

The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company resulted from the merger of Colorado Telephone, Tri-State Telephone, and Rocky Mountain Bell in 1911.

Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company later became known as Mountain Bell. The company is now a part of CenturyLink.

It should be noted that there are other Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company buildings on the National Register of Historic Places located across the western United States.

The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company Building is on the Meridian Historical Society's North Historic Walking Tour. The Ada County Historic Preservation Council encourages you to experience this County Treasure and other special buildings by taking a walking tour to learn more about Meridian's past. Brochures are available at Meridian City Hall or online on the City's website: <http://meridiancity.org>.

The Ada County Historic Preservation Council wishes to acknowledge the efforts of the property owners Howard & Teresa Foley in preserving this Ada County Treasure.

Ada County HPC, November 2017

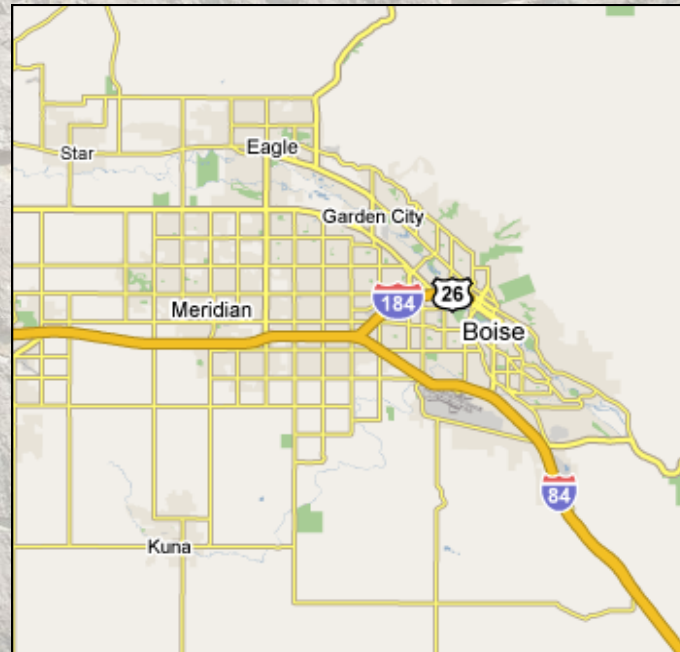


Source: Bell Telephone brochure.

About the Council

The Council was created on August 25, 1988 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 ten volunteer members that commit to serve a three-year term and are appointed by the Board of Ada County Commissioners.

This and other publications of the Ada County Historic Preservation Council are available from our website at <http://adacounty.id.gov/Historic-Preservation>



2017



Since 2003 the Ada County Historic Preservation Council has selected properties throughout the County to be honored as County Treasures. These are sites or structures that add to Ada County's heritage that are maintained through the dedication of caring individuals, groups and businesses. The Council recognizes these people for their efforts in preserving Ada County's heritage.

