IDAHO COUNTY, ID HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN



PREPARED FOR

IDAHO COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

BY



06 DECEMBER 2015



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Cover photos top to bottom: 1) Camas Prairie barn, August 2014 (PSLLC); 2) Woodland School, October 1918 (courtesy Idaho County Historic Preservation Commission); and 3) First Nez Perce National Forest Ranger Meeting, 1909 (courtesy Nez Perce National Forest, available from www.fs.usda.gov/photogallery/nezperceclearwater/learning/history-culture/gallery.

PURPOSE

The Historic Preservation Plan outlines the essential components for a viable preservation program as an integral part of Idaho County's community planning. The Plan is a guiding document that identifies the community's priorities for the preservation of historic resources and sets forth related goals, policies, and action steps toward their implementation. It will be used by the Idaho County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) and its preservation partners to guide and monitor preservation efforts in the community. Businesses, property owners, and members of the general public may also use the Plan to learn about the program and the status of preservation efforts.

Preservation is a part of many community interests, including housing, sustainability, livability and economic development; therefore, the Plan approaches historic preservation as an integral element of community development. It seeks to balance broader community objectives with its core mission of retaining cultural resources, while presenting specific actions related to the components of a complete and effective preservation program.

Across the country, communities turn to historic preservation as an effective means of enhancing their quality of life, fostering economic development, and building community pride. To guide historic preservation efforts, it is accepted best practice to complete a preservation plan to assist policy makers and community leaders with the often interrelated and overlapping programs and procedures regarding historic preservation. The intent of the Idaho County Historic Preservation Plan is to outline goals and related, specific action steps toward those goals to preserve, develop, and maintain historic buildings over the next five years. Based on public input and preservation best practices, the plan includes recommendations for cultivating public awareness and partnerships, increasing heritage tourism efforts, strengthening protection efforts, and encouraging preservation as an economic development tool.

INTRODUCTION

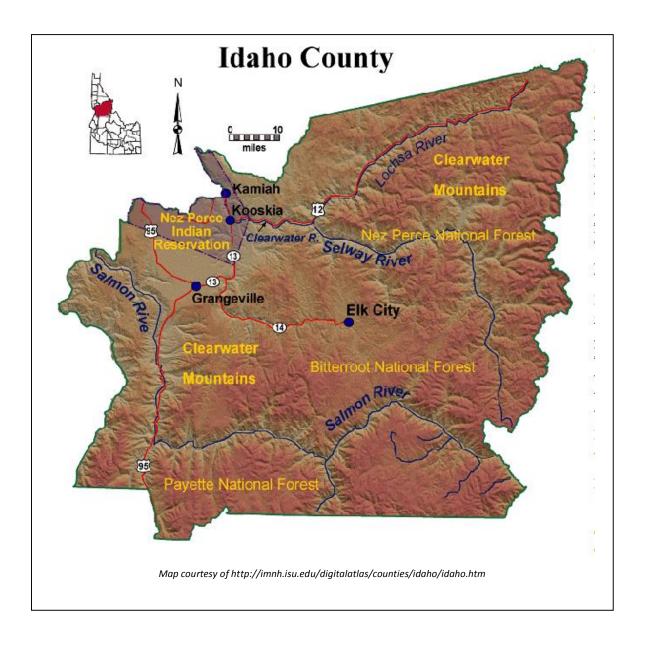
Idaho County's native heritage dates back to prehistoric times when the Nez Perce lived and hunted across the entire region. Nonnative history dates to the discovery of gold in the 1860s. Today, Idaho County is the largest county in Idaho, spanning 8,500 square miles (approximately 5,440,000 acres; nearly the size of New Jersey) from the Oregon border to the Montana state line at the base of the state's panhandle. This vast county comprises a wide variety of landscapes – from evergreen forested mountains, to cultivated prairie, to steep arid canyons. A rural county of approximately 16,446 residents, the county seat and largest city, Grangeville, has a population of just over 3,100 individuals. More than 83 percent of Idaho County's area is federal land, largely under the management of the Department of Interior (Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and National Park Service) and Department of Agriculture (US Forest Service). As a result, population and development are skewed to the west half of the county; connected by two-lane paved or gravel roadways linking the small communities to one another and to the remote areas beyond.

While many Certified Local Governments (CLGs) manage preservation at the town or city level and enjoy the support of a city staff liaison, the Idaho County CLG spans the full limits of Idaho County and operates without government staff and with a minimal budget. The presence of Nez Perce tribal lands and the vast

expanses of multiple National Forests (Nez Perce-Clearwater NF, Payette NF, and Bitterroot NF) necessitates that the Idaho County HPC, as an advisory body to the Idaho County Commission, effectively balances its duties with numerous federal actions, as well as new private development.

When integrated into the planning process and targeted at identifiable areas, historic preservation provides a level of certainty and permanence that is necessary to attract investment. Preserved commercial business areas and residential neighborhoods create stability of population, a greater tax base, and less drain on municipal services. To aid Idaho County's development and transformation in the future, the County has chosen to enhance its public policy options of considering historic preservation in local government actions.

Buildings and structures from the past – early homesteads, downtown commercial buildings, rural schoolhouses, abandoned mining structures – are tangible links to Idaho County's rich history for residents and visitors today. Furthermore, they provide opportunities for promoting economic development and heritage tourism. Not only do Idaho County's citizens value these indications of the past, but County planning code recognizes the importance of these assets as economic anchors in the community.



BENEFITS OF PRESERVATION

Preservation has intrinsic value not only in celebrating a community's history, but dozens of studies conducted nationwide have demonstrated that historic preservation is an economically sound, fiscally responsible, and cost effective strategy that produces visible and measureable economic benefits to communities.

Nationally known real estate professional Donovan D. Rypkema, author of *The Economics of Historic Preservation*,¹ emphasizes that commitment to preservation may be one of the most effective acts of fiscal responsibility governmental entities can undertake. The State of Idaho and the federal government recognize the role rehabilitation of historic buildings can play in strengthening local economies. To encourage sustainable communities and preservation of important cultural resources they provide incentives to encourage rehabilitation of historic buildings. (See Appendices B and C for specific financial incentives.)

Nationwide, the most successful revitalization efforts incorporate historic rehabilitation as the core of their strategies. These efforts demonstrate time and again that the most successful approach toward creating sustainable communities combines the old and the new; capitalizing on the aesthetics and craftsmanship of earlier eras and enhancing a community's fabric and character.

Historic settings are increasingly sought after by the public because they offer quality craftsmanship and materials, provide authenticity and variety, and encourage human interaction in a familiar context. Moreover, preservation has demonstrated practical value as a tool for economic development and environmental stewardship. Studies conducted by various institutions and organizations, including Rutgers University, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Brookings Institution, have shown preservation provides the following benefits.

1. Historic Preservation Stabilizes and/or Increases Property Values

Studies across the country have shown that in most cases listing in either the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or local historic districts almost always stabilizes property values and nearly always enhances resale values. The value of rehabilitated properties in a community's historic core increases more rapidly than the real estate market in the larger community. Studies from Texas, New York, Philadelphia, New Jersey, and elsewhere all reported the historic designation increased property values from between 5 percent and as much as 70 percent.² The value of a property is determined by the buildings and public improvements around it; thus, rehabilitation of a historic property directly benefits adjacent property owners and nearby businesses.

2. Historic Preservation Capitalizes on Existing Public Investments

Older neighborhoods and commercial centers represent considerable taxpayer investment in infrastructure and building construction. Conservation of the historic core, older neighborhoods, and sites of historic and aesthetic value can be one of the best tools in recovering and extending the worth of past investments while stimulating new economic activity. Streets, sewer lines,

¹ Donovan D. Rypkema, *The Economics of Historic Preservation: A Community Leader's Guide* (Washington, D.C.: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2005).

² Brookings Institution, Metropolitan Policy Program, *Economics and Historic Preservation: A Guide and Review of the Literature*. Available from http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/research/files/reports/2005/9/metropolitanpolicy-mason/20050926 preservation.pdf

sidewalks, utilities, and so forth represent considerable public investments. Historic preservation directs development toward existing infrastructure, thus avoiding the need for and cost of new improvements. Rehabilitation of individual buildings can be more attainable and stabilizing to a local economy than a single large economic development project.

