisms in Ada County for preserving rural landscapes, landmark historic agricultural structures and other sites of historic significance.
 - a. Consider analyzing the success of County regulations in preserving historic properties that have been redeveloped since 1990.
 - b. Strongly urge adoption of a required finding for all rezones that would prohibit up-zoning of property located within the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area.
 - c. Clearly define the meaning of “the Ada County historic resources inventory,” as used in the Ada County Code, to include the sum of all resource surveys on file in the State Historic Preservation Office.
 - d. For planned communities, a cultural resources reconnaissance survey and SHPO record search should be a required submittal with the application, to assure that this information is considered in the design of the project proposal.
 - e. For planned communities, encourage requiring Section 106-level review of the site and implementing any resulting recommendations made by Ada County and/or the State Historic Preservation Office.
 - f. Encourage a requirement that planned community applications make a finding that their proposal is in compliance with the policies of the Historic and Cultural Resources section of the Ada County Comprehensive Plan.
 - g. Encourage a requirement that planned communities and subdivisions make a finding that their proposal is in compliance with the Ridge to Rivers Trail Plan.
 - h. Consider enacting policies or ordinances that would require mitigation for impacts to any historic resource that requires Section 106 review under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.
2. Periodically review policies within all applicable comprehensive plans that have a potential future impact on historic resources now located in Ada County.
 - a. Consider policies to encourage Ada County to preserve historic structures that it owns, and to place restrictions on the sale of historic properties that it owns to assure that the options for preservation and/or adaptive reuse are fully explored before any decision is made to destroy or significantly alter such a property.
 - b. If the County has not already done so, strongly urge adoption of the Ridge to Rivers Pathway Plan.
3. Consider reviewing the subdivision and master site plan regulations of all municipalities within Ada County to determine whether their preservation regulations are in harmony with their adopted preservation policies.
4. Coordinate the County’s historic preservation policies and regulations with those of adjacent jurisdictions.
 - a. The policy basis for historic preservation within unincorporated Ada County is often controlled by adjacent jurisdictions through area of city impact agreements. The County should seek to assure that such policies are in harmony with County goals for historic preservation.
 - b. Work with the municipalities in Ada County and adjacent counties to assure that their regulations and policies are consistent with the continued preservation of Ada County’s agricultural heritage.
5. Promote adoption of, and compliance with, building codes that minimize adverse impacts on the historic integrity of historic structures in Ada County.
6. Review the policies and/or regulations of Ada County Highway District for District-initiated road widenings for their potential impacts upon the integrity and/or viability of historic sites and/or structures.

IV. NETWORKING: Encourage and support a broad historic preservation network in order to coordinate and cooperate with the identification and management of Ada County's historic resources.

1. Work with area preservation, and possibly arts, groups to coordinate solutions to shared problems.
 - a. Seek ways to facilitate distribution of free literature to the public, including encouraging interested groups to set up a cooperative distribution network throughout the County.
 - i. If a distribution network for free literature is created, consider expanding this to include distribution of book titles to local book stores.
 - b. Seek the joint promotion of the sale of retail merchandise, such as the books and poster produced by the Council, at local events in order to increase availability to the public and to reduce the expense and effort needed to provide these products to the public.
2. Seek ways to facilitate communication and interaction between area historic groups and between Council members.
 - a. Consider creating a periodic "Chairman's Meeting" of area commissions, to be attended by the chair, staff representative and any invitees of the key participants.
 - b. Consider implementation of groupware, such as Sharepoint, to enable greater collaboration between local groups and Council members.
 - c. Encourage all people with an interest in historic preservation to be added to the distribution list for Council agendas and minutes.
 - d. Seek to have our Council added to the distribution lists of other preservation groups.
 - e. Create a shared resource document that lists available public venues capable of holding groups of at least three dozen people, and the information needed to reserve such facilities.

- f. Seek ways to coordinate sharing information such as resource lists, contact lists and other routine information that can greatly increase the efficiency and effectiveness of individual preservationists.
3. Seek to broaden the range of groups that the Council interacts with.
 - a. Look for opportunities to involve the local business community in Council projects.
 - b. Consider developing speaking topics for presentation to local civic groups.
 - c. Seek opportunities to collaborate with the arts community.
 - d. Seek opportunities to collaborate with parks groups.
 - e. Seek opportunities to collaborate with Log Cabin Literary Center in promoting the written history of our County.
 - f. Seek opportunities to work with local museums to increase



Streetcars at the fairground on Fairview. Source: ISHS 73-80.7.

- public knowledge of their contributions toward preserving the history of Ada County.*
- g. *Seek opportunities to work with local schools and universities.*
4. Create opportunities to work with other departments, agencies, groups to comprehensively plan the interpretation of historic resources that span jurisdictions.
- a. *Consider seeking to create an integrated interpretive plan for the Boise River greenbelt.*
- b. *Consider seeking to create an integrated plan for interpretation of the Oregon Trail in Ada County and beyond.*
- c. *Consider seeking to create an integrated plan for interpretation of the Boise Valley Interurban Loop.*
- d. *Consider seeking to create an integrated plan for interpretation of the New York Canal and/or other significant irrigation projects in Ada County.*
- e. *Actively seek a role in land use and transportation planning processes throughout Ada County, and encourage other preservation groups to do so as well.*
5. Find ways to create a broad and diverse coalition of people interested in preserving the history of Ada County.
- a. *Continue to thoroughly research and document all groups, agencies, departments that operate in Ada County that have an historic resource component to their planning documents.*
- b. *Work with other historic preservation groups, schools, economic development organizations and others to broaden public support and interest in historic preservation issues.*
6. Promote the development of a regional or statewide historic preservation training agenda to foster excellence in the preservation community.
- a. *Make establishment of a curriculum for training preservation commissioners a priority.*
- b. *Seek out existing curricula that have been designed to meet the training needs of a variety of preservationists: such as curators, researchers, and commissioners.*
- c. *Determine who in the local community is qualified to provide training on specific topics.*
- d. *Determine what local groups may have access to training resources that can be brought in from outside the region.*
- e. *Determine what additional outside expertise may be needed to fulfill the area's educational needs.*
- f. *Create a list of free training facilities and any equipment that is available for free use (such as projectors, projection screens and podiums).*
- g. *Work with the Idaho Non-profit Development Center and other similar groups to integrate general training topics into a specialized preservation curriculum.*
7. Encourage Council participation in regional and national training conferences and seminars as a means of broadening their networking opportunities.

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

V. PUBLIC POLICY DEVELOPMENT: The Ada County Historic Preservation Council shall make visible the relevance of history to current issues. They shall work with elected and government entities at all levels - federal, state, and local - to influence public policy.

1. Support efforts by Ada County Parks and Waterways to establish parks on historic sites.
 - a. Encourage the creation of a regional park on an historic farmstead as a means of preserving part of our agricultural heritage and a sense of the historic agricultural vistas of Ada County.
2. Encourage Ada County's participation in regional efforts to plan non-motorized trails and open space preservation.
3. Encourage all government entities within Ada County to have meaningful policies and regulations in place to protect our historic resources.
4. Consider regulations that would require mitigation of impacts to historic sites/structures for public or private projects within Ada County.
5. Encourage the mapping and protection of historic roads in Ada County and provide Comprehensive Plan policies and implementation strategies for ensuring their preservation for future generations.
 - a. Oregon Trail.
 - b. Silver City Road.
 - c. Idaho City Toll Road.
 - d. Other immigrant trails as identified in the future.
6. Explore options for creating additional state or local financial incentives to encourage the preservation of historic structures.
 - a. Work with various national, state and local groups and agencies to create additional financial incentives for the preservation of historic sites and structures.
7. Consider adopting some minimum standards for requiring surveying of proposed development sites for significant evidence of Native American use.

8. Encourage Ada County to define their "historic sites inventory" as being all records at the State Historic Preservation Office related to sites and properties within Ada County.
9. Seek opportunities to provide comment on any local, regional, state or national planning processes that might affect historic resources.



Boise's First House, the O'Farrell Cabin. From early postcard.

VI. HERITAGE EDUCATION: The Ada County Historic Preservation Council shall stimulate mind, imagination, and emotions; encourage research; create educational programs; fashion interpretive materials in a variety of media; and promote widespread understanding of Ada County's diverse past and its significance.

