

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

2

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Nampa Valley Grange #131

other names/site number IHSI # 27-19730

2. Location

street & number 203 5th Avenue South

n/a	not for publication
n/a	vicinity

city or town Nampa

state Idaho code ID county Canyon code 027 zip code 83651

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Kenneth C. Reid
Signature of certifying official/Title
Kenneth C. Reid, Ph.D. / Deputy SHPO

21 December 2012
Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

other (explain): _____

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

2/13/13
Date of Action

Nampa Valley Grange #131
Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

The Grange in Idaho

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

No Style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: STUCCO

roof: ASPHALT

other: _____

Nampa Valley Grange #131

Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho

County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Nampa Valley Grange Hall sits facing east on a double lot at the southwest corner of 5th Avenue South and 2nd Street in the northern part of the City of Nampa, in southwestern Idaho. The lot features asphalt for parking on the north and west sides; the south and east are grass. The one-story, front-gabled, stucco building is "L"-shaped and features deep, flared eaves. The building sits on a poured concrete foundation, with the exterior walls clad in light green-colored stucco. The foundation and all trim pieces are painted dark green. All windows on the building are three-over-one, double-hung sash, unless otherwise noted, and have aluminum storm windows.

Narrative Description

The front façade faces east and features a pair of centered (replacement) doors, each with a small diamond-shaped window. The doors are reached via four concrete stairs; a shed-roofed canopy, supported by knee-braced brackets, shades the entry. Fenestration is symmetrical, with a single window on each side of the entry and another centered in the gable end above the doors. Eight knee brace brackets are found under the deep eaves.

The north elevation contains two, single windows, followed by two, triple windows, all located in the front 2/3 of the building. These windows are taller with more rectangular proportions than the windows on the main façade. The back 1/3 is devoid of fenestration, except for a single five-panel door that is reached by a ramp that runs along much of the north side. Nine knee-braced brackets support the deep eaves.

The west (rear) elevation is in two parts: the large main portion of the building, and on the south end, a smaller "L" addition. The main portion has two windows (of the same proportions as the front façade) and six knee-braced brackets. There are also two smaller, square slider windows that sit just above the foundation line, lighting the unfinished basement. The "L" addition projects off the south corner and features two windows and three knee-braced brackets. The roofline of the addition is lower than that of the main body so the flared roof edge ties into the wall. There are two small, rectangular windows set into the concrete foundation.

The south elevation shows the addition at its most visible. The south wall of the addition has uneven fenestration: a window, a single door, two smaller windows, and another larger window. The door is accessed via five steps. There are six knee-braced brackets in the gable end of the addition. The east wall of the addition has one window and one door; the door is reached via five concrete steps. Three knee-braced brackets support the eaves. The south side of the main body of the building has irregular fenestration as well. Closest to the addition is a pair of windows, followed by a single window and then a smaller single window toward the front (matching the size and scale of the windows on the main façade). Five knee-braced brackets support the deep eaves. A red brick chimney rises from the building near the intersection of the main and addition rooflines.

This building was moved from its original location in 1940, when the Nampa Valley Grange acquired it. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the original clapboard of the building was covered in stucco within the Period of Significance as one current member said the building has been stuccoed since she joined this Grange in the early 1960s.

Nampa Valley Grange #131

Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho

County and State

The interior of the building is accessed via the set of double doors that lead to an antechamber. A pair of five-panel doors access the main hall. Flanking each side of the entrance on the east wall are two doors that lead to small storage spaces; the northernmost room features a stairway to access a small storage above. The open hall constitutes the majority of the main building and measures 45' (long) x 30' (wide). At the west end of the hall a raised stage (15' deep) is located behind a blue curtain. Seating is located along the north and south walls, though none is fixed; ceremonial furniture is moved into place for the Grange meetings and stowed afterward to provide for other uses. The "L" addition on the southwest corner of the building houses the kitchen, bathrooms, and another small room, currently referred to as the "salad" room, where members often prepare food for meals and potlucks.

