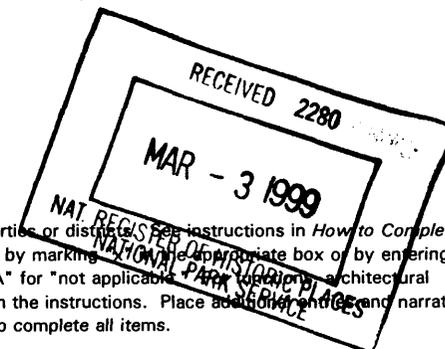


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

45



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For architectural, archaeological, historical, and scientific properties, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional categories and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name LILYQUIST-CHRISTIANSON BUILDING

other names/site number The Arlene, Kuna Hardware Company Building

2. Location

street & number 459 West Third N/A not for publication

city or town Kuna N/A vicinity

state Idaho code ID county Ada code 001 zip code 83634

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Robert M. Yohe II 2/22/99

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
ROBERT M. YOHE, II, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that this property is:
- entered in the National Register. 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:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Edson A. Beall 4-1-99

Lilyquist-Christianson Building
Name of Property

Kuna, Ada County, Idaho
City, 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	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: speciality store

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

No style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
walls BRICK

roof SYNTHETIC: poly-urethane membrane
other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

Lilyquist-Christianson Building
Name of Property

Kuna, Ada County, Idaho
City, County, and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" on one or more lines 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" on all 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1909-1920

Significant Dates

1909

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Charles Lilyquist, builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Kuna Public Library

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Name of Property Lilyquist-Christianson Building

County and State Ada County, Idaho

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Lilyquist-Christianson Building is located at 459 West Third Street in the commercial section of Kuna, Ada County, Idaho. The building sits in the middle of the block and is abutted by single-story commercial structures on both sides. It is a two-story brick commercial building which rests on a brick foundation and features a flat parapet roof clad in a poly-urethane membrane.

The principal elevation faces north onto Third Street. It is a typical early-20th century commercial structure featuring retail space on the ground floor with residential space above. Brick work on the main elevation consists of red pressed brick laid up in common bond. The first floor features a typical recessed center-entry commercial storefront. The angled inset entrance features paired 3/4 glazed entry doors surmounted by a bank of fixed-glass panels. This in turn is topped by a large two-panel fixed transom. The sides of the entry feature large sheet glazing, decorative wooden kick plates and transoms similar to those over the door. The entry is separated from two flanking display windows by unadorned brick piers. Each store window features decorative kick plates, a large sheet-glass display window and a large fixed transom featuring six lights over six lights. The transom lights are of different dimensions--the lower rank of six being taller than the upper rank of six. The display windows are also flanked by unadorned brick piers. The second story of the main elevation features three identical window openings. Window sashes have been removed from these openings, and they are presently covered with plywood. The window openings feature a simple brick sill as their only decorative device. The main elevation is capped by an intricate brick cornice which features a row of raised corbeled, decorative brick topped by a row of small corbeled brick bracket devices. A large, single corbeled brick bracket is located at either end of the cornice. These elements are in turn topped with a plain metal cap.

The side elevations are both partially obscured by abutting buildings. On the west the neighboring structure rises one story--thus exposing the second story of the building to view. This elevation is laid up in common-bond brick and features two window openings identical to those on the main elevation. They, too, have been covered with plywood. One of the windows is partially obscured by a narrow wooden projection which contains an enclosed stair and side hallway for the second floor. This stair leads down to Third Street and is obscured by the facade of the abutting building. The abutting building on the east side of the Lilyquist-Christianson Building rises one and one-half stories in height. There are no distinguishing features on this common bond-brick elevation of the building. There is a small non-historic addition attached to the rear of the Lilyquist-Christianson Building. It is constructed of cinder block and almost totally obscures the original rear of the building. This element is not visible, however, from Third Street and may only be viewed from the alley behind the building. As such this addition was not considered a significant intrusion and does not detract from the Lilyquist-Christianson Building's ability to convey its historical significance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2 Name of Property Lilyquist-Christianson Building

County and State Ada County, Idaho

The commercial interior of the Lilyquist-Christianson Building has recently been rehabilitated. Original hardwood flooring and pressed-metal ceiling panels have been re-exposed and repaired. The second-floor interiors were removed many years ago and are not now considered significant.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1 Name of Property Lilyquist-Christianson Building
County and State Ada County, Idaho

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lilyquist-Christianson Building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. It is associated with the initial settlement and commercial development of Kuna, Idaho, a small rural town in southern Ada County which developed as a result of reclamation and irrigation efforts during the first two decades of the 20th Century. The Lilyquist-Christianson Building was one of the first commercial structures built in this new town and is one of the very few buildings in town which can convey the early developmental history of the community.