2017 AWARD WINNER

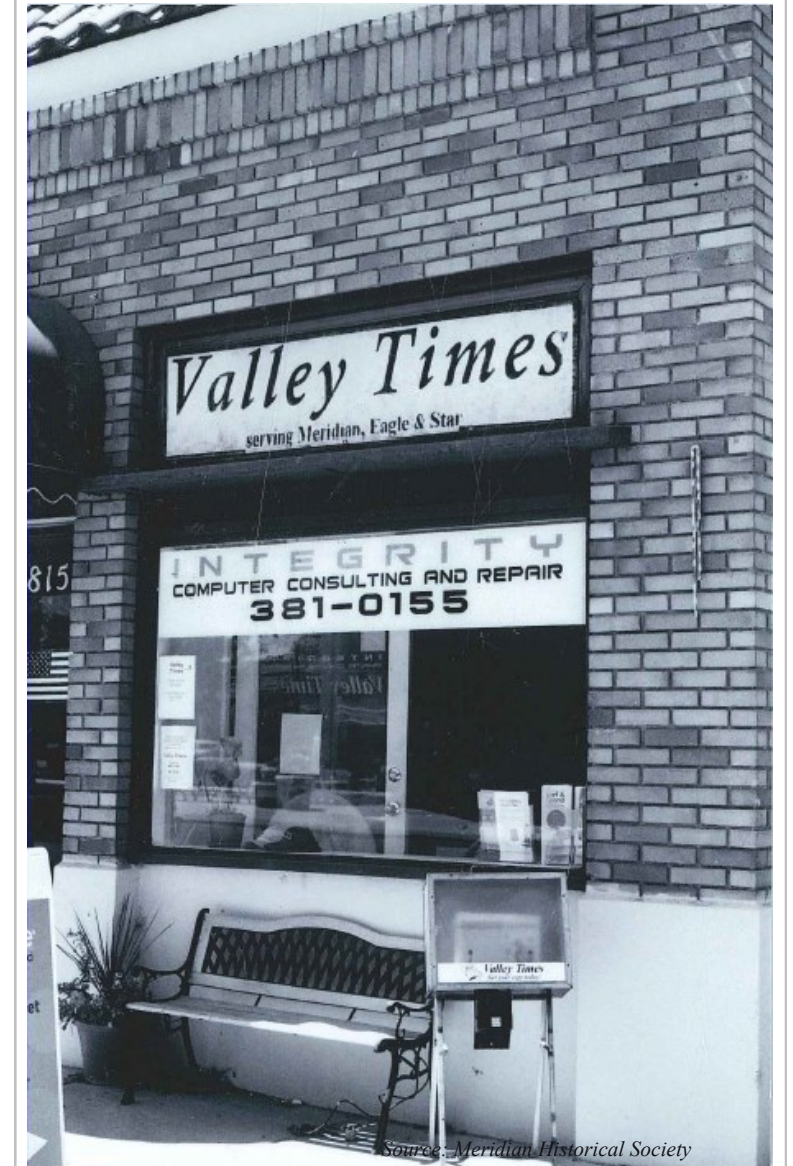
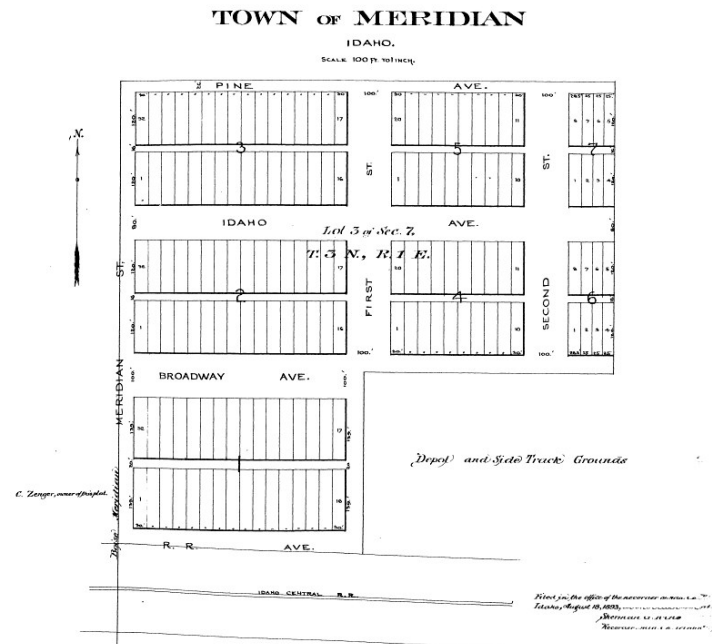
MOUNTAIN STATES TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH BUILDING

815 NORTH MAIN STREET, MERIDIAN

Built in the Early 20th Century Spanish Revival Style, the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company Building has made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our local and regional history. Originally, the telephone and telegraph equipment and the operators of that equipment were located in the basement. The building stands as one of the most intact historic structures still standing within the original platted townsite of Meridian.

The first phone line to serve Meridian was established in 1900. By the 1920's Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company had purchased numerous local telephone exchanges throughout the west including Idaho. The national economy was booming right before the Great Depression and it was in 1928 that the Company constructed their building in Meridian. They used the building until 1955 when its telecommunication services were consolidated into the Boise office. Later on, the Meridian Valley Times newspaper occupied the building.

The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company Building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2008. The nomination form mentions that the building was eligible for placement on the register due to its significance in areas of Communications and Commerce. The property is associated with the expansion of telephone service in Meridian, as well as with early 20th century commercial development of Meridian. The front façade is typical early 20th century small town storefront.



Source: Meridian Historical Society