Nampa Valley Grange #131
Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1940-1962

Significant Dates

1940

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance begins in 1940, when the Nampa Valley Grange first purchased, moved and occupied the building. Prior to this acquisition/move, the Nampa Valley Grange had no permanent building of its own; rather, it met in homes or rented space. The Period of Significance closes in 1962 - 50 years prior to the current year - as the historic use continues to this day.

Nampa Valley Grange #131
Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho
County and State

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

This building was originally constructed in 1912 as a parish house for a local church. In 1940, it was acquired by the Nampa Valley Grange and moved to its present location for its new use as a Grange hall. The Period of Significance does not begin until the building was moved and began its use as the home of the Nampa Valley Grange, so the move of the building does not affect its eligibility.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Nampa Valley Grange is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A for its significance in the area of Social History. It meets the criteria and is individually eligible under the Multiple Property Documentation "The Grange in Idaho." Originally established by local farmers seeking more clout to negotiate the purchase of flour and coal, this Grange hall reflects the pattern of evolution of a typical Grange organization. Beginning in the late 19th century, Granges provided a social focal point for agricultural communities all across the United States. They provided opportunities for social, educational, political and recreational activities to rural citizens who previously had few such outlets.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The following is excerpted from the NPS Multiple Property Documentation "The Grange in Idaho."

Historical Background

In Essentials, Unity - In Non-Essentials, Liberty - In All Things, Charity (Grange motto)

The Homestead Act of 1862 promised up to 160 acres free to any settler who would claim a piece of land and improve it for five years. Unfortunately, due to speculators buying the best pieces and dishonesty on the part of the administering government officials, only one out of every six acres of Homestead Act lands passed directly from the government to farmers.¹ In addition, over a period of 20 years, beginning in 1850, the government gave 150 million acres to railroad companies to stimulate that industry. The railroads, like the speculators of the Homestead Act, in turn sold their excess acreage to farmers at inflated prices. Typically unorganized and geographically scattered, farmers were at the mercy of the merchant-middlemen who sold supplies to the farmers and then sold farm produce to others. Farmers were often at the mercy of the railroad companies that sold them their land and were the only avenue for shipping their crops to market.²

In 1867, the Civil War was recently over and the South was in the throes of reconstruction. Southern farmers, until recently a powerful force in politics and society, had been devastated by the war. Oliver Kelley, a farmer, activist, and writer for the Federal Department of Agriculture as well as for many farm papers, took a tour through the South at the request of President Andrew Johnson. There, he was to assess the condition of the post-war farmer, collecting statistics on the character, quality and price of land; kind of crops generally produced and quantity per acre, with the time of planting and gathering; and the facilities afforded in their production, as well as such statistics in reference thereto attainable; also the disposition of the Freedmen to labor, and the feelings of their former owners, and the citizens generally towards them.³ As a Northerner in the post-war South, Kelley may have received unfriendly treatment; however, as a member of the Masons, he found himself accepted by his Southern fraternal brothers. As he saw the division, caused by the War, the hardships experienced by the planters he met, and the friendly reception he received as a Mason, an idea began to form in his mind. In some of his notes from that trip, Kelley wrote, "From January until May I was in motion through the several states. The idea of an association was becoming fixed in my mind and I remember comparing the Mississippi River and its tributaries to a national organization and its subordinates."⁴

On returning home, Kelley continued thinking about his national organization. Realizing that the idea was too ambitious to carry out on his own, he began to recruit like-minded individuals with whom he could share his dream. As his idea progressed, he came to believe that a mere association of farmers would not be adequate to address the problems faced by the agricultural community. What was needed was a fraternity, similar to the Masons, bringing farmers across the

Nampa Valley Grange #131

Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho

County and State

country together with common rituals, brotherhood and democracy. With this in mind, he and his associates outlined the first agricultural fraternity and named it The Order of the Patrons of Husbandry. At its first meeting in December of 1867, the basic elements of the ritual and constitution were created.⁵ In January 1868, Kelley announced his intention to quit his current job in the Post Office Department and to travel the country setting up local branches, or "granges" (from the Latin word for grain). With a salary of \$2,000 and a letter of introduction, Kelley began by visiting cities in the East and Midwest, but was not entirely successful until he reached his home state of Minnesota.⁶ Although other Granges had been established on his journey, Minnesota's was the first to remain open and to adopt many of Kelley's more radical ideas. Although a compromise was necessary to resolve the differences between the ideas of those in Washington and of those being practiced by the Grange in Minnesota, final adoption of the constitution of the National Grange occurred in January 1873.

Like other fraternal organizations, the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry is based on religion, ritual, and hierarchy, with influences drawn from the Bible, patriotism, and mythology. Each meeting begins with a ritual involving prayer, the placement of an open Bible in the center of the hall and a salute to the American flag. The actors in this ritual are all of specific positions and have been voted into their station.⁸ Sixteen officers run each Grange, taking their names either from Roman mythology or from those of members of feudal English estates. Meetings are open only to members, and each member, man and woman, has one vote. The meetings open to a member are dependent on the degree the member holds. Every member of a local, or Subordinate, Grange can attend meetings of that Grange, witnessing or participating in and, thereby, advancing through the first four degrees. The Pomona Grange, a group of members from local granges in a region, can confer a fifth degree. Only those of the fifth degree may attend the meetings of the Pomona Grange. The State Grange confers the sixth degree and is an assembly of sixth-degree members in that state. The seventh degree can only be awarded by the National Grange. The National Grange speaks for the entire organization and for the agricultural community in America. All members are welcome to attend and even speak in meetings of the National Grange, but only members of the seventh degree are able to vote at this level.⁹

Issues needing attention are first debated in the local Grange. The meetings of the Grange include initiation, debate, and ideas for the resolution of issues. If the matters are statewide or nationwide, they are carried to the next levels for action. However, if they are purely local in nature, the Subordinate or Pomona grange may seek their resolution. In general, the Grange organization was immediately successful, and their numbers increased rapidly.¹⁰

In January, 1874, the Grange came to Idaho Territory. The first two Granges in Idaho (in the Moscow and Lewiston areas) were organized by the Master of Oregon State Grange, a hired "Deputy" who traveled the Territory encouraging farmers to join the Order.¹¹ In May of that year, Frank Shelton, a Deputy Master from Walla Walla, Washington, wrote the *Idaho Statesman* to announce that he would soon be visiting Idaho to organize ten or twelve Granges in the Territory.¹² Traveling through southwestern Idaho, Shelton organized six Granges with 109 members within two weeks. By the time he left the Territory in July, he had added six more local Granges to the organization. Another seven Granges were organized individually between 1875 and 1886. Interestingly, while these 21 original Granges in Idaho are noted in the official book of record, none of their original applications are found on file at the National Grange – apparently the only such omissions in the country.¹³

At the first meeting wherever they could find space (often schools), and later in their own simple halls, these Subordinate Granges discussed and influenced legislation and community well-being. Seeking to better the lives of farmers by eliminating the profits taken by the middlemen, Idaho farmers bought the Middleton Mill, and the Boise Grange bought the War Eagle flour mill which enabled them to mill their own grain. The *Idaho Statesman* remarked that it looks a good deal as if the Grangers will have the control of the wheat market and milling business since they had bought the two best mills in the country.¹⁴

Since then, Idaho Granges have been a powerful political force, influencing legislation that has paved roads, provided busing for rural school children, and supplied mail delivery, electricity, and telephone service to rural areas. They have also provided an important social link for rural communities. Dances, weddings, receptions, potluck dinners, voting, and political rallies are regular occurrences at Granges across the State. For many of the older members, monthly meetings supply the only link to old friends.¹⁵

Nampa Valley Grange #131

Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho

County and State

Nampa Valley Grange

The Nampa Valley Grange #131 was originally organized as the Midway Grange #39 in 1908. A group of neighbors in the Midway District came together at the Midway School on December 11, 1908 to organize a Grange with the immediate purpose of improving their negotiating with respect to the purchase flour and coal. The first group of officers included eight men and five women. Although the State Grange was formalized in 1908, it was not until March 16, 1920 that State Grange Master, W.W. Deal, formally chartered the group as Midway Grange #131. On April 21st, 1920, the Worthy State Master met with the newly organized Grange to complete the organization and elect officers. There were forty-eight charter members and five men and seven women were elected as officers. Dues were set at \$.40 per quarter. Parents were encouraged to bring their children to the meetings so that they might help with Grange programs and prepare them to become full-fledged members when they reached the requisite age of 14. In 1924, the name was changed to the Nampa Valley Grange #131, better reflecting the group's membership.¹⁶

In the early years, the membership was fairly small and the group met in members' homes. As membership increased, the Midway Grange sought out larger spaces for use for their regular meetings. Space in a local school was rented for some time, as were various other organizations' halls, such as the IOOF and the Salvation Army. As early as 1923, suggestions were made to secure a building for use as a permanent Grange Hall and a committee was formed to investigate the possibilities. Efforts to raise funds for that purpose were ongoing for almost two decades. In the 1930s, the women of the Nampa Valley Grange formed a "Ladies Auxiliary", with the expressed purpose of raising money to build a Grange hall. They met each Friday for a potluck dinner and made quilts which they sold to support the Grange. The group found another fund-raising niche preparing dinners at the Co-op Creamery for various organizations. Ultimately, when a new and permanent home was found for their Nampa Valley Grange, the women contributed \$650 toward the effort as well as purchasing the stove, dishes, silverware and kitchen utensils. In 1936, a new committee was formed to begin to look for a "bargain location" for a Grange hall, but it would be four more years before that goal was realized.¹⁷

Grace Episcopal Church was established in Nampa in the late 1880s and the congregation built the city's first church building in 1889 on the corner of 12th Avenue and 1st Street. By 1907, that building was moved to the corner of 3rd Street and 12th Avenue and a rectory dwelling added to the west side of the lot. In 1912, a parish house was built on the rear of the lot, serving as a recreation and gathering hall. This first church building was quite small in footprint, being no larger than the rectory building and significantly smaller than the parish hall. As a result, by the 1930s, the congregation had outgrown its home and began to plan for a larger facility. In 1936 they purchased some nearby property and in July, 1940, began construction of their new, larger church. That building, the current Grace Episcopal Church, was consecrated on December 18th, 1940. With a new facility at hand, the Grace Church leadership offered the property at 3rd and 12th for sale and in May, 1940, the Nampa Valley Grange purchased the parish house for use as its first dedicated Grange hall. The hall would have to be moved, however, because the Church had sold the parcel on which all three structures stood for a new commercial use.¹⁸

In 1936, three Nampa Valley Grange had families joined together to purchase two lots for a future Grange hall at 1st Street and 17th Avenue in Nampa. However, as the Grange was preparing to move the former parish house to those lots, it became known that neighborhood sentiment was strongly against it. The membership quickly regrouped, and on August 16, 1940, the Nampa Valley Grange members voted on a motion (carried) to make an offer on two lots in the Pleasant Addition of Nampa. On August 23, 1940, the purchase was made and a \$1000.00 mortgage taken to help finance the site preparation, move and repair of the building. The building was moved to its new location at 203 5th Ave. South on November 1, 1940. On March 1, 1941, a group of 140 gathered for the official dedication of the new Nampa Valley Grange hall and a celebration of the organization's first permanent home. Meanwhile, the Ladies Auxiliary continued to raise funds and was able to retire the mortgage for the property in 1944.¹⁹

Once ensconced in their new home, the Nampa Valley Grange continued its social and political activities. Cooperative buying continued to benefit Grange members, as they were able to purchase, among other things, binder twine, fly paper, slab wood and coal, in quantities large enough to reduce costs.²⁰

Community service has always been a focus of the group's activities. In the early years in the new building, WWII efforts were a focus of the service and fund raising projects as they sent care packages to military service members. The Salvation Army has been a long-time recipient of the Nampa Valley Grange's generosity, as the members ring bells at the holidays and gave their time delivering food. In addition they have donated time and money to food collection efforts for

Nampa Valley Grange #131

Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho

County and State

the food bank and homeless shelters, and collected toys for local organizations at the holidays. In 2011, the Nampa Valley Grange won 2nd place in the statewide Grange service hours competition.

The Nampa Valley Grange continues to participate in political activities, participating in "Grange Day" at the Idaho State Legislature and maintaining Legislative, Agriculture, and Family Health and Deaf Awareness committees. Meetings include the reporting on relevant issues such as monitoring and reporting on local milk production and pricing, the status of local school levy elections, and political redistricting. The Grange continues to provide an important social role as well. Regular meetings still include interesting speakers on a variety of topics. Holiday meals and programs, game nights and pot luck dinners bring the members together, maintaining the organization as an important social component of their lives.²¹

Summary

The Nampa Valley Grange is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for the important local role it has played in the lives of the agricultural community in southwestern Idaho. It is eligible under the Multiple Property Documentation "The Grange in Idaho", as it reflects the shared history of the Order as a whole. Created as fraternal organization to bring farmers across the country together in their shared goals and to address common problems, the Grange, or the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, advocated for rural America like no other organization ever had before. As the first national organization to organize and unify farm communities, it has been successful in: affecting political issues through local, state and national lobbying efforts; providing a foundation for co-operative buying and negotiating for farmers; providing an opportunity and location for meeting and fraternizing for rural members who were traditionally more socially isolated. The Nampa Valley Grange has provided all of these benefits to its members and been a place of congregation and fellowship for farm families in southwestern Idaho for over 100 years; as the location of their meetings for over 70 years, their Grange building represents the continuity of the organization from one generation to the next.

The building meets the Registration Requirements established in the Multiple Property Documentation "The Grange in Idaho" in that it retains its historic location/setting/feeling, and design. Although the building's original clapboard exterior has been stuccoed over, this occurred within the Period of Significance and therefore does not significantly diminish the building's integrity or adversely affect its eligibility.

ENDNOTES

1. David H. Howard, People, Pride and Progress: 125 Years of the Grange in America (Washington, D.C.: The National Grange, 1992), 39.
2. *Ibid.*, 31.
3. *Ibid.*, 37.
4. Charles M. Gardner, The Grange: Friend of the Farmer 1867-1947 (Washington, D.C.: The National Grange, 1949), 23.
5. *Ibid.*, 5.
6. Howard, 46.
7. *Ibid.*
8. *Ibid.*, 17.
9. Idaho State Grange. Boise, Idaho. November, 2002 <<http://www.idahogrango.org/>>.
10. Howard, 25.
11. "Our Grange: Idaho State Grange Centennial." Unpublished Manuscript. Idaho State Grange, Meridian, ID, 2008.

Nampa Valley Grange #131

Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho

County and State

12. Arthur Hart, "Grange History Told", Idaho Grange News (April, 1978), 12.
13. Idaho State Grange. Roster. Meridian, ID, 2012.
14. Hart, 12.
15. Howard, 23.
16. "History," 1.
17. "History," 2,3.
18. "Grace Episcopal."
19. Allen.
20. "History," 3.
21. Personal Communication.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Allen, Verta. "Nampa Valley Grange, 1920-2010", Unpublished manuscript, 2010.

Gardner, Charles M. The Grange: Friend of the Farmer 1867-1947. Washington, D.C.: The National Grange, 1949.

Grace Episcopal Church: Boise, Idaho. May, 2012 <http://gracenampa.episcopalidaho.org>.

Hart, Arthur, Grange History Told. Idaho Grange News. April, 1978.

"History of the Nampa Valley Grange." Unpublished Manuscript.

Howard, David H. People, Pride and Progress: 125 Years of the Grange in America. Washington, D.C.: The National Grange, 1992.

Idaho State Grange. Boise, Idaho. November, 2002 <<http://www.idahogranger.org/>>.

Idaho State Grange. Roster. Meridian, ID, 2012.

"Our Grange: Idaho State Grange Centennial." Unpublished Manuscript. Idaho State Grange, Meridian, ID, 2008.

Personal Communication with Nampa Valley Grange Members, 5 May 2012.

Nampa Leader-Herald. 27 Aug.; 8 Oct.; 1, 22 Nov. 1940.