3. Historic Preservation Creates Jobs

Historic preservation consistently outperforms other industries in job creation, household income, and impact on other industries. Comparatively, historic preservation activity creates more jobs than comparable new construction activity, and often produces more jobs per dollar spent than leading industries. Typically, between 60 and 70 percent of historic rehabilitation projects costs go toward labor. This has a beneficial domino effect throughout the local economy as laborers on rehab projects are typically hired locally.

4. Historic Preservation Promotes Downtown Revitalization

Nationwide, historic preservation has proven to be an effective economic development tool for downtown revitalization efforts. The physical appearance of buildings and streetscapes reflects a community's overall vitality and economic health; rehabilitation of historic buildings not only raises individual property values, but also reinforces and often raises the property values of adjacent properties. Since 1980, the National Main Street program has provided a model that has been used by downtowns across the country to stimulate \$61.7 billion in total private and public investments in more than 2,000 communities across the country; in Idaho, the Department of Commerce oversees the Main Street program, which can be implemented in towns and cities of any size. Furthermore, maintaining the strength of a city's older commercial and residential areas, including both rehabilitated historic buildings and well-designed new buildings, can attract larger commercial ventures to the community, even if they do not locate in the historic core of the city.

5. Historic Preservation Encourages Tourism

Heritage tourism is a consistently growing industry nationwide and historic resources are among the strongest assets for attracting visitors; in 2005, 81 percent of the 146.4 million U.S. adults who took a trip of 50 miles or more away from home were cultural and heritage tourists.³ Studies confirm cultural heritage visitors spend more and take longer trips compared to other travelers. More and more tourists are looking for the authentic "insider" experience and seek out what makes a community unique. Cultural resources directly reflect a community and region's evolution and differentiate it from other areas, providing the one-of-a-kind connection to the heritage tourist.

³ Oregon Arts Commission, "Exploring Authentic Oregon: The Importance of Cultural Tourism," September 2006. Available from http://www.oregonartscommission.org/sites/default/files/publication_or_resource/publication_file/Cultural-Toursim-In-Oregon 2006-Report.pdf

HISTORIC RESOURCES

CONTEXTS & PROPERTY TYPES

HISTORIC CONTEXTS

To fully appreciate the significance of Idaho County's historic resources, it is important to understand the forces that influenced the evolution of the county in general, as well as the development trends that occurred regionally, statewide, and nationally. The National Park Service defines historic context as "a broad pattern of historical development in a community or its region that may be represented by historic resources." According to the Secretary of Interior's *Standards for Preservation Planning, Identification, and Evaluation*, proper evaluation of the significance of historic resources can occur only when they are assessed within broad patterns of a community's historical development. Only then may the National Register criteria for evaluating property eligibility be accurately applied.

Historic contexts should not be confused with an exhaustive history of an area. Instead, they simply lay out relevant themes and identify the driving forces that resulted in the built environment and cultural landscapes that characterize a specific geographical area, such as Idaho County. As such, for those seeking a more detailed and/or elaborated discussion of the historic contexts below, one should consult the various other secondary resources related to the history of Idaho County listed in the bibliography.

Establishing historic contexts is a means of organizing information about properties that share common historic, architectural, or cultural themes. The general themes that relate to the development of Idaho County are briefly touched upon below.⁵ Idaho County's property types, as discussed below, relate to these themes. When historic resources are viewed in relationship to the context within which they were built, it is possible to apply the established criteria for evaluating eligibility for designation to the national and local historic registers.

PREHISTORIC IDAHO COUNTY

For more than 11,000 years, the diverse lands within Idaho County have been home to the Nez Perce people. Other, peripheral Native American groups (those at the edge of their aboriginal territory) utilizing the region included the Bitterroot Salish, Coeur d' Alene, and Northern Shoshone. Situated at the edge of the Columbia Plateau and Great Basin aboriginal cultural areas, Native American groups from the Plains cultural area and the southern Columbia Plateau interacted across Idaho County in their quest for various resources. Plateau groups visited the Plains for hunting bison and some Plains groups, such as the Flathead or Salish, are known to have visited the headwaters of the Clearwater River drainage to catch salmon during the historic period.⁶

The Nez Perce settlement pattern generally consisted of a system of permanent winter villages in canyons and temporary summer camps at higher elevations. Winter villages were found at lower elevations along rivers such as the Clearwater, Salmon, and Snake.⁷ Most winter food was prepared and stored during the

⁴ National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin: Guidelines for Local Surveys* http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb24/chapter1.htm (accessed February 2, 2015).

⁵ These themes should not be confused with a comprehensive history of Idaho County. It is expected that these local contexts will be added to and modified as additional survey and documentation efforts take place into the future.

⁶ Stuart A. Chalfant, "Aboriginal Territories of the Flathead, Pend d'Oreille, and Kutenai Indians of Western Montana," in *Interior Salish and Eastern Washington Indians II*, ed. David Agee Horr (New York: Garland Publishing, 1974), 87.

⁷ David A. Sisson, *Lower Salmon River Cultural Resource Management Plan* (Cottonwood, Idaho: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Coeur d'Alene District, Cottonwood Resource Area Headquarters, 1983), 17.

summer and fall, and winter hunting was limited to localized deer drives.⁸ Subsistence patterns throughout the spring, summer, and fall were established by the availability of plant, fish, and game resources.

Cultural chronologies have been developed for the lower Snake River, lower Salmon River, and Clearwater River drainages of the southern Columbia Plateau cultural area. The Salmon River and Clearwater River chronologies are similar, beginning in 10,000 BP and continue into the historic period of the early 1800s. The lower Snake River chronology begins 11,500 BP and ends 150 BP.⁹

The arrival of the horse among the Nez Perce people around 1730, profoundly affected their lives and forever changed their culture. The horse provided greater mobility and potential for interaction between aboriginal groups, increasing trade among native groups and the potential for conflicts between traveling tribes. Introduction of the horse changed nearly every aspect of Nez Perce life and culture, including trade practices, warfare, marriage relationships, hunting techniques, forms of wealth, social stratification, and ease of travel. The Nez Perce welcomed the horse and its assistance in getting themselves and their equipment up the steep mountains and across the plateau country to the Camas grounds, which anchor the northwest part of present-day Idaho County. Alvin Josephy, a noted scholar of Native American history, explains that those who traveled further, "members of long-ranging war and hunting bands, families that trekked to distant trading markets, and adventurers who had been used to walking across the Bitterroots to the buffalo country—all took to riding. By the mid-eighteenth century, the Nez Perces were a mounted people." 10

EARLY EURO-AMERICAN EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT PERIOD

Lewis and Clark passed along the north edge of present-day Idaho County during their 1804-1806 expedition. During their explorations, they documented the first ethnographic accounts of the Nez Perce in 1805 and 1806. They systematically obtained ethnographic information and their journals provide notations and sketch maps of villages and camps passed or visited as well as documentation of many aspects of Nez Perce life.¹¹

Fur Trade, Missionaries, Mining, & Homesteading: 1840s to 1890

With the arrival of the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1805, the historic period within Idaho County began. Subsequently, both fur trappers and missionaries, such as Presbyterian missionary to the Nez Perce Rev. Samuel Parker, came to the area during the early 19th century. However, the increasing use of the Oregon overland emigrant trails, as well as the establishment of the Oregon and Washington territories in 1848 and 1853 respectively, prompted the first major encroachment by non-Indians into the vast lands of the Nez Perce. Pressures created by these events resulted in what is known as the Treaty Period, during which the U.S. Government negotiated the Nez Perce tribe's relinquishment of 7.5 million acres of traditional homeland.

Despite an 1855 treaty defining the Nez Perce homeland boundaries that comprised most of present-day Idaho County and beyond, in 1860 trespassing miners discovered gold at Pierce, well within the boundaries of the reservation. In an effort to manage the subsequent flood of prospectors to the area, the U.S. military established Fort Lapwai on the Nez Perce reservation in 1862. To further enable access of non-Indians to

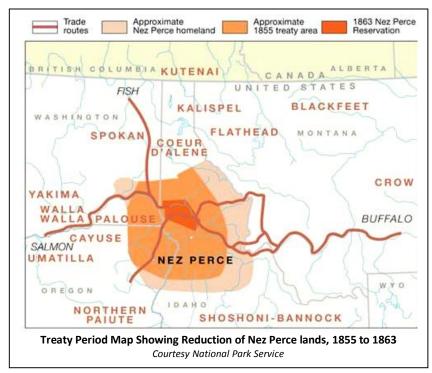
⁸ Stuart A. Chalfant, "Aboriginal Territory of the Nez Perce Indian," in *Nez Perce Indians*, ed. David Agee Horr (New York: Garland Publishing, 1974), 106.

⁹ Robert Lee Sappington and Caroline D. Carley, *Cultural Resource Landscape Overview of the Bureau of Land Management Cottonwood Field Office* (Cottonwood, Idaho: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 2005), 12. ¹⁰ Alvin M. Josephy, *The Nez Perce Indians and the Opening of the Northwest* (Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 1979), 25.

¹¹ Robert Lee Sappington, "The Lewis and Clark Expedition Among the Nez Perce Indians: The First Ethnographic Study in the Columbia Basin," *Northwest Anthropological Research Notes* 23, no. 1 (Spring 1989): 1-34.

area gold districts, the U.S. government negotiated the Treaty of 1863, also known as the 'steal treaty' which drastically reduced reservation lands to a fraction of tribe's original homeland.¹²

The discovery of gold at Pierce (present-day Clearwater County) spurred widespread prospecting in the region and within a year, the mining districts at Newsome, Elk City, and Florence (aka the Salmon River Mines) were in operation. By the end of 1861, more than 3,000 prospectors had flocked to the Florence area and a major gold rush was underway. 13 The population influx and mining activity spurred Washington Territorial Legislature to establish three new counties in the region -Shoshone, Nez Perce, and Idaho. The boundaries set for Idaho County were enormous spanning from Florence in the



northwest corner to Franklin at the south boundary and including much of what later became western Wyoming. Bordering Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Nebraska, and Dakota, it comprised approximately the same land area as the present-day state of Idaho.¹⁴

Expansion of the mining activity in Idaho County reached stampede scale upon the new discoveries at Warren and the Boise Basin in July and August 1862 respectively. That same year, passage of the Homestead Act solidified the region's position as a destination point for prospectors, speculators, and settlers from all across the country and beyond. As a result, the Washington Territorial Legislature carved Boise County out of the south part of Idaho County in January 1863. Just a few months later, in March, the mining districts and surrounding vast wilderness and rugged terrain were all incorporated into the new Idaho Territory.¹⁵

Those arriving to the area came by foot or horseback on overland trails, many of which were ancient Nez Perce trading routes. From these, miners and freighters improved trails leading directly to mining districts, such as the Milner Trail from Mt. Idaho to Florence, which the Territorial Legislature authorized as a toll trail in 1864. The influx of prospectors increased demand for necessary agricultural goods and services,

¹² National Park Service, "Nez Perce National Historical Park,"

http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/cultural_diversity/Nez_Perce_National_Historical_Park.html (accessed August 15, 2013).

¹³An Illustrated History of North Idaho (Spokane, Washington: Western Historical Publishing, 1903), 86.

¹⁴ For the purposes of this report, statistics and references to Idaho County refer to only the area of present-day Idaho County. Care was taken in research and analysis to eliminate data and information related to areas that are no longer within Idaho County as a result of boundary changes over time. "Early Idaho County," *Idaho State Historical Society Reference Series*, No. 324 (Boise, ID: September 1968).

^{15 &}quot;Early Idaho County."

¹⁶ "The Lure of Gold: The History of Florence, Idaho and the 1861 Discovery of Gold," (Grangeville, Idaho: United State Department of Agriculture, Nez Perce National Forest, 2012), 9.

drawing non-miners to the area who established settlements along and at the intersections of these routes to provide services to the passing/area freighters and miners.

Analysis of population census records from this period conveys the sparseness and demographics of settlement in Idaho County. The 1870 census tallied a total of 14,999 Idahoans, but in the area that became present-day Idaho County it documented only five settlements – White Bird, Warren, Florence, Washington (part of the Warren community), and Slate Creek – with a total of only about 843 individuals. The Idaho County population was largely comprised of men in the mining industry, as well as those in related or supporting occupations such as mule packers/freighters and services such as baker, butcher, lawyer, blacksmith, merchants, musicians, and physicians. Of the 150 inhabitants of 1870 Florence, only twelve women are listed, ten of which have the occupations of "Hurdy Gurdy" or "Disrespectable." The lack of diversity of occupations and gender, combined with the broad diversity of places of origin – thirteen countries and twenty states represented – reflect a typical pattern of 'boom' settlement.

During these early territorial years, Idaho County's boundaries changed a great deal as settlement patterns shifted rapidly and prompted the territorial legislature to establish new adjacent counties. By 1872, the Idaho County seat had been in three different locations, with Florence, Warren's (aka Washington), and Mt. Idaho all enjoying time as county seat prior to 1902. By 1875, the present-day boundaries were largely in place. ¹⁸ This continued and extensive intrusion by Euro-Americans into Nez Perce territory eventually led to war in 1877, with massacres and battles fought across Idaho County and beyond. ¹⁹

Idaho County's population boomed during the Territorial Period, doubling between 1870 and 1880 to approximately 2,130 residents. The vast majority of these residents were miners, most of which were Chinese men. The 1870 census indicated almost 60 percent of the 6,572 miners across the Idaho Territory were Chinese. As the mining activity in the region experienced periods of ebb and flow, a number of miners cashed out and began to settle and homestead, while others found it more profitable to provide goods and services to area miners than to mine themselves. Among the other common occupations were farmers and those associated with the local lumber industry – loggers, lumberman, sawyers, sawmill laborers – which processed timber for the area boom in construction. As might be expected, the demographics of different communities in Idaho County was specific to its economy. For example, around Mt. Idaho (pop. ~150) the population comprised predominantly farm families and farm laborers, while in the village of Grangeville (pop. ~130), the census documented a diverse set of occupations including store clerks, butchers, preachers, and carpenters. At the same time, Washington (which included the Warren district) was occupied miners, prostitutes, packers, and professional gamblers.²⁰

In the late 19th century, "railroad mania" swept the nation and railroad expansion revolutionized America by stimulating the growth of trade, settlement, and communication networks. Between 1880 and 1890, more than 70,300 miles of new lines opened, a 75 percent increase in track mileage nationwide.²¹ At the same time, Idahoans welcomed two new railroads built across the territory – the Oregon Short Line across

¹⁷ Due to the much larger county boundaries at the time, countywide statistics will not give an accurate representation of present-day Idaho County settlement patterns. As such, only the townships documented that are in present-day Idaho County were reviewed. Bureau of the Census, "Idaho County, Idaho" *U.S. Federal Population Census, 1870*. Database online, accessed July 27, 2013, http://www.ancestry.com.

^{18 &}quot;Early Idaho County."

¹⁹ National Park Service, "Nez Perce National Historical Park,"

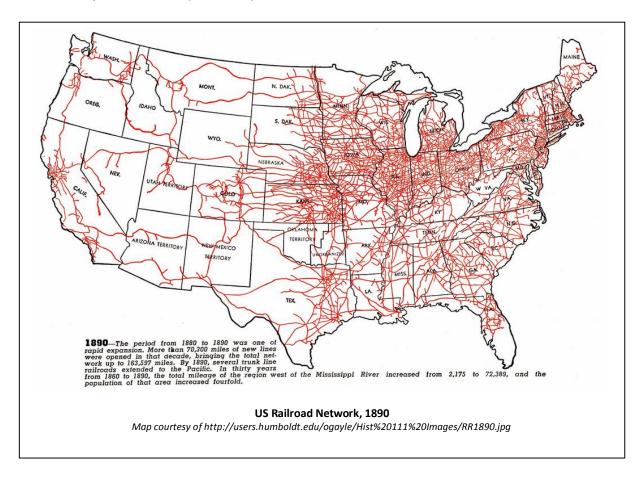
http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/cultural_diversity/Nez_Perce_National_Historical_Park.html (accessed August 15, 2013).

²⁰ 'Gambler' was listed as an occupation repeatedly. Bureau of the Census, "Idaho County, Idaho" *U.S. Federal Population Census, 1870*. Database online, accessed July 27, 2013, http://www.ancestry.com.

²¹ Humboldt State University, "Industrialization, Urbanization, and Immigration in the Gilded Age,

[&]quot;http://users.humboldt.edu/ogayle/hist111/industrial.html (accessed August 13, 2013).

southern Idaho and the Northern Pacific across the panhandle through Sandpoint. However, in Idaho County, overland stage coaches and wagons remained the only means of transport and travel. Maps from the time show a conspicuous gap in the railroad network across the West in the region of and around Idaho County. It would not be until the late 1890s that sufficient economic growth and the promise of wealth in gold and agricultural products made financing of rail lines into Idaho County feasible. Despite its relative remoteness from trans-state and transcontinental trade, Idaho County's natural resources ensured that it entered the early statehood era poised for promise.