1. Seek a variety of ways to educate the public of the rich historic legacy throughout Ada County, including:
 - a. Create, update and maintain driving tours:
 - i. Create a driving Tour centered around the Schick Farmstead and historic roads in the Boise Foothills.
 - ii. Update existing driving tour to Swan Falls Dam.
 - iii. Consider creating a driving tour in passport format that interprets the Valley Loop trolley line.
 - b. Create, update and maintain walking tours:
 - i. Update the Star walking tour as needed.
 - ii. Update the Kuna walking tour as needed.
 - c. Create, update and maintain bicycle tours:
 - i. Consider creating a bicycle tour of the Green Belt.
 - ii. Consider creating a bicycle tour that retraces parts of the Oregon Trail in Ada County.
 - iii. Consider creating a bicycle tour that interprets various historic roads in Ada County.
 - d. Create, update and maintain slide shows and identify people interested in presenting this information to the public:
 - i. Update and expand the History of Star slide show.
 - ii. Update the History of Kuna slide show.
 - iii. Maintain and update Ada County Chronicles, the history of development in Ada County.
 - e. Create one or more traveling displays relating to the historic people, sites and/or events that can be set up in public spaces throughout Ada County.
 - i. Consider creating an annual display relating to a centennial celebration or a major Ada County theme.
- f. Create a brochure of Oregon Trail resources in Ada County.
2. Find ways to share a passion for history with the general public.
 - a. Heritage Trees project – tell of the significance of trees to local history and culture. Time events/products to coincide with Arbor Day.
 - b. Plan on commemorating the centennial of the establishment of the Valley Loop interurban rail passenger service in 2011/2012.
 - c. Focus on promoting at least one centennial or other milestone event each year, either separately or in conjunction with an established Council program, such as the County Treasure award ceremony.
 - d. Seek ways to assist local schools in improving their educational programs on Idaho history.
3. Seek transportation grants to raise awareness of the County's rich and unique transportation heritage:
 - a. Consider creating an historic byway that retraces the route of the Valley Loop trolley system.
 - b. Consider a signed bicycle route that follows the Oregon Trail.
 - c. Consider a comprehensive interpretation scheme for the Green Belt.
 - d. Consider mapping significant early roads and immigrant trails with the intent of interpreting and/or preserving these routes for future generations.
 - e. As public access to the Oregon Trail is acquired either by easement or public ownership, consider marking the new trail segments in a manner that coordinates with existing interpretive efforts.
4. Encourage the Ada County Parks and Waterways Department to include interpretation of the history of park properties and their environs in any future park plans.
5. Encourage all cities within Ada County to preserve their heritage by publishing books on the history of their local areas.

- a. *Encourage the Eagle Historical Society and the City of Eagle to produce a history of Eagle.*
- b. *Encourage the City of Star to update and expand the 1991 Planmaker's study of Star into a published history of Star.*
- c. *Encourage Kuna and Meridian to update as needed any existing historic texts of their areas.*
6. **Seek ways to raise public awareness of the history of Ada County prior to white settlement of the area.**
 - a. *Encourage adoption of regulations that require archaeological investigation of large development sites prior to any application being reviewed by the County.*
 - b. *Consider partnering with Native American groups to promote particular events, people or sites.*
 - c. *Consider collaborating with educational and/or professional groups on prioritizing possible archaeological investigations of significant Native American sites within Ada County.*
7. **Seek to preserve and document the public history of Ada County as it relates to the functions of county government:**
 - a. *The courts.*
 - b. *Administrative functions.*
 - c. *The Fair.*
8. **Find ways to encourage individual property owners to preserve historic properties.**
 - a. *When the budget allows, sponsor National Register nominations for historic properties within the County's jurisdiction.*
 - b. *If staffing levels and budget permit, continue to honor properties through programs such as the County Treasure program.*
9. **Encourage a comprehensive, coordinated and integrated approach to determining location, design and other factors for educational/interpretive signage, particularly along the Green Belt, the Oregon Trail and other transportation corridors.**
10. **Strive to preserve, protect and interpret all aspects of the County's history, including the area's geologic history and unique geologic features.**
11. **Encourage the recording of oral histories that document Ada County's past.**
 - a. *All oral histories shall be given to the Idaho Oral History Center to assure the best possible accessibility to future researchers.*
12. **Encourage Ada County to develop a coordinated network of public information display racks in all public spaces controlled by the County.**
13. **Interpret Ada County's irrigation history to the general public.**
 - a. *Encourage the Army Corps of Engineers to install interpretive signs about the original New York canal diversion dam near the Foote home site (downstream from the base of Lucky Peak Dam).*
14. **Seek to partner with other groups to educate the public about the importance of Ada County's heritage.**

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT



A turn-of-the-20th-Century postcard showing St. Teresa's Academy.

VII. INFORMATION MANAGEMENT: Ensure the efficient and effective management of historic sites information; ensure good public access to that information.

1. Seek to maintain and improve the accuracy of all County information systems related to historic preservation:
 - a. Expand the existing GIS theme of cultural and historic resources to include all sites identified in all surveys conducted on behalf of Ada County.
 - b. Seek to prepare an illustrated inventory of all sites surveyed by the Council.
2. Seek to preserve information in a variety of formats and in a variety of locations in order to better assure that this information will always be available for public use.
 - a. Where possible, convert studies commissioned by the Council to electronic format as a means of ensuring that this information is preserved for the future and is easily accessible to the public.
 - b. Continue to maintain and expand the Council's website to make Council research easily available to the general public.
3. Assure that any Council sponsored publications are available to the general public through:
 - a. The Idaho History Center.
 - b. The Idaho Collection of the Boise Public Library.
 - c. The main branch of the Ada County Library.
 - d. Boise State University.
 - e. Albertson College of Idaho.
 - f. www.adaweb.net/hpc.
4. Find ways to leverage the County's GIS mapping investment to facilitate historic research.
 - a. Look for ways to integrate historic sites with events of historic significance in Ada County. For instance, look for structures that were constructed in connection with the opening of new canals or mines. Map construction dates of surviving structures in old townsites, such as Ustick or Mora.

- b. Look for the opportunity to publish GIS-based maps of the Council's historic site inventory on the County's website.
5. Maintain a website to provide information to the general public and to provide opportunities for collaboration among Council members and with other groups and the general public.
 - a. Scan existing council studies and make them available in PDF format.
 - b. Create web pages for each of the National Register listed sites in unincorporated Ada County.
 - c. Convert existing paper resources, such as brochures and articles, into web pages.
 - d. Investigate whether historic maps in possession of the Assessor's Office can be made accessible on a Historic Maps page that can be linked to the Council's website.



Screen shot of the Council's recently updated website.
WWW.ADAWEB.NET/HPC

VIII. COUNCIL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

Ensure a well educated group of community volunteers and professional staff to enable the Council is to be highly effective and produce high quality results.

1. Continue to provide quality educational opportunities to members and staff of the Ada County Historic Preservation Council.
 - a. Periodically sponsor local training by the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions.
 - b. Develop a plan to provide training to Council members on a regular schedule using local resources whenever available.
 - c. Consider compiling a list of meeting and classroom venues, their capacities and their contact information to facilitate holding training sessions and public gatherings.
 - d. Provide funding for out-of-state training opportunities as necessary to maintain minimum CLG training requirements.
2. Create and maintain this plan as an historic preservation resource document for future Council members so that they may more quickly understand the resources that are available to them, the importance of their work and the scope of the challenge before them.



Star High School's 1912 boys basketball team.
Source: Jennie Cornell.

"My goal is to relate history to the modern day. History can give you an advantage because if you control the past, you control the future."

JEFF EVANS

SUMMARY

The Council has made great strides since it was created in 1988, largely due to the tremendous efforts of its volunteer members. By preparing this plan, structural deficiencies in our regulatory review process have been identified, and they should be easy to fix. A few follow up surveys are now on our horizon and they, also, are likely to be completed in the near future.

This process has highlighted the recurring impediments to the Council's ability to excel. These can be summarized as communication and collaboration, distribution, education, and staff support.

COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION

With the Council's limited budget and minimal paid staffing, we need to find ways to better leverage our limited resources. There are other groups out there that can benefit from our foundation-building efforts and we can certainly gain from the experience of other groups. Cooperating and collaborating with other groups allows the Council the ability to be involved in many projects throughout the year, rather than having to focus on a few smaller efforts entirely on their own.

