

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED MAY 21 1979  
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 Bonneville County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Capital Avenue at the head of C Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Idaho Falls

VICINITY OF

Second

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Idaho

CODE

16

COUNTY

Bonneville

CODE

019

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Bonneville County

STREET & NUMBER

Bonneville County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Idaho Falls

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Bonneville County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Idaho Falls

STATE

Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1972

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Idaho State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bonneville County Courthouse is a two-story reinforced concrete building with a second story Denver turkey brick veneer. This rectangular building has an outset central entry bay and is characterized by its use of classical motifs.

The main entry is elevated and its doors are framed in Boise sandstone. An entablature supported by Corinthian pilasters is the principal feature. A round arch with garlanded spandrels surmounts the doors. A pair of double hung sash windows flank the entry on the main level.

The building is five bays deep and an equal number wide. All bays, except the main entry, have sets of three double hung sash windows on the ground and main floors. The main floor windows have transoms broken into eight triangular lights. Ground level entries are located in the center bays of the sides and rear. Shield shaped plaques of Boise sandstone decorate all corners and the center bays. A denticulated cornice with a parapet crowns the building. A shallow, dome-like, skylight is in the center of the roof.

The only exterior alterations are the reworking of the front steps and the stuccoing of the first story in a light beige color. There are no additions.

The interior remains unaltered on the main floor. Marble stairs lead up to a wide hallway which opens up into the central foyer. All floors in these public spaces are of white vitreous mosaic tile and an Alaska marble wainscot graces the walls. The woodwork and beamed and paneled ceiling also remain in their original form. The central foyer has a balustraded square opening which looks down to the ground floor. The stained glass skylight with the Bonneville county crest is above this opening.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

---

SPECIFIC DATES      1921      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Lionel E. Fisher & Charles Aitken

---

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bonneville County courthouse is architecturally significant as an imposing local public building with good classical details. Its stonework exhibits good craftsmanship and its well preserved interior is a noteworthy reflection of the prevailing tastes of the period. The interior is perhaps the state's most intact and distinguished example for the post-war period.

As the seat of county government the courthouse retains many community, political, and judicial associations and as such is a local landmark.

Lionel E. Fisher and Charles Aitken were a prominent Idaho Falls Architectural firm of the period. Other examples of their buildings include the high schools at Aberdeen, Arco, Bancroft and Leadore, grade schools in Roberts and Idaho Falls and the physicians' residence at the state hospital in Blackfoot.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Idaho Falls Sunday Post, January 23, 1921, p. 2, c. 1-4.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 2	4 1 5 8 8 0	4 8 1 6 1 1 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This nomination includes the real estate on which the courthouse is situated, on Capital Avenue at the head of C Street in Idaho Falls; the property is owned in 1978 by Bonneville County, and comprises lots 7-8, block 13, Holmes' addition to Idaho Falls.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Don Hibbard, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Idaho State Historical Society

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

610 North Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

384-2120

CITY OR TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

# 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

*Marie Wells*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

30 Apr 79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Charles ...*

DATE

2-10-78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

*Bill ...*

DATE

July 9, 1979

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER