

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

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE ~~IN IDAHO~~ TR)

✓ SITE NAME: Idaho State Sanitarium Administration Building ✓ SITE NUMBER: 94

Nampa vic. 11th
✓ LOCATION: ~~Eleventh Avenue North, northeast~~ of ~~city~~, Nampa, Canyon County ~~(027)~~,
Idaho 83651

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

State of Idaho, c/o Idaho State School and Hospital, Nampa, ID 83651

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Nampa, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: approximately one acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Idaho State School Sanitarium Administration Building on the NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of section 13, T3N, R2W, Boise Meridian, and the property on which it stands with a margin of 25 feet on each side of the Idaho State Sanitarium Administration Building, including the grounds and the circle drive in front of the Idaho State Sanitarium Administration Building. Legal description on file at the Canyon County Courthouse, Caldwell, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,37,910/48,27,620

DATE OR PERIOD: 1917

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: State

CONDITION: good altered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The Idaho State Sanitarium Administration Building is a two-story stone structure set at the head of a circle drive around which the other main buildings of the institution are arranged. It has a basically rectangular 124 foot, 8 inch-by-47 foot, 2 inch plan. The roof is in hip-and-ridge form with a long lateral ridgebeam. Both plan and roof system are complicated by the shallow outsetting of most of the front elevation. The whole is fifteen bays wide. The middle eleven bays, five round-arched windows wide on either side of the broader Tudor-arched entrance, are included in the outset. A monumental portico--four Tuscan columns in front, pilasters in back, three bays wide, with a low-pitched hipped roof--is outset at center.

Low-pitched, rather close-eaved hip-and-ridge-roofed dormers emerge from the front slope on either side of the portico and from either end slope. These do not appear on the original drawings, but neither does the portico roof in its present form; it appears there with a curious crenellated concrete parapet. Both the dormers and

the portico roof, therefore, particularly since they are scaled to match the main roof, probably represent a simplification of the plan as built. The dormers contain pairs of rectangular windows and are sided with narrow clapboards, and their sealed eaves are underlined with smooth bed molding. Similar molding runs under the main eaves as well; they are supported, as well, on simple modillions.

The rock-faced stone fabric is laid up in alternating wide and narrow courses. The walls are penetrated by full round-arched windows on the first floor and rectangular windows with bracketed outset sills on the second floor. The windows have been reglazed and framed, which is particularly noticeable on the first story where the round arches have been filled in to permit installation of the rectangular windows. The entry has been filled in in the same manner, and modern glass doors have been hung. The ten-foot-wide terrace space which originally extended completely around the building survives on the front and sides, though it has been compromised in front by the channelling of the traffic up the former full-width steps by means of iron rails and plantings and the railing off of the portico sides. The building has a very large utilitarian addition which in no way relates to the original design.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Idaho State Sanitarium Administration Building is architecturally significant as a more formal, if curiously eclectic, variation on the Second Renaissance Revival institutional mode which was introduced in the Thematic Group by the Gooding college buildings (site 93). Particularly in its visually little-altered state and in relation to the circular group of buildings it dominates on a hilltop location north of Nampa, it is the most architecturally significant institutional building in the vicinity of that city.

The two-story portico which is outset from this long boxy building, the slight elaboration of the rectangular plan, the arcade-like treatment of the first-story windows and the modillioned eaves, all suggested a heightened formality which was typical of these late-1910s institutional commissions (see also sites 102 and 104) and of a late burst of Renaissance style expressed in several circa 1920 designs. With its large rear addition, this building is no exception to the circumstance that none of the extant structures in this mode has survived sixty years of use without alterations. But in this case the addition does not significantly affect the visual integrity of the building, which dominates its site quite impressively. It is the most distinguished and least altered building of its type in the Nampa area.

The Administration building is the only one of several designed for the institution by Tourtellotte and Hummel and built about the same time which survives with this degree of integrity and interest. The others were a dining hall, a farm house, and a laundry building. B. W. Allen was the contractor.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 231A. Certificate book reference 1918. Frederick Hummel retrospective file. Tracings signed Tourtellotte and Hummel.