Communication is key to collaborative efforts, both among Council members and among other preservation groups. The challenge in communicating is that the individuals in the local preservation community change over time, or their contact information changes as they change jobs or find new homes. Simply keeping track of these changes is a significant effort that is repeated dozens of times by various folks trying to maintain this information on their own. We need a means of facilitating the management of this information and for making the information available to area preservation groups.

DISTRIBUTION

Our distribution challenges have come to light due to our outreach efforts. Distributing our two book titles to local bookstores has been

difficult, labor intensive and not cost-effective. The majority of booksellers want the books on consignment, which is likely to lead to the return dog-eared and damaged inventory. Booksellers are most receptive to stocking titles around the Christmas holidays, finding history books sell well to the gift-buying public.

Distribution of free brochures is equally challenging. Working with local chambers of commerce has worked well as a means of distributing brochures of specific interest to such organizations, but this is one of the few bright spots. Hoteliers, or at least the front counter staff, are less receptive to consenting to distribute brochures for free, as many private companies pay for space on their racks. Thus far, the chambers have not been interested in sharing the cost of reproducing the brochures, in spite of the fact that they are eager to provide this information to their local audience.

Another problem is simply inventorying all the places where brochures can be distributed. Locating these facilities and tracking down the person that regulates their use is very time consuming, yet widespread distribution is the key to lower the unit of cost of providing this information to the public. The Idaho History Center and Idaho Historical Museum welcome our brochures, but their staff will not notify us when the inventory is depleted, further increasing the effort needed to get this information into the hands of the public.

Our challenges are not totally external. The County could provide public rack space for distribution of public information in its facilities that are visited by the general public. At present there are many County agencies that disseminate information to the public, but there is no central location within public lobbies to make this information available. When there are available facilities, there is no policy for determining how much space should be allocated to the literature that is created by each department.

The answer is that the greater Ada County preservation community needs to work together to solve the external challenges and Ada County departments need to work together to solve the internal challenges. Together we need, for both internal and external sites:

- A central distribution location for free literature.
- An inventory of distribution points.
- A schedule for visiting and replenishing distribution points.
- For external sites, a coordinated effort is needed to work with hoteliers to get an allocation of free rack space.

EDUCATION

The Council needs specific professional development training for preservation commissioners. While such training is available nationally and sometimes regionally, the cost of sending the full Council to such training normally exceeds the Council's full annual budget. The Council should coordinate with other area preservationists and non-profit groups to develop an ongoing training program that assures that all commissioners receive the training that is needed to assure that they can excel at *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*.

STAFF SUPPORT

It has been difficult to assess the level of staff support that the Council has received over time. The Council began with administrative help from the County. Due to the potential high-profile nature of the Council's work, planners were soon assigned to help facilitate the Council's efforts. These individuals ranged from mid-level to senior planning staff. The first mention of the level of staff effort dedicated to working with the Council came around the year 2000, when a ten hour-per-month limit was imposed. Currently, staffing is set at .2 FTE, or an average of 8 hours per week.

The current staffing level will benefit the Council through supporting their efforts to build a solid foundation for their historic preservation efforts. Until recently our foundation has been weak, which was a primary motivation in undertaking the preparation of this plan. Strong strides have been made over the past two years, and this plan provides a clear blueprint for strengthening and expanding our existing foundation.

*"Success is the sum of small efforts repeated
day in and day out."*

ROBERT COLLIER

APPENDICES



Panning for gold. Source: ISHS 72-201.156 f.

APPENDIX I: ABOUT THE COUNCIL

The Council was created on August 25, 1988 (by ordinance #192) to preserve and enhance cultural and historic sites throughout Ada County and to increase awareness of the value of historic preservation to citizens and local businesses. Currently the Council is composed of nine volunteer Council members that commit to serve a three-year term and are appointed by the Board of Ada County Commissioners.

The group meets once per month, usually at the Ada County Courthouse. The three elected positions of chairman, vice chairman and secretary are voted on annually. Staff support, including record keeping, coordination with federal, state and local agencies, website maintenance and review of development applications, is provided by Development Services staff.

Ada County is designated a Certified Local Government (CLG) pursuant to section 101(c) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The Council acts as the County's representative in this program, which allows the County to nominate properties for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places and makes it eligible for matching grants from the National Park Service (administered by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)). Currently, the County is eligible for approximately \$3,500 annually in grants from this program. In return for CLG status, the Council has to fulfill minimum requirements of the program, which is discussed in Appendix 2 of this document.

This dedicated group of concerned private citizens receives limited financial support for a quite large and daunting task: *Preserving Ada County's Heritage* for future generations. The County's development pressures are escalating, and fragile rural historic resources throughout the county are quickly disappearing. Indeed,

the cities of Ada County are under threat of fusing into a single contiguous mass of development. In this light, historic preservation is vital to the retention of individual community identities and preserving the quality of life that we all treasure.

THE COUNCIL'S STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The following is the purpose statement that has been adopted by the Council. It is by this statement that the Council's performance is measured.

1. To preserve significant historic structures and sites within unincorporated Ada County by identifying and documenting those structures and sites;
2. To adopt ordinances that will require the Council to review all development applications that might impact an identified historic site or structure;
3. To engender a sense of stewardship throughout Ada County for these historic sites;
4. To educate the public on the importance of preserving historic structures and sites through seminars and interactive and/or outreach programs; and
5. To be pro-active advocates for responsible historic preservation.

"So much of our future lies in preserving our past."

PETER WESTBROOK

COUNCIL BIOGRAPHIES

Since its inception in 1988, the Council has seen approximately three dozen volunteer members, whose terms have ranged from less than a year to some extremely dedicated individuals that have served the maximum nine-year term currently allowed under our bylaws. Council members volunteer to attend a monthly hour long coordination meeting, then work on projects individually or in subcommittees (involving three or more Council members) between meetings, offering their spare time to accomplish Council goals.

The following pages contain summaries of each Council member's life experiences and their interests in preserving our past. The majority work full time and donate what is at times a considerable amount of their spare time and energy toward sharing their interests with the residents of Ada County.

The wide range of ages, experience and talent of this diverse group is an incredible resource that is donated to the taxpayers of Ada County. The group as a whole is invaluable to the County, providing a degree of professionalism and commitment that far exceeds the County's financial assistance to this group.

The following list contains the names of known past Council members and staff. Due to incomplete records, we've likely missed at least a few, but their contributions are greatly appreciated, just the same:

<i>Dave Abo+</i>	<i>Jane Gabbert</i>	<i>Katherine Moore</i>
<i>Robert Aldridge</i>	<i>Joe Gallagher</i>	<i>Sharon Murray</i>
<i>David Bagnard</i>	<i>Joanne Garnett+</i>	<i>Patricia Nilsson+</i>
<i>Nichoel Baird-Spencer+</i>	<i>Curtis Guiles</i>	<i>Sherry Oliver</i>
<i>Mark Baltes</i>	<i>Richard Hart</i>	<i>Jim Reed</i>
<i>Rich Binsacca</i>	<i>Jan House</i>	<i>Diane Rice</i>
<i>Chelli Bradshaw</i>	<i>Wayne Hunsucker</i>	<i>Crystal Rosendahl</i>
<i>Janet Carver</i>	<i>Marc Johnson</i>	<i>Rita Rowe</i>
<i>John Crowe</i>	<i>Katherine King</i>	<i>Jo Anne Russell</i>
<i>Claudia Druss</i>	<i>Diane Kushlan</i>	<i>Craig Slocum</i>
<i>Jan Duffy</i>	<i>Dan Magleby</i>	<i>Jonathan Wardle</i>
<i>Joyceanne Fick</i>	<i>Steve Malone+</i>	<i>Mike Willits</i>
<i>Sheri Freemuth+</i>	<i>Shelle Meacham</i>	+ denotes former staff

JACK CLARK

John M. (Jack) Clark was appointed to the Ada County Historic Preservation Council in 2004. He is employed by the Ada County Assessor's Office where he is the Senior Land Records Analyst. That position involves the mapping and determination of Real Property ownership. Jack is a Professional Land Surveyor licensed by the State of Idaho since 1983 and has been actively involved in surveying in Ada and surrounding counties for the private sector through the 1980's. He then worked for the Bureau of Land Management's Geographic Co-ordinate Data Base project that covered the entire state using survey records that originated in the 1860's.



