Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74) PH0508799

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 7 1977
DATE ENTERED FEB 7 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
McConnell - McGuire Building

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Main and First Street

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Moscow

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
First

STATE
Idaho

CODE
16

COUNTY
Latah

CODE
057

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X__BUILDING(S)	X__PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	X__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	X__OTHER: Apartments

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
William J. Brown

STREET & NUMBER
102 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN
Moscow

__ VICINITY OF

STATE
Idaho

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Latah County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Adams & Sixth

CITY, TOWN
Moscow

STATE
Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Idaho State Historic Sites Inventory

DATE
1972

__FEDERAL X STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Idaho State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN
Boise

STATE
Idaho

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The McConnell - McGuire building is a three-story stone building distinguished by its fine cast iron ornamentation. Pilasters of iron demarcate the facade's three bays. Each bay contains three pairs of double hung sash windows in the upper stories, with the third story windows possessing round iron arches with keystones. The central window in each bay has cast iron decoration in the form of a lion's head in the center and a classical bust on the others. The remaining tympanums are rusticated as are the spandrels, with the exception of the center bay's spandrels which imitate smooth stonework.

The building terminates with a galvanized iron cornice and a stone parapet. The cornice is broken by the pilaster caps with heads of wolves.

The left side's first story windows are semi-circular and several of them still retain their original stained glass. There is a side entry at the rear. The upper stories repeat the motifs of the facade only without the ornamented tympanums.

The facade's first story is highly altered with the original columns and mezzanine windows being covered. The upper story leaded glass transoms have been covered also. The original pediment on the parapet no longer exists, and a fire escape mars the left side. The interior has also undergone considerable alteration with the upper floors, which were originally store space, serving as apartments.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	X AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	__ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	X COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1891 BUILDER/ARCHITECT W. J. Lewis & M. D. Ogilbee

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McConnell-McGuire building is architecturally significant for its excellent cast iron ornamentation. The iron decoration, which was the first contract for the Moscow Iron Works, is extensive, unique, and of high quality. It probably represents the most extensive use of cast iron ornamentation on an Idaho building. The stained glass windows which remain intact are also noteworthy. The building is an area landmark and at the time of its completion the Moscow Mirror pronounced it "a monument to Enterprise" and "the best and most finely finished building in the city."[1]

The building housed the McConnell-McGuire department store, one of the largest in the area in the 1890's. Both men were pioneer merchants in Moscow and William J. McConnell became governor of Idaho in 1893. Between 1912-1918 Nat Williamson occupied the building with his colorful Boston store. His prolific advertising techniques were quite renowned. In 1928 a group of Portland investors converted the upper stories into 43 apartments, which allowed the building to house "more people than some of the smaller Palouse farming villages have all total."[2]

The architects, W. J. Lewis and M. D. Ogilbee, came to Moscow in 1891 after working in Denver for eight years. They apparently remained in the city only for a year and moved on.

This building was constructed immediately after William J. McConnell returned to Idaho from Washington D.C. where he had served as a United States Senator.

1 Moscow Mirror, November 27, 1891, p. 1, c. 7.
2 Idaho Post, May 11, 1928, p. 2, c. 7.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Moscow Mirror, May 1, 1891, p. 3, c. 2; June 26, 1891, p. 1, c. 6; November 27, 1891, p. 1, c. 7.
Idaho Post, May 11, 1928, p. 2, c. 7.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre.

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	11	499800	5175335	B			
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This includes all the property at Main and First owned by William J. Brown in 1977.

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
2 November 1977

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 X 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 Merle Wells

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 2 November 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 2-7-78

ATTEST: Charles A. Lee

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 2-1-78