Nampa Valley Grange #131
Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho
County and State

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: Nampa Valley Grange

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

Nampa Valley Grange #131
Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

LATITUDE: 43.583021 Degrees

LONGITUDE: 116.568558 Degrees

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Lots 7 & 8 of Block 4 in Pleasants Addition to Nampa, Canyon County, Idaho.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary represents the entire property historically associated with the Nampa Valley Grange.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tricia Canaday – Architectural Historian
organization Idaho SHPO date 4-10-12
street & number 210 Main St. telephone 208-334-3861 x102
city or town Boise state ID zip code 83702
e-mail Tricia.canaday@ishs.idaho.gov

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Nampa Valley Grange #131
Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho
County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Nampa Valley Grange
City or Vicinity: Nampa
County: Canyon
State: Idaho
Photographer: Tricia Canaday
Date of Photos: May, 2012
Location of Original Digital Files: Idaho SHPO/210 Main St. Boise, ID 83702

Photos taken with a Nikon Coolpix 8800 8 megapixel digital camera using TIFF setting.
Photos printed on Epson Premium Glossy Paper, using Canon ImagePROGRAF Ink

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- Photo 1 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0001
East façade - Camera facing west
- Photo 2 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0002
East (left) and north (right) elevations – Camera facing southwest
- Photo 3 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0003
North (left) and west (right) elevations – Camera facing southeast
- Photo 4 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0004
West elevation – Camera facing east
- Photo 5 of 15 D_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0005
West (left) and south (right) elevations – Camera facing northeast
- Photo 6 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0006
South (left) and east (right) elevations – Camera facing northwest
- Photo 7 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0007
Interior – Hall/Stage – Camera facing west
- Photo 8 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0008
Interior – Hall/Entry – Camera facing east
- Photo 9 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0009
Interior – Hall – Camera facing northeast
- Photo 10 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0010
Interior – Hall – Camera facing southeast
- Photo 11 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0011
Interior – Kitchen – Camera facing south

Nampa Valley Grange #131
Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho
County and State

- Photo 12 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0012
Interior – Kitchen – Camera facing north
- Photo 13 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0013
Interior – “Salad Room” – Camera facing west
- Photo 14 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0014
Interior – “Salad Room” – Camera facing southeast
- Photo 15 of 15 ID_CanyonCounty_NampaValleyGrange#131_0015
Interior – Stage – Camera facing north

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Nampa Valley Grange #131

street & number 203 5th Avenue S. telephone 208-250-1523

city or town Nampa state ID zip code 83651

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Imagery Date: 10/5/2012 1992

lat: 43.583021 lon: -116.568558 elev: 2487 ft

© 2012 Google

Google earth

Eye alt: 3654 ft

203 5th Ave. South, Nampa, ID

5th Ave S

3rd St S

4th Ave S

3rd Ave S

2nd St S

1st St S

6th Ave S

84

N



203 5th Ave. South, Nampa, ID



261 ft

© 2012 Google

Imagery Date 10/5/2012 1992

lat 43.583021° lon -116.568558° elev 2487 ft

Google earth

Eye alt 3654 ft



NAMPA VALLEY
GRANGE
#131
1st & 3rd Friday - 7:30 p.m.

NAMPA VALLEY
GRANGE
NO. 131

AmeriGas
DERMATOLOGY
& LASER CENTER
OF CANYON COUNTY



NAMPA VALLEY
GRANGE
#131
1st & 3rd Friday - 7:30 p.m.

NAMPA VALLEY
GRANGE #131



NAMPA VALLEY
GRANGE #131

NO
SMOKING





NO
PARKING





SAMPA VALLEY
GRANGE
#131

STONE LIBRARY

NAMPA VALLEY
GRANGE
A FAMILY
AFFAIR



NO
SMOKING



EXIT





VALLEY
GRANGE
1903-1924
VALLEY
GRANGE 131

LILY SORENSON
POMONA
LECTURER
OF THE YEAR
1924

1924
POMONA
LECTURER
OF THE YEAR
LILY SORENSON

1924
POMONA
LECTURER
OF THE YEAR
LILY SORENSON

A NEW CENTURY
A NEW GRANGE
TOGETHER
WE CAN
2000-2001

1923-1924
VALLEY
GRANGE 131

1923-1924
VALLEY
GRANGE 131

GET UP
FIRED

THE GRANGE PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY
THE PEOPLE PROVIDE LEADERSHIP
THE COMMUNITY REAPS THE BENEFITS

WAMPA
A NEW
CENTURY
A NEW
GRANGE
131

WAMPA
A NEW
CENTURY
A NEW
GRANGE
131

EXIT











A wicker basket sitting on top of the refrigerator.