Jack was raised as an Air Force dependent and lived in Colorado, Hawaii, New York, Idaho and Montana. Both of his parents were born and raised in the Boise Valley and each of them had a grandparent living in Idaho prior to Statehood. He is on the board of directors of the Idaho Society of Professional Land Surveyors where he serves as editor of their quarterly publication the *Gem State Surveyor*.

Jack's interest in and appreciation of history has come as a result of his practice as a surveyor. His record research activities have given him many insights into the development of Ada County. He believes that sound decisions for the future must be grounded in an appropriate recognition of the past.

CURT JAMES

“Growing up in central Idaho (Challis), I always felt that history was not really that long ago. What my grandfather called the old Doffing place, my father knew as the old Hamilton place. I did my best to see it as more than a worn-out house, a crumbling barn, and overgrown, dried-out pastures, and that is easier to do when you are so connected to a family that is so connected to a place.”



Since coming to the Treasure Valley, Curt has been trying to find ways to create that same kind of connection. He first moved to the area in 1996 as a student at Albertson College of Idaho. After graduating in 1999 with degrees in English and History, he spent a few months at the Kennedy School of Government in Boston as a research assistant, returned to Idaho, married, and then moved for a short time to Salem, Oregon to work for the Legislative Assembly. He returned with his family to Boise in 2001 and worked in marketing before landing at Micron Technology where he works as a communications analyst today.

He is very excited to be involved with the Ada County Historic Preservation Council. More than anything, he hopes to bring energy and a spirit of collaboration to the group. While serving, he would love to help implement new ways to partner with the various preservation organizations throughout and beyond the valley. Additionally, he wants to learn more about the principles of preservation and planning and discover how he can help apply those principles to making this a place that respects and understands its heritage.

BRYAN NICKELS

Bryan was appointed to the Ada County Historic Preservation Council in 2004. He is an associate attorney at the downtown Boise law firm of Hall, Farley, Oberrecht and Blanton, P.A., and also serves as adjunct faculty for the Department of Management at Boise State University. He originally hails from Moscow, Idaho, and has lived in Boise for three years.



Bryan has both a Bachelor of Arts. and a Master of Arts from the University of Idaho in Anthropology, and has authored two articles relating to Canadian native populations: "Native American Free Passage Rights Under the 1794 Jay Treaty: Survival Under United States Statutory Law and Canadian Common Law," 24:2 B.C. Int'l and Comp. L. Rev. 313 (2001), and "Application of an Ecology-Based Methodology for Paleopopulation Studies," co-authored with Dr. Robert Lee Sappington, North American Archaeologist, Vol. 20, Issue 2 (Fall 1999).

SAUNDRA SCHMIDT

Saundra received her M.A. in Women's History with a minor in Public Administration from Boise State University, May 2005. She has been a Boise resident since 1993 when she moved here from the Dallas, Texas area. In Dallas she worked for General Reinsurance and Fidelity Investments. After working at Boise State for almost nine years, she became a full time graduate student. Now semi-retired, she enjoys community service work, especially serving on the Council.



She feels that it is very important that gender equity be maintained when looking at historic sites. Although women have always been part of the history of Ada County, their contributions have not always been evident in written accounts. Women's roles in their homes or behind the scenes are often overlooked when communities write their histories. Because women were frequently confined to the private sphere, it often takes a different methodology to uncover their roles.

JAKE PUTNAM

Appointed in 2006, Jake is an Emmy-winning journalist who now works in public relations in Boise, Idaho. He was born in Pocatello, Idaho in 1956 and is a graduate of Pocatello High School and Idaho State University, and played Division I tennis while at Idaho State.



Jake began his career in 1984 as a photographer for an Idaho Falls television station. He subsequently worked as general assignment reporter and political reporter, and now works with the Idaho Farm Bureau as the state Broadcast Services Manager. He also writes for the *Producer* and *Quarterly* magazines.

Jake has won awards from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, Associated Press, United Press International, Idaho Press Club and the Society of Professional Journalists.. He was moderator of the public affairs program Viewpoint, finishing number one in the ratings in all three years under his reign.

He moved to Boise in 1987 and covered everything from the trial of Claude Dallas to the day-to-day workings at the Idaho Statehouse. In 1993 he served as press secretary to Idaho Attorney General Larry EchoHawk. His years of work as a reporter peaked his interest in local history and he has since published articles about Boise High graduate and WWII ace Duane Beeson, the anniversary of the first airmail service to Boise, and a story about the first Ada County Sheriff, Dave Updyke. Putnam also published a story about Wallace Stegner's *Angle of Repose*, a book mainly based in Boise in the 1890's. His passion for history is evident in his writing, and his endless research into Idaho's past.

JESSICA SHINE

Jessica was appointed to the Council in March of 2006. Having lived in Boise since 1997 and in Idaho since 1993, she is planning on returning to Boise State University to study Pre-Architecture, with an eye toward getting a Masters Degree in Urban Planning. She has worked in commercial real estate development and professional staffing.

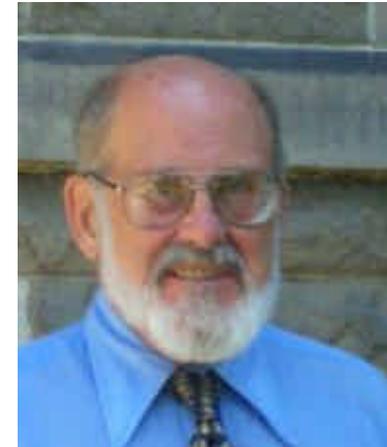
She has an established track record as a dedicated community volunteer, participating in the Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce, Nampa Chamber of Commerce, COMPASS committees, the US Green Build Council Idaho Chapter, the Commerce and Labor Employers Committee, Boise Philharmonic, Paint the Town, Rake Up Boise and is a Young Leader in the Urban Land Institute. She brings public relations and fund raising experience to the Council, as well as her renewed passion for design and planning.

Her daughter, Demitra, has inherited Jessica's community spirit, as shown below when they participated in a recent Rake Up Boise event.



AL BOLIN

Al spent his professional career as a power systems engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation, retiring in 2004. He graduated in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Arkansas, where he was inducted into the fraternities of Tau Beta Pi (general engineering) and Eta Kappa Nu (electrical engineering). He has been a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers since 1975, serving terms as Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Boise section. He currently serves on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's independent panel for dispute resolution.



During his tenure with the Bureau of Reclamation Al was heavily involved in high profile projects that required significant public participation, including construction of the Island Park Dam, relicensing of Idaho Power's Hells Canyon Project, power rate studies and a comprehensive review of the Northwest Power System. He moved to Boise in 1967 after accepting a position with the Bureau. He has lived in the Highlands for the last thirty years and lived in a fascinating turn-of-the-century apartment building in the north end for three years in his early days in Boise.

Al has a very deep and enduring interest in history, especially in historical structures. He has visited and studied historical buildings and other structures throughout this country and Canada. He feels that it is very important to preserve and/or restore historical structures to give future generations better insight into the venues where their ancestors lived, worked, played, did business, and were entertained.

KELLY MITCHELL

Kelly has been hooked on archaeology since she touched her first artifact and realized she was holding a real live piece of history. She is a Boise native with strong family ties to the local community and her family has resided in Boise for four generations, three in the historic North End.



She studied archaeology at the University of Idaho where she graduated in 1994 and met her husband, Nate Mitchell. Shortly thereafter they moved to Clarksville, Tennessee where she eventually found work with Fort Campbell's Environmental Division, working there for four years conducting archaeological and architectural surveys, curating artifacts, and coordinating with the State Historic Preservation Offices of Tennessee and Kentucky.

In 1999 they returned to Boise and eventually moved to Star. Kelly began working for TEC as an archaeology field technician and has since advanced to become staff archaeologist. The move to Star and her husband's position as the Mayor of Star have sparked an interest in the town's history, which she hopes to bring to public attention. The small town of Star has a long and varied history that is known to but a few Ada County residents.

