

PH0353019

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED SEP 9 1975
DATE ENTERED APR 29 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Moore-Cunningham House

AND/OR COMMON Cunningham House

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1109 Warm Springs Avenue

CITY, TOWN Boise VICINITY OF COUNTY Ada CODE 001
STATE Idaho CODE 16
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS PRESENT USE
 DISTRICT PUBLIC STATUS AGRICULTURE MUSEUM
 BUILDING(S) PRIVATE UNOCCUPIED COMMERCIAL PARK
 STRUCTURE BOTH WORK IN PROGRESS EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE ENTERTAINMENT RELIGIOUS
 OBJECT IN PROCESS YES: RESTRICTED GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC
 BEING CONSIDERED YES: UNRESTRICTED INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION
 NO MILITARY OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr & Mrs. Harry Bettis

STREET & NUMBER 1602 East Jefferson

CITY, TOWN Boise, Idaho STATE Idaho
VICINITY OF

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Ada County Courthouse
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Boise STATE Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE 1974 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Historic American Buildings Survey

CITY, TOWN Washington STATE D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Moore-Cunningham house is a large brick mansion in the French chateau/Queen Anne style. Its most prominent feature is a three story square tower set at a 45 degree angle. An open observation area at the third story level is topped by a hipped roof rising steeply to a ridge once decorated with elegant iron cresting. (The loss of this cresting is the only significant alteration to the house and could be restored from early photographs.)

Band courses of gray sandstone accent the top level of windows, and inset panels of corner-set bricks give textural interest to the corner tower. Gables and dormers on the third floor are richly decorated with bronze cresting and finials. The principal west-facing gable has Queen Anne cut shingling, notable for a pendant fan pattern starting at the apex.

The large curving veranda which sweeps around the corner tower is of massive rusticated sandstone supporting columns in clusters of three. The main entrance to this porch is accented by a pedimented gable with bronze cresting. Another small open porch at the second floor level tops the main veranda.

The interior arrangement is typical of large houses of the period. From a large entry hall the staircase rises with two landings to the floor above. To the left through an arched opening are visible connected parlor and dining room. The kitchen is in the rear of the house, with pantry, servants's quarters, and a narrow back stairway.

Upstairs bedrooms are arranged along a central hallway with narrow stairs continuing upward to the third floor attic space. Two additional servants' rooms are on this level.

A handsome wooden carriage house with loft above is a short distance southwest. It is more clearly Queen Anne in character, finished as it is with cut shingles.

Moore's daughter, Mrs. John Cunningham, inherited the house and lived there until her death in 1963. Because the house has been occupied only by a caretaker for more than a decade, and because Mrs. Cunningham changed it very little in the half-century before that, it is remarkably unaltered and capable of precise restoration.

The trees, shrubs, and well maintained yard provide a setting which is essential to the historic integrity of this property.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1892

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

James King

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was designed by Idaho's first architect with professional training. It was built for Christopher W. Moore, one of the founders of the First National Bank of Idaho in 1867, and one of the state's wealthiest men when Idaho was admitted to the union in 1890. Moore was a partner in the water company formed to exploit the natural hot water wells drilled in 1890 east of the city. In addition to a huge Moorish palace called the Natorium (1892-1934), which housed a large swimming pool, Turkish baths, saloons, card rooms, and other delights, the chief promoters of the hot water project decided to build palatial houses for themselves on newly popular Warm Springs avenue. (Up until then, Grove street--where Moore had an elegant residence that this one replaced--had been the fashionable residential street.) The house of H. B. Eastman, two doors east, was destroyed by fire in 1956, leaving the Moore house the grandest survivor of this early geothermal development. The Moore house was the first in the project heated with natural hot water; it and 200 others in the neighborhood still use the 170 degree water. This venture in commercial geothermal power for space heating (as distinct from restort use of warm springs) finally has proved to be the pioneer development of an important new energy conservation--and relatively pollution free--possibility which now holds considerable promise for the future. Commercial geothermal power sources soon were developed in Italy (1904), New Zealand, Iceland, Mexico, Salvador, Japan, and Russia, as well as in one or two other places in the United States, including a similar space heating arrangement in Klamath Falls, and a major electric power development in Lake county, California.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Early development of western geothermal resources, Journal of the West (January 1971), 10:53-71.

An Illustrated History of the State of Idaho (Chicago, 1899), 242-245.

Architecturally Significant and Historic Buildings of Boise, Idaho (Boise, 1970), 9.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 2

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 1	5 6 6 0 6 0	4 8 4 7 2 8 3 1 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Arthur A. Hart, Director

ORGANIZATION

Idaho Historical Society

DATE

September 4, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

610 North Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

208-384-2121

CITY OR TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Merle W. Wells

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

4 Sep 75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Peter C. ...

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

4/29/77

ATTEST:

Charles ...

DATE

7-29-77

Acting KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER