UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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	SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	
	OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
		BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	
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6	REPRESEN	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS P	artial listing ir	1:
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	SURVEY RECORDS				
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XORIGINAL SITE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The North Caldwell Historic District is located in the Original Townsite of Caldwell along Ninth Avenue between Albany and Belmont Streets. The district includes six buildings: five Oueen Anne houses built between 1889 and the late 1890's and one Gothic revival church, built 1887-90. All these buildings are frame, clapboard or shingle covered with varying degrees of Oueen Anne ornamentation. The buildings retain their original, or close to their original, uses: the church is now used by the Church of Christ, three of the houses are private residences, and the Boone and Blatchlev houses are divided into apartments. The church, which has undergone alterations that have not tainted its style, is in good condition. The Isaacs house is in its original style and remains in good condition, as does the Presbyterian parsonage. The Boone and Blatchley homes have lost their Oueen Anne porches. but otherwise have remained in good condition. The Johnson house, which has been neglected to the point of deterioration, has recently been purchased by a person who plans a complete restoration. In style and state of preservation, these six buildings with their large lots and mature trees, stand out from their immediate surroundings; surrounding structures include a modern senior citizens housing project, houses from the same period but of humbler scale and design, houses from the same period that have undergone renovation changing their styles, and modern commerical establishments.

There are no intrusions within the district.

INVENTORY:

1. Isaacs house, 823 Albany Street, built 1889-90.

This two story white frame house remains very close to its appearance in 1898, when William Isaacs had the two bay windows added. It is sided with narrow clapboards, and, in the two boldly assymetrical gables, with sunburst and lattice designs. There are three bay windows: one, probably original, a rectangular two story outset, and two pentagonal bays on the first story. An offset front porch is decorated with turned pillars and railing. Additional details are the tall, corbeled chimney and a hooded corner window.

2. Boone house, 816 Belmont Street, built 1890.

The Boone house is a two story frame building on a lava rock foundation. It is sided with narrow clapboards; its two cross gables both have returns, and the gable fronting Belmont Street is filled with shaped shingle. This assymetrical front gable extends on the right over an offset front porch, now stuccoed but originally having Queen Anne shingles in the gable space and turned pillars and railing enclosing the porch. Two-light double hung sash Queen Anne windows are set into this front gable. There are two brick chimneys with corbeled caps. An early

SPECIFIC DAT	ES	BUIL DER/ARCI	HITECT	
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PREHISTORIC 1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORICARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNINGCONSERVATION	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURELAW	X_RELIGIONSCIENCE
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The North Caldwell Historical District is of architectural significance as a pocket of 1890's Queen Anne style architecture preserved nearly intact in an area that has lost many of its finest buildings through commercial pressures. It is of historical, educational, religious, and social significance as the center, during the period 1887 through 1910, for an active church group, the Presbyterians, who worked to establish the first institution of higher education in Idaho, the College of Idaho, as well as to improve life in this then small railroad town on all cultural fronts.

The Presbyterian Church was located here, and it was used for College of Idaho classes before the college's Academy Building (no longer extant) was built on nearby lots in 1892. The William Judson Boones and the Henry Blatchleys lived in two of the district houses and the Blatchley house served as a dormitory for college students.

The work of this circle and its association with the district property is well documented in Strahorn's Fifteen Thousand Miles By Stage and Hayman's That Man Boone.

- Isaacs house. The Isaacs house was built by local contractors Van Wyngarden and Steunenberg (brother-in-law and brother of Governor Frank Steunenberg) during the years 1889-90. According to the Tribune, William Isaacs was a sheepman from the Succor Creek area and had this home built for his bride just before their wedding. The Tribune calls it "the finest house in Caldwell" (November 8, 1890), and it probably was quite stylish for that era in Caldwell architecture. The Isaacs were close friends of their neighbors the Boones and the Blatchleys, and William Isaacs was among the largest donors to The College of Idaho during its first years.
- Boone house. William Judson Boone had this home built near his close friends the Blatchleys and near the Presbyterian Church, where he was then pastor, in 1890. He lived there for twenty-nine years until in 1919 he and his family moved to Blatchley Hall on the new college campus. Boone came to Caldwell in 1887 as a Presbyterian minister at the request of the Presbyterian Society, a local citizens' group. He served as minister until 1893, when his work for the College of Idaho became a full-time pursuit. Boone is remembered in Idaho as founder and

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Caldwell Tribune, 1884 - 1910

CDC 001 000

Strahorn, Carrie Adell, <u>Fifteen Thousand Miles By Stage</u>. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1911.

Hayman, H.H. <u>That Man Boone</u>. Caldwell: The College of Idaho, 1948. Photographs in The College Of Idaho Archives, Terteling Library. Photographs in the Caldwell Public Library Oral History Collection. Polk's Caldwell City Directory, 1978.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The nomination includes the land and buildings bounded by Albany Street on the southwest and Belmont Street on the northeast and private property lines northwest and souteast, including block 64 lots 1-4 and 21-24 and block 65 lots 9-18 in the Original Townsite of Caldwell; see attached sketch map. LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES							
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Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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photograph shows that Boone had his home painted in three contrasting colors.

- 3. Blatchley house, 822 Belmont Street, built 1889. The Blatchleys had this two story frame house built in 1889 and in 1897 contracted an "extensive addition," according to the <u>Caldwell Tribune</u>. This addition probably was the two story rear ell. This house has a two story clapboard front porch. An early photograph shows this porch to have been open, with turned pillars and railing. On the left gable is a one story bay window.
- 4. Presbyterian Church, 901 Albany Street, built 1887-90.

 The Presbyterian Church is a one story frame building set on a raised lava rock foundation. Its plan is cruciform with a side ell -- a later, but consistent, addition -- and an outset tower, with a crenellated parapet, set at the junction of the two cross gables. The entrance is in this tower. Windows are Gothic revival style with overlapping arched muntins that form pointed-arched panes. Pierced aprons decorate the gables. An early photograph of the church shows that the tower has been enlarged to create a larger, but still square, foyer and that it once had a very steep-sided steeple, topped with a finial.
- 5. Presbyterian parsonage, 210 Ninth Avenue North, built ca. 1893-97. The Presbyterian parsonage, now a private residence, is a two story frame T-shaped house with one gable fronting the street. A full-length hip-roofed front porch, now screened between turned pillars, probably was originally open. The present owner, has been gradually restoring the building over the past few years.
- 6. Johnson house, 904 Belmont Street, built 1889-90.

The Johnson house is commonly known by Caldwellites as the Baker house, because a later owner had a hitching post with his name carved on it, still on the property. It is a two-story Queen Anne style house covered with toothed Queen Anne shingles, the upper story painted brown and the lower story white. Like other buildings in the district this house has two gables set at a right angle, with gable returns. The house has two octagonal turnets with conical roofs and finials, a lava rock foundation, a wraparound porch, a corbeled brick chimney, and roofline flashing.

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first president of the college; he was president until his death in 1936. As <u>That Man Boone</u> relates, Boone was more than just a minister and administrator: he was solicitor of funds, teacher, avid botanist and photographer, and a humanitarian of great public spirit.

- 3. Blatchley house. Henry and Carrie Gwinn Blatchley became the staunchest of supporters for Boone and his college, eventually donating their second (1910) home, Blatchley Hall on the relocated campus, to the college for use as a presidential mansion. While they lived at 822 Belmont Street, Carrie was active in cultural groups of all kinds, among them the Presbyterian Society. She served as a volunteer teacher and dean of women during the college's early years, and she and Henry allowed part of their Belmont Street house to be used as a dormitory for students.
- 4. Presbyterian Church. The Presbyterian Society was formed in 1885 by a determined group of women lead by Mrs. Carrie Adell Strahorn, wife of Robert Strahorn, the railroad publicist who established Caldwell. Their express purpose was the building of a Presbyterian church, and enlistment of a Presbyterian minister to lead its congregation. Over a period of two years 500 dollars was raised, the church building begun, and a minister sent for, William Judson Boone. The building was finished and dedicated in 1890.

By 1890 a group of Caldwellites, lead by Boone, were negotiating with the Presbytery of Wood River to have an Idaho Presbyterian college located in Caldwell. When their offer was accepted, Boone and the other appointed college managers gathered together a volunteer faculty and opened the college for preparatory classes in the fall of 1891. Until the college Academy Building was completed in October 1892 on lots nearby, the first college classes met in the Presbyterian Church.

- 5. Presbyterian parsonage. The parsonage was built by the church sometime between the years 1893 and 1897, and it served as the minister's home for decades thereafter. Early residents Mrs. William Moll Case and the Reverend Mr. Juith. Barton taught at the College of Idaho.
- 6. Johnson house. With its shingled sides and octagonal turnets, the Johnson house is perhaps the best examples of Queen Anne architecture remaining in Caldwell. It was built for John P. Johnson and wife during 1889-90.

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Within the district, three building owners in particular have shown a desire to preserve or restore their homes: Ada Hartenbower, daughter of William Isaacs, whose home is in excellent condition; Earl Brockman, owner of the parsonage, who has been attempting a gradual restoration of the house; and Kathy Stewart, who has just purchased the badly deteriorated Johnson house and plans a complete restoration of this building.

Boundaries for this district were drawn to include, first, homes of those who were intimately connected with the founding and growth of the Presbyterian Church and The College of Idaho and, second, homes nearby that were from the same period (1880's and '90's) and that were relatively unaltered examples of the domestic architecture of that period. Immediately surrounding the district are houses that have undergone too many alterations to be considered eligible for nomination.

List of Owners: CALDWELL HISTORIC DISTRICT

- 1. Isaacs House
 Ada Hartenbower
 823 Albany Street
 Caldwell, Idaho 83605
- 2. Boone House
 Donald D. Dunn
 P.O. Box 502
 Caldwell, Idaho 83605
- 3. Blatchley House
 David A. Westmark
 c/o Pete Watt
 Ida Apartment Properties
 6702 Fairview #201,
 Boise, Idaho 83704
- 4. Presbyterian Church Church of Christ 901 Albany Street Caldwell, Idaho 83605
- 5. Presbyterian Parsonage Earl F. Brockman 210 North Ninth Caldwell, Idaho 83605
- 6. Johnson House Kathy Stewart 904 Belmont Street Caldwell, Idaho 83605



