

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only  
received **JUL 20** 1983  
date entered

# 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 Bernd, W. A., Building

and/or common N/A

## 2. Location

street & number 307-311 North <sup>1st.</sup> ~~First~~ Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town Sandpoint N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Idaho code 016 county Bonner code 017

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Ervin H. and Margaret Leva

street & number 3732 Hulen Park

city, town Fort Worth N/A vicinity of state Texas 76109

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bonner County Courthouse

street & number Box 1009

city, town Sandpoint state Idaho 83864

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Idaho Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1972  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Idaho State Historical Society

city, town Boise state Idaho

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The two-story W. A. Bernd Building is rectangular in plan, having sixty feet of frontage on First Avenue and running eighty feet in depth. A raised parapet and sidewalls conceal the flat roof. The building material is coursed light red-orange brick veneer on the facade and common red brick on the sides and rear. The facade color closely matches the brick building to the south, which was built about one year before the Bernd building. Window shape and details also tie these two structures together.

The second story remains unchanged and provides much of the building's charm. It is marked by a row of eight evenly spaced round-arched double-hung sash windows. The bricks in each arch fan out to meet a pair of raised brick line courses that repeat the rhythm of the arches across the facade. The windows are further joined by a common concrete sill that terminates in a scroll on each end.

A heavy metal cornice decorates the facade about two feet below the roofline. Its details include five scrolled modillions, dentils, and a paneled frieze. Centered just below the cornice is a nameplate inscribed with the date 1907 and the original owner's name, W. A. Bernd. A simple metal cornice above the first story window and a plain metal coping on top of the parapet complete the building's details.

The first story originally contained two identical storefronts. Each had a recessed central entrance with angled walls and large plate glass windows topped with a band of small square windows. A row of rectangular wooden panels decorated the storefront below the main windows. These storefronts have been modernized over time. The right storefront retains its recessed entrance with angled walls, but its large windows have been replaced with smaller display windows and the rest of the front is covered with cedar shakes. The left store has been changed into two shops sharing a straight-walled recessed entry with two doors. Both of these small shopfronts retain the large windows, but the rest of the fronts are covered with modern paneling. It appears that the mezzanine windows above the plate glass remain under newer paneling. The owner plans to uncover these windows during the restoration of the building. One cast-iron pilaster remains in the center front, and there may be others under the modern paneling. Access to the upstairs is through a tall doorway at the far right.

The interior of the Bernd Building has a number of significant features. The downstairs stores have dropped ceilings hiding the original stamped metal ceilings, which remain in fair condition. The upstairs was originally designed for offices, and the office partitions remain relatively unaltered, although the upstairs was later used as a hotel and apartments. There are twenty rooms upstairs. Except for the bathrooms, all rooms not lit by exterior windows are lit by skylights, making about twelve skylights in all. Most of the woodwork, including the red fir floors, is original. A few pieces of the original door hardware and only one original light fixture remain. Minor alterations in the upstairs include the removal of one hall door, the addition of two or three partitions in the hallways, and the addition of sinks in each room. The owner plans to reverse these alterations.

## 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 type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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** 1907 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Bernd building is architecturally significant as a local example of the use of Romanesque Revival and Renaissance Revival motifs in brick commercial architecture. The building represents the town's commercial development during the first decade of the twentieth century, a period of rapid growth. The Bernd building is one of nine extant Sandpoint buildings dating from 1905 through 1910, a group similar in design, massing, and materials. The Bernd building stands out from this group in both size and more liberal use of decorative elements. Four of the buildings, including the Bernd Block, are built the width of two lots or more, giving them approximately the same street frontage. The size of the Bernd building seems to be emphasized in contrast to the others. It towers over the long but lower one-story 1930's Sandpoint Drug building, and it is twice as wide as and several feet taller than the original 1906 Sandpoint Drug building. More important, the Bernd building is distinguished by its use of decoration. Of the four buildings that have metal cornices, the Bernd building has the most massive and elaborate one with its large scroll brackets and dentils. The round-arched windows are topped with a pair of raised brick line courses that repeat the arches over and over across the facade and mirror the windows on the building to the south. This curvilinear theme continues in the scrolls that terminate the continuous concrete sill joining these windows. The delicacy of this Renaissance Revival structure contrast with the more geometric design of most of the other buildings in the Sandpoint downtown area.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Sandpoint

Quadrangle scale 7.5 minute

### UMT References

A 

1	1	5	3	3	6	2	0	5	3	4	6	7	8	5
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The nomination includes the W. A. Bernd Building and the property on which it stands, Block 25, north 20 feet of Lot 18, all of Lot 19 and south 15 feet of Lot 20, Farmin's Third Addition, Sandpoint, Idaho.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nancy F. Renk, Architectural Historian

organization Idaho State Historical Society date 28 June 1983

street & number 610 North Julia Davis Drive telephone (208) 334-3356

city or town Boise state Idaho 83702

# 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 Wells

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 12 July 1983

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for Belorus Byers  
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in             
National Register

date 8/18/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

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W. A. Bernd Building

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Continuation sheet

Item number 8

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Sandpoint commenced as a Northern Pacific Railway town with a single-band sawmill until 1902, when Weyerhaeuser lumber interests took over and greatly enlarged that operation. A new townsite, which L. D. Farmin laid out in 1898 across Sand Creek from Sandpoint's original location, grew rapidly after 1902. Most of Sandpoint's brick commercial buildings were constructed there by 1910.

The \$18,000 Bernd building was built during this construction boom, with the excavation begun in May, 1907. At least one other building in this area had encountered quicksand during construction. W. A. Bernd hoped to avoid this problem, and he hit upon a scheme of leaving the foundation of the building resting on hardpan and then constructing a basement well inside the foundation walls and independent of them. This gave him a thirty-by-sixty-foot basement under the sixty-by-eighty-foot building and saved many potential problems. Construction proceeded at a good pace over the summer months, and the two stories were ready to open by the end of the year. Frazier Brothers grocery and Quality House clothing occupied the north store while Francis D. Fowler's dry goods rented the south store. Sometime during the late 1920's the south store was changed into two smaller retail outlets. The office upstairs had been remodeled into hotel space by 1923 and continued as either hotel rooms or apartments until the late 1960's when the upstairs was vacated.

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

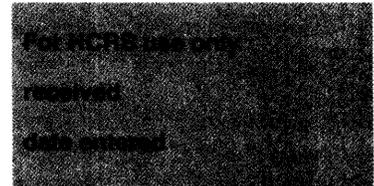
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W. A. Bernd Building

Continuation sheet

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

An Illustrated History of North Idaho. Western Publishing Company, 1903. Pp. 792-796.

Sandpoint Pend D'Oreille Review. 7 March 1907, p. 5, c. 4 18 April 1907, p. 4, c. 2; 9 May 1907, p. 4, c. 3; 23 May 1907, p. 5, c. 4; 25 July 1907, p. 5, c. 1; 26 September 1907, p. 5, c. 1; 21 November 1907 p 7, c. 2; 5 December 1907, p. 7, c. 3; 12 December 1907, p. 7, c. 4; and 19 December 1907, c. 4, c. 3.