STATEHOOD AND EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY DEVELOPMENT: 1890 to 1920s

Though the Panic of 1893 led to a serious nationwide economic depression that lasted most of the decade and some Idahoans suffered as a result, the Panic put only a slight damper on the previous boom times and the new state of Idaho continued to draw rapid immigration. An additional 73,224 residents arrived between 1890 and 1900, an 83 percent increase.

Idaho County's previous patterns of development shifted greatly in the 1890s due to several contemporaneous events. Despite previous treaties, in 1895 the U.S. Government assigned allotment lands to members of the Nez Perce tribe and subsequently opened up the remaining reservation lands to non-Indian settlement. A land rush ensued and by the end of the year several communities came into existence on what was former Nez Perce reservation land, such as Ferdinand and Kooskia.

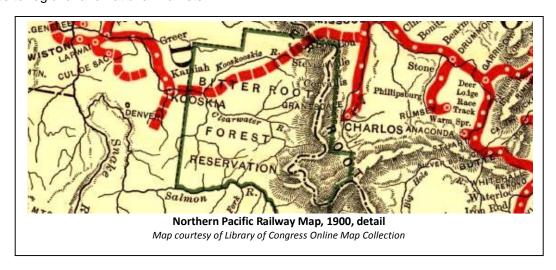
During this period, Alice Cunningham Fletcher was the first anthropologist to work among the Nez Perce. While living among the Nez Perce from 1889 to 1892 she compiled a collection of ethnographic documents

and notes.²² Due to her level of expertise and personal experience, Fletcher oversaw the allotment of the Nez Perce Reservation in 1889. With the discovery of gold in the early 1860s, the establishment of the reservation system, and the Nez Perce War of 1877, the subsistence lifestyle of the Nez Perce was changed forever.

This new availability of some of the best agricultural land in Idaho County took place around the same time as new area discoveries of gold at Buffalo Hump, Dixie, and others. The improvement of the Elk City Wagon Road in 1895 increased freighting traffic between Grangeville and Elk City and villages along this route sprang up, such as Harpster.

Arrival of the Railroad

At the close of the nineteenth century the railroad expansion that had transformed America by linking previously isolated trade, settlement, and communication networks nationwide finally arrived to Idaho County – in 1898, the Northern Pacific railroad extended a line south to Kamiah. The promise of the railroad coming further south along the South Fork of the Clearwater River spurred the establishment of Kooskia and Stites, both of which welcomed the grade within a few years and became local trading centers with access to regional and national markets.



Drawn to the county's expanding agricultural and mining sectors and improved transportation networks, in the 1890s more than 6,100 individuals joined the existing 2,955 residents, more than tripling the Idaho County's population by 1900.²³ The six enumeration districts listed for Idaho County in 1880 had more than quadrupled to twenty-six. As with the 1880 census, the 1900 records show a very specific character of inhabitants in communities across vast Idaho County. Around Clearwater, Kamiah, Kooskia, White Bird, and Cottonwood, residents were primarily farm families with children listed as "at school." In the John Day area, the population was nearly evenly split between mine and farm laborers. In contrast, the inhabitants of Elk City, Dixie, and Warren still predominantly made their living as miners and day laborers, with a few trappers, teamsters, and saloon keepers.²⁴

²² Robert Lee Sappington and Caroline D. Carley, "Alice Cunningham Fletcher's 'The Nez Perce Country'," *Northwest Anthropological Research Notes* 29, no. 2 (Fall 1995): 177-220.

²³ University of Virginia, Historical Census Browser. Database online, http://mapserver.lib.virginia.edu/php/county.php (accessed August 11, 2013).

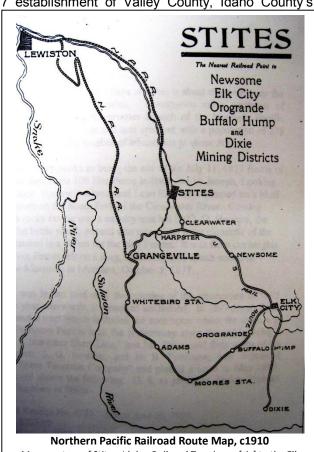
²⁴ Bureau of the Census, "Idaho County, Idaho" *U.S. Federal Population Census, 1900*. Database online, accessed July 28, 2013, http://www.ancestry.com.

Good agricultural production and demands for agricultural products created by the United States' entry into World War I spurred continued immigration and developments across Idaho County in the first two decades of the twentieth century. A shift from subsistence farming and supplying miners to a full-fledged export industry ensued with the arrival of railroad and access to distant markets. Particularly successful wheat production in the Camas Prairie drew more farmers and led to Grangeville's ascension as *the* trading and commercial center of the surrounding agricultural area. As a result, in 1902, Mt. Idaho relinquished the county seat to Grangeville. For a few years a tram transported Camas Prairie grain to the mills and railroad at Kooskia until the arrival of a new railroad branch to Grangeville in 1908 – the Camas Prairie Railroad – solidifying Grangeville's role as Idaho County's hub for transport of agricultural products, timber, and minerals. Less than ten years later, with the 1917 establishment of Valley County, Idaho County's

boundaries were finalized as the largest county in Idaho.²⁵

Logging & the U.S. Forest Service

By the time railroad lines penetrated north Idaho, the lumber sources of the upper Midwest had been largely depleted and Washington State was on its way to being the top timber producer nationwide.²⁶ Previously, logging had been a local endeavor primarily taking place on an as-needed basis to produce mining tunnel supports and lumber for early settlement construction. Access to rail lines facilitated extraction of timber and set the stage for Idaho to become a national competitor with the South and the Pacific Northwest in this market. As railroads connected north Idaho with distant markets at the turn of the twentieth century, Saginaw Lumber, Coeur d'Alene Lumber, and prominent Midwestern lumberman Weyerhaeuser all amassed timber holdings in the region. By 1906 Weverhaeuser had merged with associates and competitors to form Potlatch Lumber, which went on to operate the largest white pine sawmill in the world at their company town of Potlatch, Idaho.²⁷ In the next decade, the corporation expanded with additional operations in Elk River and Coeur d'Alene, and established



Northern Pacific Railroad Route Map, c1910

Map courtesy of Stites, Idaho: Railroad Terminous [sic] to the Elk

City Gold Fields

headquarters in Lewiston. In Idaho County, the timbered areas east of the Camas Prairie supported new lumber mills that become significant economic drivers. For example, around Glenwood, while most inhabitants were farming, the remaining heads of household in 1910 generally worked at area lumber mills.²⁸

^{25 &}quot;Early Idaho County."

²⁶ History Channel, "History of Logging," http://www.history.com/topics/history-of-logging (accessed August 20, 2013)

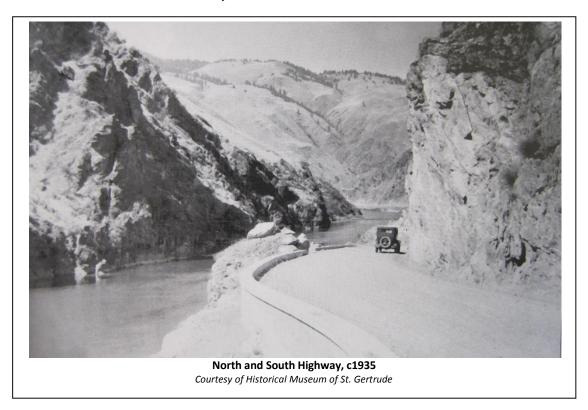
²⁷ University of Idaho Library, "About Potlatch Forests, Inc.," http://www.lib.uidaho.edu/digital/FamilyTree/about.html (accessed August 20, 2013).

²⁸ Bureau of the Census, "Idaho County, Idaho" *U.S. Federal Population Census, 1910*. Database online, accessed August 10, 2013, http://www.ancestry.com.