In 2003 Kelly enrolled in the Boise State University graduate program, earning her M.A. in American Western History in May 2006. She truly enjoyed her experiences at BSU, learning so much more about the history of Idaho and along the way about her own family history. Her appointment to the Council will be a great opportunity for her to learn even more and contribute to the preservation of the history of an area of great importance to her and many others.

BRIAN TANDROW

Appointed to the Council in April 2006, Brian is semi-retired after a career with IBM, Compaq Computer and HP. Having strong ties to Idaho since 1966, Brian and his wife, Joan, moved to Boise in 2005. They have two married children, a daughter in California, a son in Mountain Home, and six grandchildren.



Brian has a bachelor's degree from California State University – Northridge, in Business Management, and an MBA from Pepperdine University, Malibu, California.

A key goal of his recent move to Boise was to give something back to the community that has been a second home for so long. Joining the Council is part of that effort, as well as work being done with COMPASS, where Brian is a member of the Public Participation Committee.

The recent rapid growth of Ada County maps closely to what Brian experienced in Southern California's San Fernando Valley during the post-war boom. "Historic structures were torn down to make way for new homes and businesses. Years later, many citizens realized the effect of that break in the historic chain and the resulting cultural loss. Ada County has a rich heritage that is evident in our buildings and natural resources. With strong community support, we can preserve this linkage to our past and incorporate it into the needs of our growing population."

COUNCIL TERMS

The following list details the end of each Council member's term and the position that they held on the Council at the time that this plan was published:

Jack Clark , Secretary	April 13, 2007
Bryan Nickels	April 13, 2007
Saundra Schmidt , Vice-Chair	April 13, 2007
Al Bolin	August 2, 2008
Curt James , Chair	August 3, 2008
Kelly Mitchell	December 20, 2008
Jessica Shine	March 14, 2009
Brian Tandrow	April 1, 2009
Jake Putnam	April 1, 2009

As part of maintaining our status as a Certified Local Government, two members of our Council are required meet Professional Qualification Standards as defined by the National Park Service.

The following members meet these standards:

- Saundra Schmidt qualifies under the category of History, as she has a Master's Degree in Women's History from BSU.
- Kelly Mitchell qualifies under the category of History, having completed her Master's Degree in American Western History at BSU in 2006.

"Success in life has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself. It's what you do for others."

DANNY THOMAS



Family of F. H. Teed at Kuna Cave. Kuna Library photo.

APPENDIX II: OVERVIEW OF PRESERVATION GROUPS AND AGENCIES

LOCAL AND AREA HISTORIC PRESERVATION GROUPS

There are a seemingly endless number of historic groups at the local, regional, state, national and international levels that present possible opportunities for our Council. We share a common responsibility with these groups in *Preserving Ada County's Heritage*. They can perhaps help us to learn and solve problems, or perhaps we can offer the same assistance to them. With this in mind, we've attempted to identify the groups that we are likely to interact with at some point. Naturally, this list is not exhaustive. As soon as you think you've identified everyone, a new group pops up that defies the categories that we've established. But this is our best effort at identifying the most visible of these groups and those that represent the best chance for helping our Council achieve its goals.

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

In order to qualify for state-administered preservation funding that is received from the National Park Service, a government entity must be certified. This entails:

1. Establishing an historic preservation review commission,
2. Maintaining a systematic survey of and inventory of historic properties,
3. Providing for public participation,
4. Encouraging local historic preservation planning,
5. Enforcing the Idaho Local Planning Act of 1975,
6. Enforcing the Idaho Statutes pertaining to Preservation of Historic Sites,
7. Enforcing the Idaho Antiquities Act of 1984, and
8. Satisfactorily performing responsibilities delegated to it under federal statute.

The following sections describe other CLGs in the local area that our Council is likely to interact with from time to time.

BOISE CITY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Established April 19, 1976, their purpose is to engage in a comprehensive program of historic preservation to promote, preserve and protect historic buildings, structures, sites, monuments, streets, squares and neighborhoods which serve as visible reminders of the historical, archaeological, architectural, educational and cultural heritage of the City. The bulk of their Commission and staff time is presently devoted to administering three large historic districts within the City.

CANYON COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Established on January 3, 1991 as a ten member commission. The first meeting was held on February 19, 1991. It is an advisory board that meets monthly. Canyon County was designated as a CLG on May 31, 1991. Areas of shared interest include the Snake River Canyon, the Oregon Trail, various historic irrigation projects that span Ada and Canyon Counties, plus a number of historic transportation routes including the Valley Loop interurban railroad system, OSL Railroad and later railroads, old stage coach roads and state and federal highway systems.

EAGLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Organized in 1989, the five member Eagle Historic Preservation Commission seeks to preserve Eagle's heritage and shape its future. It oversees the operations of the Eagle Historical Museum and reviews proposed redevelopment of historic properties in Eagle.

GEM COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

In early 2006 this group was inactive, having been disbanded at some point in the past. Efforts are currently underway to reactivate this commission. The impetus for this is local concern about mounting development pressures.

MERIDIAN HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

This five member commission was formed on November 3, 1986 under Meridian's ordinance #471. The group has been steadily surveying historic properties in Meridian over time and has been sponsoring the listing of properties on the National Register. The group has a role in design review within Meridian's historic downtown area.

NAMPA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The Nampa Historic Preservation Commission was created in 1988 and after a while became inactive. The City commissioned the Hudson Company to study ways to revitalize their downtown, with the result being that it was recommended that the Commission be reestablished.

The mission of the Nampa Historic Preservation Commission is twofold. First, it shall promote, facilitate and encourage enforcement of the historic preservation-related regulations and laws of the State of Idaho and the City of Nampa. Second, it shall promote the protection and enhancement of buildings, structures and land of special historic, aesthetic or architectural significance in the interest of the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the community of Nampa.

HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

Historical societies are generally set up as non-profit corporations in order to accept donations of cash or artifacts to further the specific mission of the organization. Many maintain museums, some have an educational focus. Those in the local area that have come to our attention are listed in the sections that follow.

BASQUE MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER

Basque immigrants have played a significant role in the development of Ada County, with many first coming to this country to herd sheep in remote parts of Ada County and beyond. They have established a museum and cultural center in the Basque Block in downtown Boise. This group is a potential resource for the Council to use to help educate the public about the impact of this cultural group on unincorporated Ada County.

CANYON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The purpose of the Canyon County Historical Society is to preserve for future generations historical records, documents, sites, buildings and artifacts that pertain to Canyon County. Their aim is to bring together those people interested in area history and to promote a better understanding of the history of our state and nation and a better appreciation of our American heritage.



DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, PIONEER CHAPTER

The DAR, founded in 1890 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children. The organization is open to any woman over 18 years of age that can prove direct lineage to a patriot of the American Revolution. It was founded October 11, 1890 and incorporated in 1896 by an Act of Congress.



This group was instrumental in restoring the O'Farrell cabin, Boise's first family dwelling, after it was donated by the O'Farrell sisters. They also established the Ward Massacre Memorial Park in Canyon County, site of one of the largest massacres on the Oregon Trail.

DRY CREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This group was established in October 2005 with the initial purpose of preserving the Schick-Ostolasa Farmstead at Hidden Springs. Their current focus is in raising funds in order to restore and endow this site.

EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Society raises funds for various historic preservation initiatives in Eagle and is set up as a non-profit entity. This group staffs the Eagle Historical Museum at 67 E. State Street to preserve various artifacts related to Eagle's history.

GEM COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This group is a potential partner for future Council projects, such as possibly assembling a brochure on emigrant trail resources in Ada County, as a variant of the Oregon Trail and at least a few other early pioneer roads crossed through both Gem and Ada Counties.

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF IDAHO PIONEERS

This group's early efforts initiated the historical marker program that was subsequently taken over by the Idaho State Historical Society and the Idaho Transportation Department. They also were responsible locally in part for the preservation of the O'Farrell Cabin and Christ Chapel (the original St. Michael's Church).

KUNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Kuna Historical Society has worked with the Council to produce a walking tour of Kuna's history. The group also has participated in Kuna Days with the Council to help raise awareness of the County's heritage to the people in and around Kuna.

MERIDIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This group has been largely synonymous with one individual, Lila Hill, though there are others that contribute. Lila has written a history on Meridian, produced a walking tour and written regular history columns for local papers. This group is a resource for many potential Council projects, including the Valley Loop Historic

Byway and any new driving tours that pass through this part of the County.

