

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

DEC 3 1980

NOMINATION: Early Churches of Emmett Thematic GroupSITE NAME: Catholic Church of the Sacred HeartSITE # 5LOCATION: First Street at Hayes Avenue, Emmett, IdahoOWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Catholic Diocese of Idaho, 420 W. Idaho, Boise, Idaho

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: \_\_\_\_\_ ACREAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The nomination includes the Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart and the property on which it stands: lots 21-24, block 4, Hayes Addition to Emmett.

UTM(S): \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OR PERIOD: 1928, 1977EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: LocalAREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, local historyDESCRIPTION

The Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, directly across from the Baptist Church at First and Hayes, presents to First Street an example of the Mission Style: front-facing gabled roof culminating in a baroque-curved "bell tower," round-arched entrance, and stucco fabric enriched with wrought-iron ornament. The additions, which have made this the most altered exterior among the early Emmett churches submitted as a thematic group, have been undertaken so recently (1977) as to make it one of the best-maintained of the number. The renovations in general respect the original architectural character, retaining the original fabric and, with one exception, the original massing. That exception is the shed-roofed extension which has been added to the right side, altering the original symmetry of the facade. This was done to provide more space in the nave, the orientation of which was changed from north-south to east-west. The same change resulted in the closing of windows on the east wall, behind the relocated altar. On this side, however, the forms of the original round-arched fenestration are retained on the exterior. The other addition is less significant, having been built at the rear of the church to connect it with the parish hall.

The main church, apart from the additions noted, remains strongly evocative of its original appearance. It was built in 1928 to a simple, generally rectangular plan, with a 35 by 50 foot nave and a 12 by 38, offset sanctuary and sacristy to the rear. A centered, outset, enclosed porch contains the main entrance on the north side. The porch is flanked by low footings and approached by a semi-circular range of steps; the square-headed double doors are set in a round-arched frame recessed into the stucco. The only change in the entry has been the replacement of doors and the addition of pipe-iron rails. Directly above the porch gable the north wall is pierced by a circular window, covered with metal grillwork. The front plane of the tall, slightly battered "tower" which rises from the gable is continuous with the facade of the church. The round-arched perforation in it was designed to contain a bell; an early photograph shows it containing statuary; it is presently empty. A cross which once surmounted the double-curved shoulders of the tower is no longer extant.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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SIGNIFICANCE

The Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart is architecturally significant as Emmett's only full scale example of the Mission Revival Style, and as a design produced by one of the most prominent firms in Idaho architectural history, Tourtellotte and Hummel of Boise. (The only other surveyed example of this style, which was much loved in early twentieth century Idaho for its picturesque associations with the arid southwest, is a diminutive tile-roofed building at Main Street and Boise Avenue; this former gas station closely resembles a 1929 Tourtellotte and Hummel design for Fletcher Oil Company in Emmett.) The renovation detailed above respects to a substantial degree the original architectural character of the building and retains its unmistakable style. Hummel, Hummel, Jones and Shawver, successor firm to Tourtellotte and Hummel, undertook the 1977 project.

Historically, the church has local significance as a tangible expression of the needs and aspirations of the Catholic community in Emmett. Local Catholics worshipped in the Murray or Regan homes between 1875 and 1890. In that year a modest building was constructed at Second and Boise avenue. It served almost forty years until the construction of the new church. Sacred Heart represented an investment of \$9286: \$442 of it in fees for the services of one of Idaho's premier architectural firms. Contractor L. S. Mallory was in charge of construction.