The rapid exploitation of timber resources in the West prompted Roosevelt to establish the U.S. Forest Service in 1905. By 1908, millions of acres of Idaho County had been drawn into newly designated U.S. Forest boundaries, among them Nez Perce National Forest, Bitterroot National Forest, Clearwater National Forest, and Lolo National Forest. The 1910 census documented the new occupation of "Forest Ranger" in several communities in Idaho County, including White Bird.²⁹

The Automobile Era

During this period, automobile ownership grew at a rapid pace statewide as a result of improved roads and the increasing affordability of vehicles. With the 1913 formation of the State Highway Commission, a spike in Idaho's road building ensued and over 2,000 vehicles were in operation statewide.³⁰ By 1918, Idaho's state highway system boasted 2,255 miles of roads, though only five of which were paved or oiled. The only state highway route through Idaho County was along present-day U.S. Highway 95, which at the time was characterized as "unimproved." However, by 1922, the system had expanded greatly and in Idaho County it included the route between Grangeville, Kooskia, and Kamiah (present-day State Highway 13 and U.S. Highway 12) and much of the system countywide was complete or under improvement to statestandards.³¹ Such graded, "all weather" crushed rock roads between area commercial centers further stimulated automobile use in Idaho County.



²⁹ Bureau of the Census, "Idaho County, Idaho" *U.S. Federal Population Census, 1910.* Database online, accessed August 10, 2013, http://www.ancestry.com.

³⁰ 2,083 license plates were issued in 1913. Rebecca Herbst, *Idaho Bridge Inventory*, Volume 1 (Boise, Idaho: Idaho Transportation Department, "Idaho's Motor Vehicle History," http://itd.idaho.gov/dmv/dmvhistory.htm (accessed August 15, 2013).

³¹ Herbst, 52.

By this time, auto tourists were becoming important travelers across Idaho and the identification of regional and transcontinental auto routes became vital. To provide tourists with a documented network of roads linking states and identifying roadside necessities along the route, town boosters and national automobile clubs planned touring routes and published guidebooks directing "autoists" from state to state. ³² Among the trans-state highways developed in the 1910s, promoters laid out cross-country route dubbed the Evergreen National Highway. ³³ Idaho County was along this transcontinental route between El Paso, Texas, Tacoma, Washington, and British Columbia. With the coming of the U.S. Bureau of Roads numbering system in 1926, the 225-mile portion of the Evergreen Highway between Weiser, Idaho, and Lewiston, Idaho, was designated part of U.S. Route 95.

Passage of the Federal Highway Act in 1921 promised federal monies to aid state road and forest highway construction. Due to increased funding, during the 1920s Idahoans enjoyed completion of several long distance state highways, including the North and South Highway that finally successfully connected north and south Idaho.³⁴ Service stations and other roadside businesses went up along the route in communities along the way to serve not only tourists, but the increasing numbers of local automobile owners and commercial users.

AGRICULTURAL RECESSION, DEPRESSION, AND WORLD WAR II: 1920s to 1946

Though the onset of the Great Depression is typically defined as the October 1929 collapse of the stock market, a major agricultural recession was already underway throughout Idaho by the beginning 1920s. While the 'Roaring Twenties' took place in the general economy, Idaho farmers did not experience these conditions. Federal price supports during WWI caused famers nationwide to expand their production, however these supports were withdrawn and prices for farm products plummeted. Despite the organizing and political efforts of the Grange, the Farmer's Union, and the national American Farm Bureau Federation, many farmers were forced into bankruptcy.

Many Idahoans tied to the agricultural sector left the state during the 1920s and Idaho experienced its lowest population growth to date, with an increase of only 3 percent between 1920 and 1930. During this period, Idaho County lost more than 1,640 residents. The number of farms statewide dropped for the first time in Idaho's history, with many of those lost or consolidated located in Idaho County, where there were 296 fewer farms in 1930 than in 1920 – a drop of almost 18 percent.³⁵

Despite the strained conditions during the Depression, Idaho saw a jump both in population growth and numbers of farms, indicating a pattern of return to farming and rural areas likely due to job scarcity in urban areas and as Dust Bowl refugees came to Idaho.³⁶ This pattern manifested in Idaho County as it welcomed nearly 2,600 new inhabitants – a growth of more than 25 percent – and it gained another 130 farms between 1930 and 1940.³⁷

Little private development occurred during the Great Depression and the only significant construction nationwide took place through public building projects. In Idaho, federal work programs spurred "the most

³² Elizabeth Rosin and Dale Nimz, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form (Draft), "Roadside Kansas," (Kansas City, Missouri; Rosin Preservation, 2009), E-8.

³³ "Washington State News of Interest, "Issaquah *Press* (King County, Washington), May 30, 1919, and "Highway and Road Associations," *The Highway Engineer and Contractor* 6, no. 1 (January 1922): 78.

³⁴ Herbst, 33.

³⁵ University of Virginia, Historical Census Browser. Database online, http://mapserver.lib.virginia.edu/php/county.php (accessed August 11, 2013).

³⁶ "Dust Bowl Immigrants to Northwest Present Nation's Big Relief Problem," Spokane Daily Chronicle, April 8, 1937.

³⁷ University of Virginia, Historical Census Browser. Database online, http://mapserver.lib.virginia.edu/php/county.php (accessed August 11, 2013).

active period of highway and bridge construction" to date."³⁸ Idaho ranked eighth nationwide in receipt of New Deal allocations through the PWA, WPA, and CCC programs that funded more than two hundred public buildings.³⁹ By 1940, the Idaho State Highway System had more than doubled its mileage since 1918, and the vast majority of its 4,857 miles of roads were graded with crushed rock, oiled, or paved thanks to New Deal money. During this period, Idaho County hosted multiple Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps and saw both paving of U.S. Highway 95 paved and completion of the Lolo Motorway connecting the Clearwater Valley to Montana from the Weippe Prairie to Powell Junction (generally parallel to the north of present-day U.S. Highway 12).⁴⁰

The broad disruption of private construction resulting from the Great Depression continued after the United States entered World War II. As the nation refitted for wartime production, restrictions on construction materials and fuel led to a general cessation of private and public development. Wartime demand for materials, led to a boom in the timber industry statewide and Idaho County benefited financially as the sawmills of the Clearwater valley flourished. During the War, Potlatch Forest Inc., began cutting on the first major sites of the Meadow Creek-Cougar Creek area. By 1946, 75 million board feet had been harvested from the area. The timber industry grew to become the second largest industry in the state, after agriculture, until the 1950s. 42

POST-WAR PERIOD: 1946-1960s

As the post-war economy stabilized around the country consumer demand increased, fueling production growth and contributing to a period of unprecedented economic prosperity. Wartime legislation, such as the GI Bill of Rights, provided subsidies for education, housing, and business endeavors, shifting the national economy away from its agricultural roots. ⁴³ As the nation's standard of living rose, many smaller farmers found it financially difficult. By 1950, the median income of farm families was only 60 percent of the average income of American families nationwide. ⁴⁴ As numerous families left farming for the increasing opportunities in towns and cities nationwide, the remaining farms grew in size through consolidation and the sector as a whole expanded. This nationwide shift in settlement patterns manifested in Idaho County, which lost both population (-10 percent) and number of farms (-346) by 1950. ⁴⁵

By the end of World War II, almost twenty years had passed during which the Great Depression and wartime restrictions had severely constrained construction, maintenance, and new development. Thus, there was a real and psychological need for new, clear symbols of progress. Deferred maintenance of the nation's buildings and infrastructure during World War II and improved economic conditions in the decade following the war led to road and building improvements nationwide. The auto industries refitted for automobile manufacturing, which had been ceased during the War, and consumer demand skyrocketed as Americans hit the road and the Baby Boom began. Statewide, Idaho experienced a 13 percent population increase during the 1950s. In Idaho County, population lost during the 1940s was more than made up for when the

³⁸ Herbst, 33.

³⁹ Egleston, E-2.

⁴⁰ Herbst, 53.

⁴¹ Idaho County Commissioners, "Idaho County History," http://www.idahocounty.org/resources/idaho-county-history (accessed July 10, 2013).

⁴² Idaho Museum of Natural History, "National Forests in Idaho," http://imnh.isu.edu/digitalatlas/geog/forestry/econ.htm (accessed August 20, 2013).

 ⁴³ Christy Davis and Brenda Spencer, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas," (Topeka, Kansas: Davis Preservation and Spencer Preservation, 2008), E-34.
 ⁴⁴ Davis and Spencer, E-35.