OTHER LOCAL GROUPS

BOISE OFFICE OF THE CITY HISTORIAN

The Office of the City Historian is a joint venture between the City of Boise and Boise State University Center for Idaho History and Politics. The University provides an assistantship, whereby they pay for a half-time historian that is also pursuing an advanced degree in history at BSU. In exchange, the City agrees to provide an \$8,000 per year budget for the historian to accomplish an agreed upon list of projects and/or meet specific goals.



CAPITAL CITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Formed in 1965 as the Boise Redevelopment Agency to redevelop Boise's deteriorating downtown core, the CCDC currently manages three urban renewal districts as part of its mission to provide an urban-style mixed-use, pedestrian-oriented environment in downtown Boise. These districts incorporate several historic sites and structures, and therefore the CCDC is a potential partner in plans to inventory and expand interpretation of historic sites within Ada County.



MERIDIAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Established July 24, 2001 as an urban renewal agency. The redevelopment plan for downtown Meridian intends to preserve historic buildings and complementary facades while revitalizing and invigorating the downtown area.

WESTERN HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Founded July 28, 2000. A non-profit corporation established to preserve for future generations the heritage of Idaho's frontier legacy. It's primary focus was in establishing the Western Heritage Historic Byway. Long term plans include extending the Byway designation to include Idaho City in Boise County and Silver City in Owyhee County. It also has as a goal to find a suitable structure to display and preserve educational and cultural items and artifacts.

STATE AND REGIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION GROUPS

The following list is not intended to be an exhaustive inventory of all state groups and/or regional groups of southwest Idaho and beyond. It is an attempt to list such groups that offer some potential as future partners for Council projects, either because they present funding opportunities or their interests and mission overlap ours.

ALBERTSON COLLEGE OF IDAHO

The Albertson College of Idaho in Caldwell offers a history major as part of their liberal arts curriculum. Like BSU, they offer a potential pool of talent to possibly assist with Council initiatives. Plans have recently been made for the College to take over the inventory of books published by Historic Idaho.

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR IDAHO HISTORY AND POLITICS

The Center for Idaho History and Politics oversees both graduate and undergraduate programs in history. As such, they provide a pool of talent for researching historical topics. They work with Boise's Office of the City Historian in just this sort of capacity.



IDAHO ISSUES ONLINE

A joint effort by the Center for Idaho History and Politics and the Social Sciences and Public Affairs College, Idaho Issues Online can be found at www.boisestate.edu/history/issuesonline. This site features historical articles on policy issues that are of local importance.



HISTORIC IDAHO

Historic Idaho is a non-profit group formed to publish books related to the history of Idaho. An agreement has recently been reached to turn this function over to Albertson's College of Idaho. It is likely this group will dissolve in the near future.

IDAHO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

This state program administers Federal funds from Housing and Urban Development. ICDBG funds are used to construct projects that benefit low and moderate-income persons, help prevent or eliminate slum and blight conditions, or solve catastrophic health and safety threats in local areas. As such, there are limited instances when they could be used to preserve historic sites or structures.

IDAHO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Foundation's purpose is "To Enrich Life's Quality Throughout Idaho." They do not attempt to define what this means; rather, ICF invites communities statewide to describe - through the applications they submit - what is needed to make life better for the people in their town. To achieve its mission, ICF *gathers* funds from donors, helping them achieve their philanthropic objectives; *grows* the funds over time through a sound investment process; and *grants* the funds for a broad variety of philanthropic projects statewide.

The ICF has an annual competitive grant in amounts up to \$5,000, plus a number of donor-advised funds. The Geography Knowledge Fund is only one that may be applicable to Council activities.



IDAHO FOUNDATION FOR PARKS AND LANDS

Formed in 1972, the foundation has the ability to accept/acquire, hold and sometimes transfer interests in lands to political entities within the State of Idaho. As such, it may be a resource for use by the County if a specific site is identified for acquisition, but that the County was not interested in being the owner/manager.

IDAHO HERITAGE TRUST

The Trust was founded in 1989 as a lasting legacy of the Centennial Committee, which was assembled to celebrate the state's centennial in 1990. Funds generated by sales of Idaho's red, white and blue standard license plates support historic preservation throughout Idaho, with fifty cents from each standard plate going into an endowment fund. The interest from the fund, in partnership with money from the local community, supports historic buildings, sites and artifact collections throughout Idaho. The Trust prefers to fund projects with public ownership or with plans for long-term ownership. The maximum grant is usually \$10,000. They provide technical assistance and up to a 50% match for "hard dollar costs."



IDAHO LEGAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Ad hoc group formed in 2005 to document oral histories of judges and others in the legal community. The Society plans a reenactment of the "Big Bill" Haywood Trial in 2007, as well as an IPTV docudrama on the subject.

IDAHO MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Formed in 1993 to provide for the preservation, display, and interpretation of military history and artifacts that have a geographical, cultural or historical tie to the history of the people and state of Idaho. The group maintains the Idaho Military History Museum at Gowen Field in Boise.



IDAHO NATIONAL GUARD

The National Guard has responsibility over areas of Gowen Field and the Orchard Training Area (OTA, the Guard's training range in the southern half of Ada County). As a federal agency they are required to provide resource management plans for the historic, cultural, archaeological resources within their domain, such as that undertaken as part of the EIS that was prepared for the OTA in the late 1980s.

IDAHO POWER

Idaho Power is a private corporation, but because its activities require federal licensure, it acts more like a federal agency from the perspective of preservation of cultural and historic resources. As part of the relicensure of Swan Falls dam, the company is preparing an historic preservation management plan for a 17 mile stretch of the Snake River Canyon, measured upstream starting from approximately the old Guffey Railroad bridge near the Canyon-Ada County line to approximately Wildhorse Butte. The company also prepares HABS/HAERS documentation before making any changes to historic resources on properties due to this federal licensure requirement.



IDAHO OREGON-CALIFORNIA TRAIL ASSOCIATION (I-OCTA)

The Oregon-California Trails Association, founded in 1982, is a not-for-profit organization, headquartered in Independence, Missouri, dedicated to education about and preservation and enjoyment of the trans-Mississippi emigrant trails. The Idaho chapter is significant in that there are more surviving trail ruts in Idaho than in any other state.

IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (ISHS)

Established in 1907, the Society's mission is to educate through the identification, preservation, and interpretation of Idaho's cultural heritage. The Society is responsible for the Idaho History Center (public archives and research library), Idaho Oral History Center, Idaho Historical Museum at Julia Davis Park, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the Old Penitentiary.



STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (SHPO)

Established in 1983 as a division of the Idaho State Historical Society, the SHPO administers CLG Grant monies from the National Park Service. Ada County qualifies for about \$3,500 in grants annually under this program. From 1983 to 2005 they distributed 313 grants totaling slightly more than \$1 million (\$65,000 to the Ada

County Historic Preservation Council). For 2006 45 CLGs were certified to receive these funds, though only 33 were active. Projects are required to deal with the built environment, including preparation of documentation for listing properties on the National Register. They are a division of the Idaho State Historical Society.

IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

ITD administers federal transportation grants, which are coordinated through COMPASS. In addition to the grant discussed below, there are other minor grants available from various sources for things like landscaping that can be coordinated with the STP-E grants. The department also maintains the State's historic highway marker program.

IDAHO SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM - ENHANCEMENT (STP-E)

This state-administered federal program funds projects that strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, or environmental value of Idaho's surface transportation system. The aim is to improve the transportation experience in and through local communities. The maximum federal aid available through this program is \$500,000. A match is required which varies depending upon several factors, but ranges from 2% up to around 8%. The program contains several categories of eligible projects that would relate to historic preservation.

PRESERVATION IDAHO

Founded in 1972 as the Idaho Historic Preservation Council, Preservation Idaho is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the state's historic and cultural resources through education and advocacy. They are unique among preservation groups in Idaho as they receive no public funding to support their efforts. They sponsor the annual "Orchids and Onions" award program to recognize the historic preservation successes and misdeeds of groups and individuals around the state. The group also provides workshops and tours, and maintains a list of Idaho's Ten Most Endangered Historic Sites.

FEDERAL AGENCIES

The following Federal agencies have a significant presence in or around Ada County. Many have plans that dovetail with Council goals, while others represent opportunities for the Council to coordinate with toward preserving important aspects of our heritage.