Southern Ada County consists of an arid, upland plateau which runs from the Snake River Canyon on the south to the benchlands of the Boise River Valley on the north. While the southern half of this county saw substantial transportation development in the 19th Century--including the Oregon Short Line (OSL) main rail line and various stage routes between Boise and the Owyhee mining region--agricultural development did not occur here as it did closer to the Boise River. The simple reason for this was lack of water. Early irrigation efforts concentrated on the Boise River lowlands, while the topography of the Snake River Canyon made it impossible as a source for agricultural water.

This all began to change in the first decade of the 20th Century. In 1905 the U.S Reclamation Service began extensive water development in the area, known as the Boise Project. Over the next 15 years this project developed a substantial irrigation infrastructure that transformed the southern part of Ada County. Formerly unclaimed desertland suddenly became desirable farmland and prospective farmers began to snap up every available irrigable parcel.

With the expansion of the rural population in the southern part of the county, land speculators began to realize that there was sufficient population to establish a new town in the area. Kuna had existed as a name since the construction of the OSL main line in the 1880s. A rail siding located at the present townsite was named Kuna (supposedly a Native American word meaning "the end") by the railroad company and was the site of a temporary construction camp. Kuna also had a short-lived career as a stage stop and roadhouse on the old Boise-Silver City stage line. However, these developments were fleeting.

The present town of Kuna can trace its origin to a 1905 Desert Land claim filed by F.H. Teed for the present townsite. Development in what was to become Kuna was slow at first. The Kuna Post Office was only established in 1907 and the first school classes were held in a tent during the fall of 1908. As water development progressed, however, Kuna enjoyed a substantial building boom. The first hotel in town was built in 1908 followed by a new frame school in 1909. In February of that same year water was first diverted to the Kuna area from the Boise River. As a result F.H. Teed

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2 Name of Property Lilyquist-Christianson Building
County and State Ada County, Idaho

hired C.C. Stevenson of Boise to survey and file a plat for the town of Kuna on his claim. Lots were acutioned in May of 1909 and a tent settlement sprang up almost overnight.

During the next several years numerous frame and brick commercial buildings were built along Third Street forming the core of the Kuna commercial dsitric. Two of the most important were the Kuna Mercantile Building and the Lilyquist-Christianson Building. Construction of what was to become the Lilyquist Christianson Building began during the summer of 1909. The building was begun by Charles Lilyquist, who had emigrated to Kuna from Minnesota at the behest of his son-in-law A.C. Christianson. Christianson had opened a successful hardware business in Kuna earlier that year and had convinced his father-in-law to invest in a commercial building and general merchandise store. Lilyquist did not live to see his building completed, however, as he fell from the roof during construction and was killed. Christianson completed the building and hired W.H. Howell to operate what was still called the Lilyquist General Merchandise Store. In 1914 Christianson sold the general merchandise operation and moved his hardware business into the brick building. The Christianson Hardware Company operated at this location until the early 1920s when the business was sold to H.C. Sims of Roseberry, Idaho who operated from the same location well into the 1950s. The building had a variety of occupants following Sims ownership until purchased by the present owners in 1988.

The Kuna building boom and its accompanying prosperity were short lived, however. Following World War I, farm commodity prices plummeted sending rural America into a farm depression nearly 10 years before the Crash of 1929. As a result, the building boom that had characterized Kuna for a decade evaporated. Real prosperity was not to return until the 1940s and '50s. As a result of new commercial development in Kuna's commercial district during this later period, the Lilyquist-Christianson Building is one of the few structures remaining in Kuna which serves to illustrate the initial period of community growth. As such, it is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1 Name of Property Lilyquist-Christianson Building
County and State Ada County, Idaho

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Grebe, G.W., untitled manuscript concerning the early history of Kuna, Local History Vertical File, Kuna Public Library, Kuna Idaho, no date.

Hays, Arthur H., Untitled Manuscript on Kuna History, The Arthur H. Hays Collection, Manuscript #474, Idaho State Historical Society Manuscripts Division, Boise, Idaho, 1937.

Teed, Lucy R., "The History of Kuna", unpublished manuscript, Local History Vertical File, Kuna Public Library, Kuna, Idaho, 1916.

 , The Settlement of the Kuna Region: 1900-1925, The Caxton Printers, Ltd., Caldwell, Idaho, 1983.