⁴⁵ University of Virginia, Historical Census Browser. Database online, http://mapserver.lib.virginia.edu/php/county.php (accessed August 11, 2013).

county experienced a nearly 19 percent population increase during the 1950s, entering the 1960s with more than 13,500 residents.⁴⁶

After decades of construction, U.S. Highway 12 (aka Lewis and Clark Highway) opened in 1962 with completion of the section through Lochsa Canyon. This important transportation linkage brought tourists as well as improved access for commercial freight to and through the region, including trucks hauling grain from the Dakotas, Montana, and eastern Idaho to the port of Lewiston.⁴⁷

Among the products transported along U.S. 12 were those of the timber industry. During the early 1950s, timber mills operated along the Clearwater and Salmon Rivers, and the Camas Prairie. By 1952, Idaho's Potlatch Forests, Inc., grew its timberland holdings to 425,000 acres in across Idaho, Washington, and California. Less than ten years later, they operated plants in twelve states, competing in markets nationwide as one of the largest Idaho employers. While log drives continued on the Clearwater River until the early 1970s, during the late 20th century, sawmill technology became increasingly streamlined and smaller mills struggled to compete.⁴⁸

As the traditional industries of Idaho County diminished, a shift toward natural resources conservation and recreation took place. As towns' economies suffered the loss of mining and logging income, many communities turned to tourism as an economic recovery tool. By 1960, tourism ranked third among Idaho's industries, with income from tourists surpassing total sales of Potlatch Forest, Inc. As a result, in 1965 the Idaho legislature established the Idaho State Park system.⁴⁹

The pattern in Idaho County reflected a nationwide trend in natural and cultural resource management. During the 1960s, the federal legislature passed the National Recreation Area Act, the National Wilderness Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, National Environmental Policy Act. These federal actions impacted Idaho County's management and relationship with its natural and cultural resources as the Lolo Trail was listed as a National Historic Landmark (1963), the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area was established (1964), Nez Perce National Historical Park came into being (1965), and the Lochsa, Middle Fork of the Clearwater, and the Selway Rivers were designated as National Wild and Scenic Rivers in 1968.⁵⁰ This trend continued into the 1970s with the establishment of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and Hells Canyon Wilderness Area, passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, American Indian Religious Freedom Act, and Archaeological Resources Protection Act.

Traditional land uses shifted, such as at the historic Shepp Ranch at Crooked Creek along the Salmon. Originally farmed by a Nez Perce family it became a sportsman's outfitting ranch in the 1960s and a river outfitter in the 1970s.⁵¹

⁴⁶ Bureau of the Census, "Idaho County, Idaho" *U.S. Federal Population Census*, 1940, 1950, 1960. Database online, accessed August 20, 2013, http://www.ancestry.com, and University of Virginia, Historical Census Browser.

⁴⁷ Caroline D. Carley and Robert Lee Sappington, *Cultural Resource Landscape Overview of the Bureau of Land Management Cottonwood Field Office* (Cottonwood, Idaho: Bureau of Land Management, 2005), 89.

⁴⁸ Ibid., 92-93. By 1990, only a handful of mills still operated in Idaho County, including those at Keuterville, Whitebird, Elk City, Kooskia, and Grangeville

 $^{^{49}}$ lbid., 145. By 1987, Idaho tourist income reached \$1.7 billion and the industry employed 18,700 individuals with a payroll of \$164.3 million.

⁵⁰ Ibid., 109, 154.

⁵¹ Ibid., 111.

HISTORIC PROPERTY TYPES

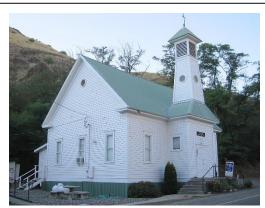
A property type is the categorization of a set of resources that share physical or associative characteristics. Property types link historic events and/or patterns with actual resources that illustrate these contexts. The individual buildings, sites, structures, and other resources are literal reflections of Idaho County's history and evolution. Buildings and structures in Idaho County represent a broad range of original historic functions, including commercial, industrial, governmental, educational, religious, and residential resources, among others. Not to be confused with an exhaustive list of property types, some of Idaho County's best known historic property types are summarized below to illustrate the breadth of resources and historic contexts represented. It is expected that additional property types will be identified as survey and documentation continue into the future.⁵²

Institutional

While institutional buildings include government buildings, churches, and other community landmarks, the most common institutional building countywide are the small schools. These buildings are literal reflections of settlement patterns and community development. Approximately twenty-five are thought to be extant, several of which have been identified as eligible for listing in the National Register.



Joseph School, built c1935



White Bird Community Church, built c1900

⁵² Governmental property types, such as those associated with the U.S. Forest Service (e.g. historic lookouts, guard stations, etc.), were considered for inclusion in this discussion; however, since CLG monies are not to be used for documentation or planning purposes on federal land, these resources were not included here.

Agricultural

Among the most important property types in Idaho County are the agricultural resources. A high number of historic ranches, homesteads, barns and agricultural out outbuildings are extant, many of which are landmarks in their vicinity. Additionally, they clearly communicate the significant agricultural history of predominantly rural Idaho County.



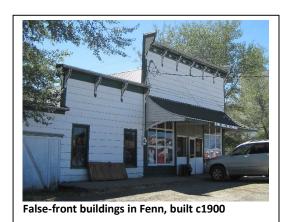
Barn near Big Cedar, built c1915

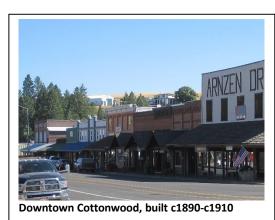


Barn near Cottonwood, built c1915

Commercial Resources

Idaho County's communities have varied historic commercial resources from modest wood-framed buildings to mid-century modern poured concrete buildings. One- and Two-Part Commercial Block buildings constructed of brick and wood-framed False Front buildings are the most common commercial building forms. Though some may not currently be eligible for listing in the National Register, many can be easily upgraded to NRHP-eligible or would be eligible for the federal 10 percent tax credit (see Appendix B).





Residential Resources

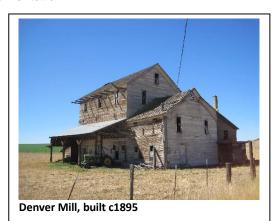
Idaho County's historic dwellings represent settlers' cabins, working class cottages, high style single-family homes, and everything in between. With construction dates spanning nearly 150 years, the gamut is wide. The earliest homes are folk dwellings with no clear stylistic categorization, while later buildings typically reflect the influences of contemporaneous architectural styles. While there are a few multi-family buildings, where they exist they are later adaptations of earlier single-family dwellings or are purpose-built duplexes found in Grangeville. Also found in Grangeville is a good collection of midcentury Ranch style and splitlevel single-family homes that warrant survey.

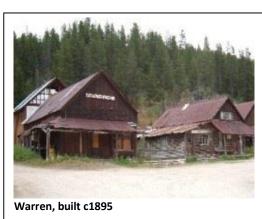




Industrial/Processing/Extraction

Much of Idaho County's development over time is directly related to the extraction and processing of natural materials. The mining of gold, cutting of timber, and processing crops all required buildings and structures that, when extant, are direct reflections of the history of Idaho County over the last century and a half. While no remaining historic sawmills are known to be extant, there is an old 'burner' in Mt. Idaho that may warrant documentation.

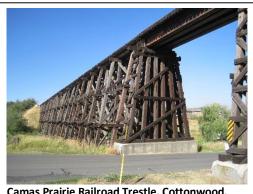




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Transportation

Transportation infrastructure is critical to understanding the development of Idaho County. Railroads, grades, air strips, waystations, trails, wagon roads, and state highways, as well the trestles and bridges that carried them over waterways and canyons, allowed for commerce and settlement. These resources can be found throughout Idaho County, several of which have been documented and interpreted for the public, including the Elk City Wagon Road, the Lolo Motorway, the Magruder Road, and the Milner Trail.



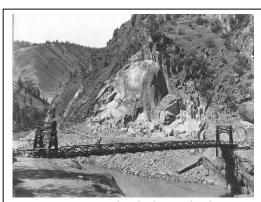
Camas Prairie Railroad Trestle, Cottonwood, built c1908



Joseph Plains Road, built early 20th century

Civilian Conservation Corps

With several CCC camps across the county, there are many resources and sites associated with this important New Deal-era program. CCC workers constructed bridges, hundreds of miles of road, installed telephone lines, among other significant projects that changed the landscape of Idaho County.



Manning Crevice Bridge, built 1935 by the CCC

Native American/Prehistoric Archaeological

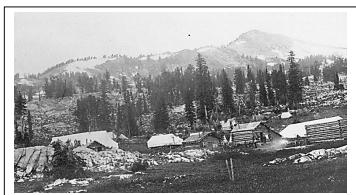
There are hundreds of prehistoric archaeological sites within Idaho County. Ethnographically about three hundred (300) Nez Perce camps and villages have been identified within the Nez Perce aboriginal territory.⁵³ Many of these sites have yet to be formally identified or reported. Site types include: lithic scatters, camps, villages, rock art, pit houses, rock cairns, stone quarries, cambium peeled tree groves, and travel routes such as the Nee Me Poo Trail and Southern Nez Perce Trail.