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

The BLM is very involved in preserving America's past. Within Ada County they administer large holdings of public land, including the Orchard Training Area and the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area. They have been instrumental in documenting important facets of Ada County's history, including sponsoring a BSU research project that culminated in the publication of a book entitled *Prospects in 1987*. Through their Adventures in the Past program they also published *Emigrant Trails in Southern Idaho* in 1993. They administer educational grants as well.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

The Bureau of Reclamation oversees irrigation projects throughout the country. The only such project within Ada County is the Boise Project.

BOISE PROJECT

Authorized in 1905, the Boise Project irrigations hundreds of thousands of acres in and around Ada County. As such, their Board of Control has jurisdiction over a significant portion of the irrigation systems in Ada County. The location of these facilities has been a catalyst for the agricultural development of Ada County, which in turn was a key factor in the development of early rural centers such as Kuna and Meridian.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The National Park Service is the federal agency with primary responsibility for historic preservation. Over time a significant array of programs have been developed to fulfill their mandate, with many of these programs, in particular those with potential applicability in Ada County, being described briefly below:

THE HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY (HABS)

Established in 1935, in collaboration with the Library of Congress and American Institute of Architects (AIA), as a means of documenting historic structures and providing an archive of the nation's architectural heritage.



THE HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD SURVEY (HAER)

Established in 1969 to document significant engineering and industrial sites in an archive administered by the Library of Congress with the help of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) and the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers (AIME).



NATIONAL HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPE SURVEY (HALS)

Established in October, 2000 to document significant historic American landscapes. The archive is administered by the Library of Congress with the help of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA).

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The National Park Service maintains the nation's list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. Authorized as part of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, it lists sites that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.



**SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES
PROGRAM.**

Save America's Treasures grants are available for preservation and/or conservation work on threatened nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and nationally significant historic structures and sites. Grants range from \$25,000 up to \$700,000. This is a bricks and mortar grant (not for things like acquisition or research).



OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS

PRESERVE AMERICA

Grant program for heritage tourism, including education and economic revitalization. It encourages and supports community efforts to preserve and enjoy our natural and cultural heritage. Part of the program recognizes communities as Preserve America communities for their efforts to protect and celebrate their heritage. The program appears to be administered by a number of Federal agencies.



UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Walla Walla District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is responsible for Lucky Peak Dam, Lake and environs and Barber Pools. The Corps includes historic resource assessments as part of its plans for Lucky Peak. Interpretive signage and the possible future reconstruction of the Foote House south of the dam are examples of goals called out in their plan. It is not known if there is any realistic chance for funding of these ideas.

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

Ada County contains a small portion of the Boise National Forest and is headquarters to this organization. The USFS has a volunteer archaeology and historic preservation program called Passport in Time. This program is supervised by professional archaeologists and historians of the Forest Service. Past activities have included projects like archaeological digs and oral history gathering. Historic roads, old mines and former logging operations are likely to have occurred in the vicinity of current and past Forest Service holdings, which offers the possibility of some sort of collaborative effort in the future.

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION GROUPS

These national groups offer potential funding, educational, technical expertise and/or research resources for our Council. The list is likely to be a fraction of the groups that are out there, but it includes the major groups and provides a foundation for expanding our reach in the future.

1772 FOUNDATION

Purpose is to preserve and enhance historic sites related to farming, industrial development, transportation or unusual historic buildings. Has a grant program, though it does not list specific amounts. You are required to submit an inquiry and based upon this, you would be informed of available grants and amounts.



ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY/THE HISTORY CHANNEL

This collaborative partnership provides Save our History grants, which are annual grants to fund partnerships with schools to engage students in the study and preservation of local history. Amount ranges from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Must be a 501(c)3 or local government agency and must partner with a local school district or similar educational organization to qualify.



NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF PRESERVATION COMMISSIONS

A national group focused on helping preservation commissions be more effective. They offer training and resources for preservation commissioners.



NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HISTORY

NCPH was organized to encourage a broader interest in history and to bring together those people, institutions, agencies, businesses, and

academic programs associated with the field of public history. Incorporated as a tax-exempt educational organization in 1980 in Washington, D.C., and reincorporated in 1997 in Indiana, NCPH stimulates interest in public history by promoting its use at all levels of society. It does not appear that they sponsor any grant programs.

NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Founded in 1949 to provide leadership, education, advocacy, and resources to protect the irreplaceable places that tell America's story. The Trust's national grant programs include:



- National Preservation Funds - \$500 to \$5,000 for initiation of preservation projects.
- Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation - \$2,500 to \$10,000 – for projects that contribute to the preservation or recapture of an authentic sense of place.
- Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors - \$2,500 to \$10,000 to assist in the preservation, restoration, and interpretation of historic interiors.

The Trust also has regional grant programs available for purposes and in amounts similar to those of the national grants. Since the grants are specific to the Pacific Northwest region there is less competition for the grants and there appears to be a desire to distribute these funds equitably amongst the individual states in the region. This currently puts Idaho in a favorable position for these grants.

The Trust provides technical and educational services to the greater preservation community and sponsors the National Preservation Awards.

PRIVATE ENTITIES

OTHER PRIVATE SOURCES

There are any number of private sources of funding through various corporate giving and philanthropic groups. The focus of these groups varies from entity to entity and is rarely centered on historic preservation, but there are some broad topics that potentially apply to the Council efforts, such as education, parks and open space, community enrichment, infrastructure and systems for empowering volunteers. Since funding is rather hit and miss with these entities, it doesn't justify exhaustive research at this point. These sources are more appropriately researched once a specific project is in mind.

Some of the more prominent local sources include:

- J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation, Inc
- Micron Technology Foundation, Inc
- J.R. Simplot Company Foundation, Inc
- Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation, Inc

One source for a more comprehensive list can be found at The Grantsmanship Center at www.tgci.com.

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

"In the long history of humankind (and animal kind, too) those who learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively have prevailed."

CHARLES DARWIN

APPENDIX III: TIMELINE OF EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS

While some of the events and projects noted in the following timeline were undertaken wholly by the Council, many are the result of cooperative efforts with other area preservation groups. Unfortunately, Council records are not complete enough to try to attempt to credit specific groups or individuals that were connected with specific projects.

1989

- *History Along the Greenbelt* by Jim Witherell is initiated by the Ada County Centennial Committee and published by the Idaho State Historical Society. It highlights sites of historic interest along the Boise River greenbelt from Lucky Peak Dam to Garden City.

1990

- Barn Again workshop. May 19, Ten Mile Grange.
- Brochure: Historic Ada County Driving Tour: A Visit to Swan Falls Dam (two color, offset press).

1991

- Slide show of history of Star, derived from 1991 Feasibility Study. Presented at Star Elementary School on June 6, 1991.
- Preservation Workshop, May 15: Preservation Under Pressure: Financing Preservation Projects. Included talk by Don Rypkema, author of *The Economics of Historic Preservation*.
- Workshop on “The Constitutionality of Preservation Law” by Frank Gilbert, senior field representative with the National Main Street Center, National Trust for Historic Preservation.

1992

- Historic Preservation workshop with Frank Gilbert, Senior Field Representative with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

1995

- *Directory of Oral Histories in Idaho* is published. It is not known if the Council had direct involvement in this project, but it is noted in the 1993-94 Strategic Plan for the Council.

1996

- Reprint of “Historic Ada County Driving Tour” (4,000 copies).

1998

- **Preservation Week:**
 - Century/Half-Century Farm ceremony, May 6. (Program started in 1998)
 - Boise’s Colorful Past tour, May 16 (Co-sponsored with Boise).
 - Public Television: Back from the Brink: Saving America’s Cities by Design. May 11.
 - Boise Depot public open house, May 7 (Co-sponsored with Boise).
- Holiday Trolley Tour, December 8.

1999

- **Preservation Month:**
 - Stories from the Grave, May 4.
 - Presentation: Settling in the Midst of Sagebrush by Lynda Campbell Clark, May 11.
 - Presentation: Mary Hallock Foote’s Idaho by Judith Austin, May 13.

- Presentation: Stories from the Grave by Ada County Historic Preservation Council, May 15.

2000

- **Preservation Month:**
 - Restoring the Capitol: A Behind the Scenes Tour, May 16.
 - Presentation: Historic Structures of Ada County by Madeline Kelley Buckendorf, May 17.
 - Stories from the Grave, May 20.
 - Bonneville Point rededication, May 24.
- Notorious Boise Tour (see Idaho Statesman, July 18, 2000).

2001

- Star Walking Tour brochure is created.
- **Preservation Month:**
 - Passport to Our Heritage: Rediscovering Ada County's Historic Neighborhoods, May 3-15.
 - Notorious Boise Tour, May 3.
 - Ada County Courthouse Tour, May 4.
 - Presentation: Historic Star slide show by John Bertram, May 7.
 - Presentation: A Brief History of the Kuna Area slide show by The Arrowrock Group, May 15.
- *Patterns of the Past: The Ada County Historic Sites Inventory* is published (1,000 copies).

2002

- **Preservation Month:**
 - Public Television: Block by Block, May 1.
 - Public Television: Save our Land, Save our Towns, May 15.
 - Presentation: Dry Creek Valley History talk by Barbara Perry Bauer, May 18 at Dry Creek Merchantile.
- Barns of Ada County poster is printed (at BSU).

2003

- *Court Morsels and Tidbits: ACJCS the First 30 Years* is produced by Ada County Juvenile Court Staff, edited by Linda L. Williams. 178 pages. A combination cookbook and history of the Ada County Juvenile Court.
- **Preservation Month:**
 - County Treasure program started. First event is held at Generations Plaza in Meridian
 - Historic Barn Tour (see Idaho Statesman, May 13, 2003).

2004

- Kuna Walking Tour brochure created.
- First participation in Kuna Days (Kuna centennial), August 7 and 8. Participated in Kuna tour by antique school bus, hosted by Kuna Historical Society and Kuna School District.
- County Treasure event is held August 31 at Heritage Park in Eagle.



Attendees of the inaugural County Treasure award ceremony in Meridian.
Staff photo.

2005

- **Preservation Month:**
 - Old Ada County Courthouse tours conducted by former Deputy Marshal Gary Peek (colorful law enforcement stories) and Chris Blanchard (WPA murals), May 21.
 - Council member Curt James creates brochure on old courthouse.
 - County Treasure event is held at Kuna Grange, Kuna, May 27.
- First County Treasure brochure created.
- Star Walking Tour Brochure updated. Participated in Star Mule Days on June 4, 2005.
- Participated in Kuna Days in August by setting up a display in the Kuna Grange.
- Council member Curt James produced a brochure on “Grange Halls in Idaho.”
- History of Star to 1958. Transcription of typewritten document that was provided by the Star Branch Library. This information was given to Council member Kelly Mitchell to research the physical locations of the places described in this historic account.
- Converted *A Brief History of Kuna* slide show to PowerPoint format and made available on the Council’s website. Tracked down several missing slides, working with The Arrowrock Group to update the speaker notes.
- The book on the history of the Old Ada County Courthouse, *Echoes from the Ada County Courthouse, 1938-2001* by Arthur A. Hart is published (1,250 copies).
- The Making History Award program is initiated. This included creating the nomination process, designing a logo, creating an award and hiring a consultant to perform research and write the text for a full color brochure on the award winner.

- Converted printed version of *Star Historic District Feasibility Study* to digital format for future use as a brief history of Star.

2006

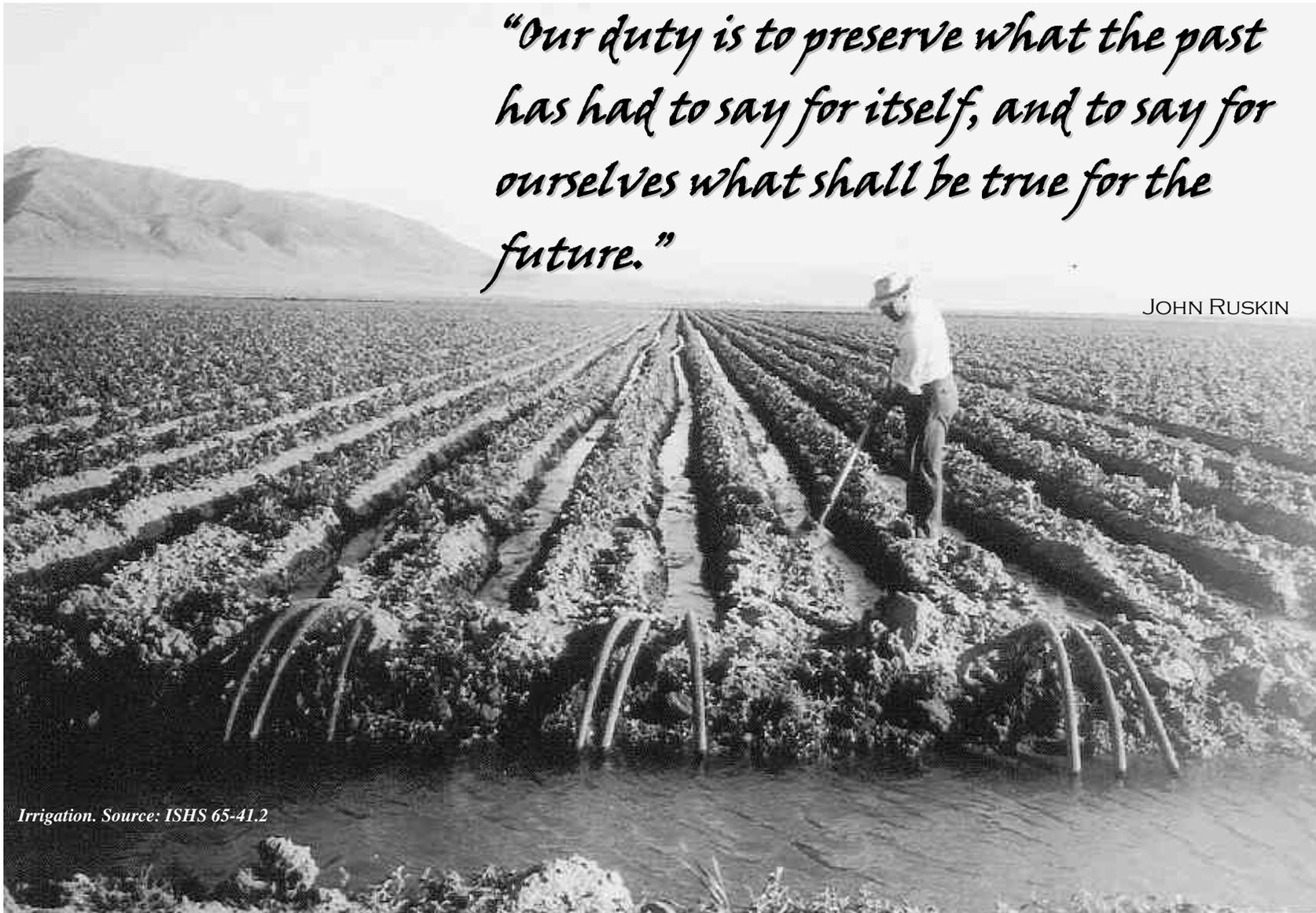
- **Preservation Month:**
 - Tour of Castle Rock/Table Rock. By Todd Shallat, May 3.
 - Old Ada County Courthouse tours, May 4.
 - Swan Falls Dam self guided tour, opened by special arrangement with Idaho Power, May 6.
 - County Treasure event held at Star Camp in Star on May 13. Program is changed from honoring a new property every month to honoring properties on even-numbered months.
 - Mayor of Star proclaims Star Camp Day to honor listing on the National Register, May 13.
 - History of Star slide show. John Bertram, May 13.
 - Sales of Historic Books at Capital City Public Market on May 6, 13 and 20. This included distribution of free literature and promotion of upcoming Preservation Month events.
 - County Treasure Brochure created.
- The inaugural Making History Award for J. R. Simplot was awarded at the State of the County address.
- Website redesigned and expanded.
- *Ada County Chronicles* slide show is developed, which provides a capsule history of the development of Ada County.



J.R. Simplot, Making History Award winner, 2006

*“Our duty is to preserve what the past
has had to say for itself, and to say for
ourselves what shall be true for the
future.”*

JOHN RUSKIN



Irrigation. Source: ISHS 65-41.2