

INVENTORY SHEET FOR GROUP NOMINATIONS: IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOISE, IDAHO

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE ~~IN IDAHO~~ RR)

✓ SITE NAME: Jones, J. W., Building ✓ SITE NUMBER: 78

✓ LOCATION: 104 ~~Northeast~~ ^{NE} Main Street, Blackfoot, Bingham County (011), Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Bingham County Senior Citizens Center, Inc.
104 Northeast Main Street
Blackfoot, ID 83221

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Blackfoot, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the J. W. Jones Building and the property on which it stands, lots 6 and 7, block 13, Shilling addition to Blackfoot. Legal description on file at the Bingham County Courthouse, Blackfoot, Idaho.

UTM(S): 12/3,90,800/47,82,530

DATE OR PERIOD: 1913

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: good unaltered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The former J. W. Jones Building in Blackfoot is a diminutive one-story commercial structure rendered in red brick and trimmed with stone. The original gray stone has been painted, the Main Street doors re-hung, and several transoms closed on the Pacific Street side; an inconspicuous addition, described below, has been added in the rear. The building is otherwise virtually unaltered.

The structure maintains a fifty-foot frontage on Main Street and extends seventy feet back along Pacific Street. Openings in the facade are arranged in an ABAABA pattern, with the two single-width entry doors both separated and flanked by the four identical facade lights. Another pair of these lights, much more widely spaced, light the front office on the Pacific Street side. Another single light is set on either side of the two rear entrances on Pacific. The windows are double the width of the doors and, like them, transomed; all openings have flat arches at the same level, formed of diagonally set bricks and elaborated with key- and side-stones. Above the arches is an outset header course, then a stone cornice more boldly outset from the brick fabric, a few feet below a stone coping which marks the flat roofline.

Fenestration on the rear of the building is less distinguished and employs the unadorned segmental arch. A small concrete block addition to the west--the left rear of the building--is invisible from any of the original structure's intended angles of exposure.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The J. W. Jones Building is architecturally significant as a very handsomely detailed small commercial building which is Tourtellotte and Hummel's only known building in the eastern Idaho town of Blackfoot. (A 1902 Catholic church was not located in the course of this survey and has likely been demolished.) Built in and scaled to the residential and public service sector of Blackfoot, a county seat and railroad town with a main street on either side of the tracks, this neat little structure was erected to house not only the office of lawyer Jones but that of the U.S. Lands Office. This official connection may explain how this out-of-the-way commission happened to come to the Boise architects. They had already done considerable government work; the law/land office commission may have come about as did the one for the Catholic Church, as a result of Boise contacts.

Marcus Mesker of Blackfoot was the contractor in charge of the Jones building. The projected cost on a local building permit was reported as \$8,000.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

(Blackfoot) Blackfoot Republican. May 6, 1913; June 27, 1913; July 4, 1913; October 31, 1913.

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 405A. Collection book reference in 1913. Tracings signed Tourtellotte and Hummel.