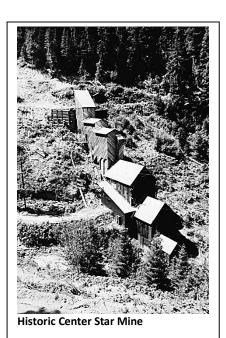
Prehistoric cairn, Nee Me Poo Trail

Early Euro-American Exploration and Settlement

Among the important archaeological and cultural landscape sites are numerous exploration trails, trapping, mining, and missionary resource types. These include exploration camp sites, martin sets, refuse dumps, and the like.



Humptown, 19th century mining community,



⁵³ Deward E. Walker, "Plateau," Vol. 12 in *Handbook of North American Indians* (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution, 1998), 420.

PAST PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES

Idaho County Historic Preservation Commission, should be commended for their accomplishments over the years. The Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) recognized Idaho County as a CLG in 1997 and, thus, a partner in the preservation of Idaho's historic resources. Without the typical CLG convenience of a city staff liaison, the Idaho County HPC has clearly been active in their preservation efforts over the years, successfully documenting and listing buildings and sites in the National Register (NR), as well as completing interpretive materials for historic resources countywide. Though not an exhaustive list, the selected activities below demonstrate the breath of endeavors completed in Idaho County.⁵⁴

TIMELINE OF PRESERVATION IN IDAHO COUNTY

- 1966 Clearwater Battlefield listed in NR
- 1983 Loss of NR-listed Wylie's Peak Lookout (55 miles E of Grangeville) to fire (listed 1975)
- 1989 Loss of NR-listed Grangeville Savings & Trust Building to fire (listed 1978)
- 1990 "Chinese Sites in the Warren Mining District MPDF"
- 1991 Loss of NR-listed O'Hara House (Kooskia vicinity) to fire (listed 1978)
- 1997 CLG partnership agreement with SHPO/CLG status; first HPC meeting
- 1997 Passage of Historic Preservation ordinance
- 2000 Gold Point Mill listed in NR
- 2001 Elk City Wagon Road listed in NR
- 2000 "Historic Resources of the Elk City Wagon Road MPDF"
- 2008-2012 HPC publication of "A Guide to National Register of Historic Places in Idaho County."
- 2011 Tolo Lake listed in NR
- 2013 Countywide Survey of Schoolhouses
- 2013 HPC receipt of CLG grant for preservation plan
- 2015 Nomination of Big Cedar Schoolhouse to National Register
- 2015 Completion of countywide preservation plan

PREVIOUS SURVEY ACTIVITIES IN IDAHO COUNTY

Over 650 above-ground historic resources have been documented countywide, as well as 1,000s of archaeological sites. The majority of these projects have been generated by the USFS.⁵⁵

- Middle Fork Salmon Bear Valley; Wells; 1981
- South Fork Salmon River; Wells; 1981
- Chamberlain Basin Bargamin Creek Horse Creek Owl Creek; Wells; 1981
- Seven Devils; Wells/Lindsey; 1981
- Camas Prairie Historic Sites Survey Report; Jones; 1982
- Snake River Area below Seven Devils; Jones; 1983
- Selway Lochsa Historic Sites; Wells/Jones; 1984
- Magruder Guard Station, Bitterroot National Forest: Architectural Condition Analysis;

⁵⁴ This list was compiled from records provided by the Idaho SHPO and Idaho County HPC, as well as readily available information from the National Park Service online. It should be noted that some of these projects are on federal land and may have been initiated by the USFS, NPS, or BLM; it was beyond the scope of this project to complete the research necessary to distinguish.

⁵⁵ As with the list above, this is not a comprehensive list. It is derived solely from records provided by the Idaho SHPO survey coordinator in 2014.

- McDonald; 1991
- Pioneer Life on White Bird Battlefield; Seloske; 1992
- "The Henry C. Johnson Ranch: A White Bird Battle Site Near Grangeville, Idaho; Seloske; 1992
- Historical Overview of the Dixie Mining District, Idaho County; McKay; 1996
- Nez Perce National Park: Land Use History for White Bird Battlefield (DRAFT); Dolan; 1997
- PY-1255 Site Report: A Chinese Mining Site Near Warren, Idaho; Bean; 1999
- List of Classified Structures: Nez Perce National Historical Park and Big Hole Battlefield; National Park Service; 1999
- Payette National Forest: Chamberlain Administrative Site History, 1905-1958; Preston; 1999
- Heritage Resources Assessment of the Camas Prairie Railroad, Second Subdivision Spaulding to Grangeville, Idaho (DRAFT); Miss and Hudson; 2002
- Historic Preservation Report for the Proposed New visitor Center and Office Building at the Fenn Ranger Station; Schacker/Armstrong/Hill; 2002
- Magruder Ranger Station Preservation Training Project: Historic Structures Record of Treatment; Historic Preservation Training Center, National Park Service; 2002
- National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory 1994, Revised 2002 (2003): East Kamiah/Heart of the Monster, Nez Perce National Historical Park; Owens; 2003
- Golden Hand Mine and the Edwardsburg Mining District: A Contextual Mining History; Eld; 2003
- Idaho County Agricultural Buildings Windshield Survey; Julin; 2006
- Kirkwood Bar Complex: Sterling Bunkhouse, Hells Canyon, Idaho Condition Assessment; University of Oregon Historic Preservation Program; 2007
- Cultural Resource Assessment of the Manning Crevice Bridge: Salmon River Road, Nez Perce National Forest, Idaho County, Idaho; Armstrong; 2011
- Historic Schools of Idaho County; PSLLC/Davis; 2013
- Various trail, grade, and road documentation and mapping 2000-present/ongoing. Among them:
 - Lewiston to Florence Trail
 - o Milner Trail
 - Lolo Trail, Kamiah to Lolo Pass
 - o White Bird Grade
 - o CCC Road, Red River Ranger Station to Dixie
 - South Nez Perce Trail
 - Lewiston to Mountain House Wagon Road
 - Elk City Wagon Road, Harpster to Elk City
 - Lewiston to Elk City Trail
 - Various Native American Trails across the Camas Prairie

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS

Idaho County boasts numerous properties important to local, state and national history. While there is no local designation program, numerous buildings and archaeological sites have been listed in the National Register. Forty-six (46) properties in Idaho County are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. As with the survey efforts, many of these were initiated by the USFS, NPS, or BLM.

- Lolo Trail National Historic Landmark, Bitterroot Mountains. Listed 1960
- Burgdorf Site, Burgdorf. Listed 1972
- Lewis and Clark Trail, 1805-1806, Bitterroot Mountains. Listed 1978
- Nez Perce War Trail, 1877, to Bitterroot Valley. Listed 1986
- Carey Dome Fire Lookout, Burgdorf (vicinity). Listed 1994

- James V. and Sophia Baker House, 1912 Craftsman Dwelling, Cottonwood. Listed 2004
- Lower Salmon River Archeological District, Cottonwood (vicinity). Listed 1986
- St. Gertrude's Convent and Chapel, Cottonwood (vicinity). Listed 1979
- Kirkwood Ranch, Cuprum (vicinity). Listed 1984
- McGaffee Cabin/Bernard Creek Cabin. Cuprum (vicinity). Listed 1984
- Jim Moore Place, Dixie (vicinity). Listed 1978
- Blue Fox Theater, Grangeville. Listed 1999
- Moose Creek Administrative Site, Grangeville (vicinity)/Nez Perce NF. Listed 1990
- First Presbyterian Church, Kamiah (vicinity). Listed 1976
- Sue McBeth's Cabin, Kamiah (vicinity). Listed 1976
- Fenn Ranger Station, Kooskia (vicinity)/Nez Perce NF. Listed 1990
- Lochsa Historical Ranger Station, Kooskia (vicinity). Listed 1978
- State Bank of Kooskia, Kooskia. Listed 1978
- Jurden Henry Elfers Barn and Field, Lucile (vicinity). Listed 2007
- Arctic Point Fire Lookout, McCall (vicinity)/Payette NF. Listed 1994
- Chamberlain Ranger Station Historic District, McCall (vicinity)/Payette NF. Listed 2004
- Cold Meadows Guard Station, McCall (vicinity)/Payette NF. Listed 1994
- Aitken Barn, Riggins (vicinity). Listed 1982
- Polly Bemis House, Riggins (vicinity). Listed 1988
- Campbell's Ferry, Riggins (vicinity). Listed 2007
- Riggins Motel, Riggins. Listed 2001
- Foster, Blacky, House, Shoup (vicinity)/Bitterroot NF. Listed 1992
- Dr. Wilson Foskett Home and Drugstore, White Bird. Listed 2005
- White Bird Grade, White Bird (vicinity). Listed 1974
- Deep Creek Ranger Station, Darby, MT (vicinity). Listed 2013