Several colorful magnets and notes attached to the refrigerator door.

Upper wooden cabinets with a light wood grain finish.

A row of white ceramic mugs on a shelf above the oven.

A built-in oven with its door open, showing the interior.

Lower wooden cabinets with a light wood grain finish, located below the countertop.

Yellow-handled cleaning tools, including a broom and a mop, leaning against the wall.

A wooden table in the foreground on the right side of the image.



LADIES

MEN

Budweiser 4





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Nampa Valley Grange No.131

MULTIPLE NAME: Grange Halls in Idaho

STATE & COUNTY: IDAHO, Canyon

DATE RECEIVED: 12/28/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/13/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000002

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Nampa Valley Grange No. 131 meets National Register Criterion A at the local level in the area of Social History. Purchased and moved to its current location by the local Grange lodge in 1940, the Nampa Valley Grange is a fine example of an early twentieth century multi-purpose Grange Hall facility, providing opportunities for social, educational, political, and recreational activities to local rural citizens. The building meets the Registration Requirements set forth in the MPS cover document.


RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criterion A
REVIEWER PAUL R. LUSIGNAN DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 2/13/2013

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Paul Lusignan - NPS
FROM:  Tricia Canaday – Idaho State Historic Preservation Office
DATE: February 7, 2013
SUBJECT: Attached Documents

Paul:

Attached find an entire new copy of the Grange MPD printed on archival paper, with the amended name of "*The Grange in Idaho*".

Also enclosed are 3 replacement pages for the nomination *Nampa Valley Grange #131*, all printed on archival paper. These three pages need to be switched out for the originals because they include the name of the MPD.

#1300002
change ✓

If you have any questions, give me a call.

Nampa Valley Grange #131
Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

The Grange in Idaho

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

No Style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE
walls: STUCCO
roof: ASPHALT
other: _____

Nampa Valley Grange #131
Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho
County and State

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

This building was originally constructed in 1912 as a parish house for a local church. In 1940, it was acquired by the Nampa Valley Grange and moved to its present location for its new use as a Grange hall. The Period of Significance does not begin until the building was moved and began its use as the home of the Nampa Valley Grange, so the move of the building does not affect its eligibility.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Nampa Valley Grange is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A for its significance in the area of Social History. It meets the criteria and is individually eligible under the Multiple Property Documentation "The Grange in Idaho." Originally established by local farmers seeking more clout to negotiate the purchase of flour and coal, this Grange hall reflects the pattern of evolution of a typical Grange organization. Beginning in the late 19th century, Granges provided a social focal point for agricultural communities all across the United States. They provided opportunities for social, educational, political and recreational activities to rural citizens who previously had few such outlets.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The following is excerpted from the NPS Multiple Property Documentation "The Grange in Idaho."

Historical Background

In Essentials, Unity - In Non-Essentials, Liberty - In All Things, Charity (Grange motto)

The Homestead Act of 1862 promised up to 160 acres free to any settler who would claim a piece of land and improve it for five years. Unfortunately, due to speculators buying the best pieces and dishonesty on the part of the administering government officials, only one out of every six acres of Homestead Act lands passed directly from the government to farmers.¹ In addition, over a period of 20 years, beginning in 1850, the government gave 150 million acres to railroad companies to stimulate that industry. The railroads, like the speculators of the Homestead Act, in turn sold their excess acreage to farmers at inflated prices. Typically unorganized and geographically scattered, farmers were at the mercy of the merchant-middlemen who sold supplies to the farmers and then sold farm produce to others. Farmers were often at the mercy of the railroad companies that sold them their land and were the only avenue for shipping their crops to market.²

