

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 91001716 Date Listed: 11/19/91

Franklin City Hall  
Property Name

Franklin                      ID  
County                              State

N/A  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*Quinn J. Lee*  
for \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

11/19/91  
\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: Under Criteria Considerations, A is added.

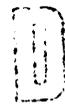
This information was confirmed with Elizabeth Egleston of the Idaho state historic preservation office.

**DISTRIBUTION:**  
National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

NPS Form 10-9000  
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: Franklin City Hall

other name/site number: 000845

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2. Location

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street & number: 128 East Main

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Franklin

vicinity: N/A

state: ID

county: Franklin

code: 041

zip code: 83237

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: public

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>      </u>	buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria.  See continuation sheet.

*Anneryn Green* Signature of certifying official 10/15/91 Date

*Iowa State Historical Society - SAPO* State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register *Antoinette Lee* 11/19/91  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

*for* Signature of Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: GOVERNMENT Sub: city hall

Current : VACANT Sub: not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Colonial Revival, Italianate

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation stone roof wood:shingle  
walls brick other wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: architecture  
politics/government  
religion

Period(s) of Significance: 1904 1941

Significant Dates : 1904 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: J. W. Barrett, Worley & Nelson

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. X See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>12</u>	<u>433820</u>	<u>4651770</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description:  See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification:  See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Jennifer Eastman Attebery, Architectural Historian

Organization: Idaho State Historical Society Date: May 1, 1991

Street & Number: 210 Main Street Telephone: (208) 334-3861

City or Town: Boise State: ID Zip: 83702

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Franklin City Hall

Page 1

=====

The Franklin City Hall is a one-story, one-room brick building sited facing north on East Main Street in Franklin in a neighborhood of sparse residential and institutional development. The building sits about eight feet west of a city hall building that was constructed in 1985. The building's simple massing consists of a single cubical block that expresses verticality through employment of a raised stone basement story and a cupola centered on the pyramidal roof. In plan the building is about sixteen feet square (exterior measurements).

The front wall of the city hall has a bilaterally symmetrical facade with a centered door and one window on either side of it. On the interior, the building has a single square room on the first floor and two small rooms (one, a jail cell) in the basement story.

The first story of the city hall is constructed of red brick laid three wythes thick. On the exterior, the brick reveals common bond laid up exclusively with stretcher rows. The only header bricks appear in a single header row at the bottom of the wall. The brick appears to be fired rather than pressed brick. The raised basement story and foundation are rusticated stone laid in courses. The mortar between stones has a beaded profile. Roofing is wood shingle with metal flashing. At the peak of the roof is a wood frame cupola housing a bell. The eaves are enclosed, and there is a fascia of plain milled lumber at the top of the wall and continuous with the eaves.

Windows are one-over-one-light double-hung sash. In addition to the two windows on the north (front) exposure, there are windows centered on the east and west walls. The south (rear) wall has no openings other than a stovepipe hole that has been bricked in. The basement story has small single-paned hinged windows with vertical bars. There are two basement windows on the west exposure and two on the east. The front door is plywood -- a replacement door. There is also a door into the basement on the east wall of the building. All windows and doors have plain milled molding and raised, brick segmental relieving arches with dropped sides. The basement door and windows are set so that these relieving arches are level with the bottom of the brick wall. All of the wooden features of the building--doors, moldings, eaves, frames, and cupola--are painted white.

Alterations to the building are few. In addition to replacement of the front door and parts of its frame, the transom above that door is boarded. The front railing and possibly the concrete stoop and steps are additions. (Scars of turned-wooden posts are visible in the brick

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number   7  

Franklin City Hall

Page 2

=====

wall on either side of the front door.) The cupola is an addition of uncertain age. The building has been reroofed since 1985 with materials replicating the original. During the reroofing, traces of a chimney opening in the south pitch of the roof were obscured. A stovepipe hole in the south wall has been closed with brick matching the original materials.

The interior is somewhat more altered. The ceiling has been dropped with acoustical tile. The floor is carpeted. Wallboard has been added over the original plaster walls. Woodwork on the interior is plain milled molding.

The building is an example of Colonial Revival style in which Italianate characteristics are also evident. The Italianate style is expressed in the building's segmental window and door heads and cubical massing; the style would be more apparent with the original turned-wooden posts around the front door. Colonial Revival is expressed in the building's overall symmetry, enclosed eaves, and raised basement story (an attempt at monumentality in a very small building). This style has been made even more apparent by the addition of the cupola.

There are no other buildings on the property.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Franklin City Hall

Page 1

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The Franklin City Hall is historically significant as a local manifestation of the gradual distinction between church and civil government that developed in Mormon political and religious thought during the turn-of-the-century period. The building is architecturally significant as an example of the transition from Italianate to Colonial Revival forms for institutional buildings in Idaho during the period between about 1890 and 1905. The building also reveals the stylistic preference for Colonial Revival forms in southeast Idaho's Mormon communities, a preference that existed throughout the first half of the twentieth century. The building provides a good example of early brickwork in the region.

The Franklin City Hall was planned and constructed by descendants of the village's founders in a period when the nature of Mormon society was changing. The Mormons had begun their settlement of the Great Basin region as a theocracy; church and state were one entity. By 1848, anticipating that the Great Basin would eventually become United States territory, church leaders saw an advantage to establishing a civil government separate from the church. That government, which initially consisted merely of church leaders elected to civil office, was seen as a practical means toward eventually establishing a Kingdom of God on earth -- in other words as a means of establishing an ultimate theocracy that would encompass the world.

The practical and ideological identity between church authority and civil government was manifest in the fact that local bishops like Lorenzo Hatch of Franklin often held key governmental positions as well.

By the turn-of-the-century, however, Mormon society was beginning to align itself more clearly with mainstream American culture, and the idea of a Kingdom of God on earth came to be understood metaphorically rather than as an attainable political reality. In 1907, a half century after civil government was first established in the Great Basin, the church published a "declaration . . . regarding relations of church and state" (Hansen, p. 186) that made explicit the idea of separate religious and political spheres.

It is not surprising, then, that second-generation Franklin villagers felt the need for a jail and village hall in this period. Exclusive church purview over civil matters was breaking down with the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Franklin City Hall

Page 2

=====  
passing of first-generation bishops like Hatch. The Franklin village council had been using the church tithing house for its meetings. The council began discussing construction of a civic building in May 1900, but it was not until November 1904 that the council was able to meet in the new building. Awarding a contract for the building was delayed by consideration of an alternative plan: purchasing the Franklin Cooperative Mercantile Institution from Samuel R. Parkinson. However, Parkinson's price was too high (as was the projected cost of remodeling work on the FCMI), so the council settled upon plans drawn up by J.W. Barrett. A low bid of \$995 for construction was accepted from Worley and Nelson.

The Franklin City Hall is also of importance as a local representative of trends in Idaho's institutional architecture. The building's combination of Italianate and Colonial Revival styles was typical of the turn-of-the-century period, when architects were gradually discarding the first style for the second. Many institutional buildings of this period exhibit both styles. In the case of the Franklin city building, the Colonial Revival style was later intensified with addition of a lantern-like cupola, in keeping with this region of the state's fondness for Colonial Revival forms during the first four decades of this century.

The Franklin City Hall also offers a well-preserved example of local brickwork. Brick masonry construction was rare in the Mormon villages of southeast Idaho until about 1900, even though Mormons from Utah began their movement north into Idaho forty years earlier. Kathleen Watt's survey of early Idaho brick manufacturers found no brickworks in the Franklin area until 1906, when A.B.C. Jensen had a brickwork in nearby Preston. Bricks for the city hall probably were shipped in from Logan, Utah, which was the Cache Valley's principal supply point and cultural center. The brickwork in the city hall is unusual for its lack of header bricks, but it is typical of southeast Idaho brick construction in the use of segmental arches with dropped sides. One thinks of this device as being associated with Italianate and other nineteenth-century styles, but its use persisted in southeast Idaho well into the twentieth century on buildings that mixed Picturesque and Classical features.

The Franklin City Hall is currently not occupied, although it is maintained in a weather-tight condition by the Franklin chapter of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, who hope to interpret the building as a museum.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9

Franklin City Hall

Page 1

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Attebery, Jennifer Eastman. Building Idaho: An Architectural History. Moscow, Idaho: University of Idaho Press, 1991. Pp. 58-60, 62-63.

Beal, Merrill D. "Cache Valley Pioneers; the Founding of Franklin in 1860." Idaho Yesterdays 4, no. 1 (spring 1960), pp. 2-7.

Beal, Merrill D. "The Story of the Utah Northern Railroad." Idaho Yesterdays 1, no. 1 (spring 1957), pp. 3-10.

Bird, Annie Laurie. "Portrait of a Frontier Politician." Idaho Yesterdays 2, no. 3 (fall 1958), pp. 12-22.

(Boise) Idaho Tri-Weekly Statesman. 7 November 1872. P. 2.

"A Brief History of Franklin; First Permanent Settlement in the State of Idaho." Franklin, Idaho: Idaho Pioneer Association, 1960.

Conversation with Clyde Porter, 14 September 1985, Franklin, Idaho.

Conversation with Gwen Gibson, 23 April 1991, Franklin, Idaho.

Franklin Council Minutes, 8 May 1900-31 January 1905.  
Franklin City Hall, Franklin, Idaho.

Franklin County plat and deed records, on file at Franklin County Courthouse, Preston, Idaho.

"Franklin; Who and What We Saw There New." Blackfoot Register. 23 October 1880. Pp. 4, col. 3.

Hansen, Klaus J. Quest for Empire; The Political Kingdom of God and the Council of Fifty in Mormon History. Michigan State University Press, 1967.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9

Franklin City Hall

Page 2

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Melville, J. Keith. Highlights in Mormon Political History. Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Press, 1967.

Oregon, Washington and Idaho Gazetteer and Business Directory 1886-7, vol. 2. Portland, Oregon: R.L. Polk & Co., 1886. P. 743.

Photographs on file at Idaho State Historical Society, Boise, Idaho.

R.L. Polk & Co.'s Idaho Gazetteer and Business Directory 1891-92. P. 1302.

(Salt Lake City) Deseret Evening News. 6 January 1868. P. 4, col. 1.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Franklin, Idaho, April 1929.

The Trail Blazer; History of the Development of Southeastern Idaho. Daughters of the Pioneers, 1930.

Watt, Kathleen. Survey for early Idaho brick manufacturers, on file at Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, Boise, Idaho.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10

Franklin City Hall

Page 1

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nomination includes the Franklin City Hall and the property on which it sits, commencing at the northwest corner of lot 6 in block 11 in the Village of Franklin, thence east 67.5 feet, thence south 44 feet, thence west 67.5 feet, thence north 44 feet to the place of beginning, situated in section 20 T16S R40E, Boise Meridian.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10

Franklin City Hall

Page 2

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BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary for the nomination includes that portion of land associated with the Franklin City Hall during its period of significance, which is identical with current land ownership as described in deeds on file at Franklin County Courthouse.