

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

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

SITE NAME: Eichelberger Apartments ✓ SITE NUMBER: 65

LOCATION: 612-24 ^{N. 9th} ~~North Ninth Street~~, Boise, Ada County (001), ~~Idaho 83702~~

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Domingo and Julia Solosabal
c/o Ronald F. Koch
10 Blackmer Road
Englewood, Colorado 80110

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Boise South, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Eichelberger Apartments and the property on which it stands, lot 7, block 88, Boise City Original Townsite. Legal description on file at the Ada County Courthouse, Boise, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,64,620/48,29,850

DATE OR PERIOD: 1910

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: excellent unaltered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The Eichelberger Apartments is a two-story, 111-by-45-foot brick and stucco structure which suggests the colonial revival in its porticos, keystones, corner quoins, and strict symmetry. The building is in a flattened U-shape, with the main entrance in the recessed central section. Stocky balconied porticos with low brick walls, square brick posts, and square-membered upper balustrades are outset not only over that entrance but over the secondary entrances in the forward wings on Ninth Street and on the north elevation facing Hays Street. Two-story frame porches are outset from the rear of the building.

The first story is finished in rosy brick with corner quoins and quoined, keystone windows and door surrounds in paler brick. The main entrance is especially elaborate, with a compound arch, corner pilasters, and a lunette over the double doors. This entrance is approached directly from the front, rather than by steps set laterally behind a low parapet as with the other entrances.

The second story is rough grey stucco. A wide coffered wood frieze runs under a cornice outset on modillion-like blocks. The roofline is parapeted, and the wide clapboard covering may represent an alteration. On the drawings and in a contemporary rendering published in the Statesman, the parapet was covered between crested pilasters.

The tall foundations of porch and building walls are of random-coursed, rock-faced stone with a rough stone sill. Rough-cut stone is also used for the window sills and dressed stone for the keystones. There are leaded lights in the upper sections of the main downstairs windows.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Eichelberger Apartments is architecturally significant as an unusual example of the classical revival taste of numerous contemporary buildings (sites 36, 49, and 64), rendered here at mid-scale in a multi-unit dwelling. It is also significant as a functional sub-type; it is the first apartment building in the Group to be composed entirely of single-story flats.

With its neo-colonial formality and symmetry, the Eichelberger makes an appropriate addition to the Group's series of apartment buildings. As discussed in the significance statement for the Kieldson Double House, this series ranges from Italianate to Queen Anne to bungalow to classical revival (sites 21, 30, 51, and 65). The latter style is shared, on a more humble and stylized level, by the little Zurcher Apartments of 1911 (site 74). Like the Zurcher, the Eichelberger is particularly interesting in comparison with the earlier examples in that it is a true apartment building, rather than a terrace or rowhouses; its sixteen units are single-story segments of the building, rather than side-by-side units approximating as nearly as possible the two-story detached dwelling format. An alternative to the boarding house or hotel was being provided, within a stone's throw of Boise's fast-growing downtown.

Anton Eichelberger was listed in the 1912 city directory as a City Park Commissioner, with a residence address at the apartment house he had commissioned from Tourtellotte and Hummel. The projected cost of the building in 1919 was \$16,000 on the building permit and \$22,000 in the newspaper.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

(Boise) Idaho Statesman, August 7, 1910, p. 8, c. 1; September 25, 1910, p. 10, c. 1-3 (sketch).

Polk and Company. Boise City Directory. 1912.

Boise, Idaho. Boise City building permit, June 22, 1910.

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 127B. Collection book reference to A. V. Eichelberger, 1910.