In 1867, the Civil War was recently over and the South was in the throes of reconstruction. Southern farmers, until recently a powerful force in politics and society, had been devastated by the war. Oliver Kelley, a farmer, activist, and writer for the Federal Department of Agriculture as well as for many farm papers, took a tour through the South at the request of President Andrew Johnson. There, he was to assess the condition of the post-war farmer, collecting statistics on the character, quality and price of land; kind of crops generally produced and quantity per acre, with the time of planting and gathering; and the facilities afforded in their production, as well as such statistics in reference thereto attainable; also the disposition of the Freedmen to labor, and the feelings of their former owners, and the citizens generally towards them.³ As a Northerner in the post-war South, Kelley may have received unfriendly treatment; however, as a member of the Masons, he found himself accepted by his Southern fraternal brothers. As he saw the division, caused by the War, the hardships experienced by the planters he met, and the friendly reception he received as a Mason, an idea began to form in his mind. In some of his notes from that trip, Kelley wrote, "From January until May I was in motion through the several states. The idea of an association was becoming fixed in my mind and I remember comparing the Mississippi River and its tributaries to a national organization and its subordinates."⁴

On returning home, Kelley continued thinking about his national organization. Realizing that the idea was too ambitious to carry out on his own, he began to recruit like-minded individuals with whom he could share his dream. As his idea progressed, he came to believe that a mere association of farmers would not be adequate to address the problems faced by the agricultural community. What was needed was a fraternity, similar to the Masons, bringing farmers across the

Nampa Valley Grange #131

Name of Property

Canyon County, Idaho

County and State

the food bank and homeless shelters, and collected toys for local organizations at the holidays. In 2011, the Nampa Valley Grange won 2nd place in the statewide Grange service hours competition.

The Nampa Valley Grange continues to participate in political activities, participating in "Grange Day" at the Idaho State Legislature and maintaining Legislative, Agriculture, and Family Health and Deaf Awareness committees. Meetings include the reporting on relevant issues such as monitoring and reporting on local milk production and pricing, the status of local school levy elections, and political redistricting. The Grange continues to provide an important social role as well. Regular meetings still include interesting speakers on a variety of topics. Holiday meals and programs, game nights and pot luck dinners bring the members together, maintaining the organization as an important social component of their lives.²¹

Summary

The Nampa Valley Grange is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for the important local role it has played in the lives of the agricultural community in southwestern Idaho. It is eligible under the Multiple Property Documentation "The Grange in Idaho", as it reflects the shared history of the Order as a whole. Created as fraternal organization to bring farmers across the country together in their shared goals and to address common problems, the Grange, or the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, advocated for rural America like no other organization ever had before. As the first national organization to organize and unify farm communities, it has been successful in: affecting political issues through local, state and national lobbying efforts; providing a foundation for co-operative buying and negotiating for farmers; providing an opportunity and location for meeting and fraternizing for rural members who were traditionally more socially isolated. The Nampa Valley Grange has provided all of these benefits to its members and been a place of congregation and fellowship for farm families in southwestern Idaho for over 100 years; as the location of their meetings for over 70 years, their Grange building represents the continuity of the organization from one generation to the next.

The building meets the Registration Requirements established in the Multiple Property Documentation "The Grange in Idaho" in that it retains its historic location/setting/feeling, and design. Although the building's original clapboard exterior has been stuccoed over, this occurred within the Period of Significance and therefore does not significantly diminish the building's integrity or adversely affect its eligibility.

ENDNOTES

1. David H. Howard, People, Pride and Progress: 125 Years of the Grange in America (Washington, D.C.: The National Grange, 1992), 39.
2. *Ibid.*, 31.
3. *Ibid.*, 37.
4. Charles M. Gardner, The Grange: Friend of the Farmer 1867-1947 (Washington, D.C.: The National Grange, 1949), 23.
5. *Ibid.*, 5.
6. Howard, 46.
7. *Ibid.*
8. *Ibid.*, 17.
9. Idaho State Grange. Boise, Idaho. November, 2002 <<http://www.idahogranger.org/>>.
10. Howard, 25.
11. "Our Grange: Idaho State Grange Centennial." Unpublished Manuscript. Idaho State Grange, Meridian, ID, 2008.