Historic Resources of the Elk City Wagon Road MPS

- Elk City Wagon Road-Vicory Gulch/Smith Grade Segment, Elk City (vicinity). Listed 2001
- Gold Point Mill, Elk City (vicinity). Listed 2000
- Meinert Ranch Cabin, Elk City (vicinity). Listed 1987

Chinese Sites in the Warren Mining District MPS

- Ah Toy Garden, Warren (vicinity)/Payette NF. Listed 1990
- Celadon Slope Garden, Warren (vicinity)/Payette NF. Listed 1990
- Chinese Cemetery, Warren (vicinity)/Payette NF. Listed 1994
- Chinese Mining Camp Archeological Site, Warren (vicinity)/Payette NF. Listed 1994
- Chi-Sandra Garden, Warren (vicinity)/Payette NF. Listed 1990
- Old China Trail, Warren (vicinity)/Payette NF. Listed 1990
- Warren Guard Station, Building 1206, Warren (vicinity)/Payette NF. Listed 1994

Nez Perce National Historical Park

- White Bird Battlefield, White Bird (vicinity). Listed 1974
- Tolo Lake, Grangeville (vicinity). Listed 1992
- Looking Glass Camp, Kooskia (vicinity). Listed 1992
- Weis Rockshelter archaeological site, Cottonwood (vicinity). Listed 1966
- Cottonwood Skirmish Site, Cottonwood (vicinity). Listed 1966
- Clearwater Battlefield, Stites (vicinity). Listed 1966
- Lolo Pass, Idaho-Montana border off US 12. Listed 1966
- Camas Prairie Site, Grangeville (vicinity). Listed 1966
- East Kamiah Site, Kamiah (vicinity). Listed 1966.

CURRENT STATUS OF HISTORIC PRESERATION IN IDAHO COUNTY

Based on public opinion polling, field study, review of ordinances, and research locally and at Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), below is a brief assessment of the primary opportunities and challenges facing the Idaho County HPC.

OPPORTUNITIES

Potential for Revitalization

There are numerous underutilized buildings in the county's commercial centers (Cottonwood, Grangeville, Kooskia, Stites, Riggins, etc.) that represent commercial investment opportunities by means of various preservation tools such as rehabilitation tax credits and economic development tools through the Main Street Program.

There is Good Social Capital

Idaho County residents are proud of their historic resources and rural cultural landscapes. Though there is distinct opposition to regulation, there is clear interest in training and education related to historic preservation. Public polling indicated a strong interest in financial incentives for preservation activities. Despite capacity challenges, the HPC consistently successfully completes survey, National Register, and interpretation projects, a testament to the dedication of its members.

CHALLENGES

Lack of Support and Capacity

While many CLGs generally enjoy the availability of municipal staff to provide the administrative support of a preservation program, the Idaho County HPC does not have this support. Exacerbating this challenge are the enormous geographic area under the HPC's jurisdiction, the low population density of the county, and the presence of vast swaths of federal and state lands. As a result, the HPC has struggled to maintain a sufficient number of commission members. With efforts to solicit members unfulfilled, the HPC currently has only three members; only one member meets 36 CFR 61 qualifications and only two members are consistently active. In order to ensure attendance of the few commission members, meetings are held at differing times and days of the week to accommodate member availability as well as disproportionate travel times required of members. The lack of capacity hinders the HPC's ability to both meet NPS guidelines for CLGs and to respond timely and thoroughly as an interested party in review and compliance matters.

Opposition to Regulation

Many of the preservation tools taken for granted in communities nationwide are not available in Idaho County due to the widespread opposition to regulation and minimal, or complete lack of, zoning countywide. Though the county previously established a variety of ordinances that might have been useful tools for managing development and historic resources, the Planning and Zoning Commission was dissolved in 1986 under Idaho County Ordinance #28 due to planning commission members resigning and publicly stating "their opposition to any public land use planning" and "that nothing could be accomplished by the planning zoning commission, due to deep philosophical divisions, harassment, and disruption of meetings." 56

⁵⁶ Idaho County Ordinance #28 "Dissolution of the Planning and Zoning Commission," February 1986. Available from http://idahocounty.org/commissioners/ordinances/28-diss-of-the-plan-and-zoning/.

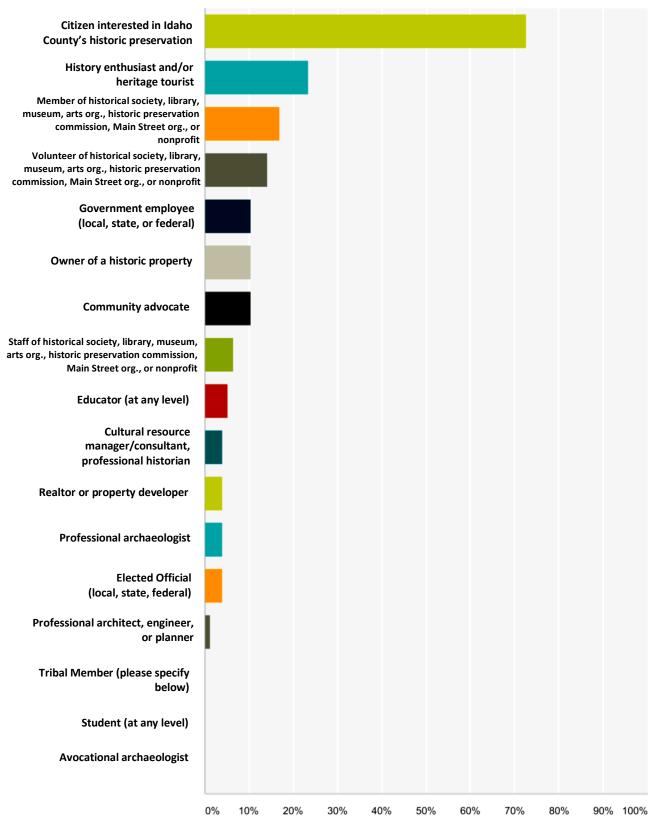
CURRENT STATUS OF HISTORIC PRESERATION IN IDAHO COUNTY

RESULTS OF PUBLIC OPINION POLL

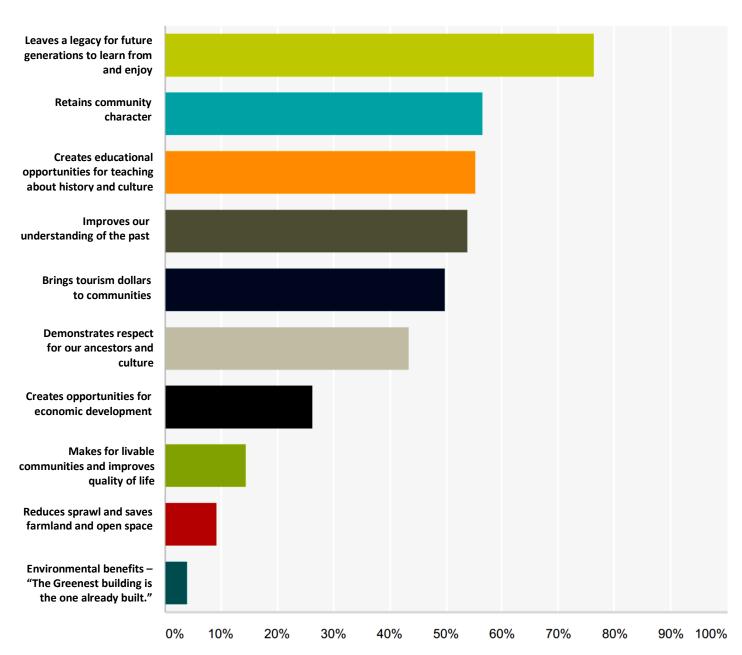
Over a period of more than sixteen (16) weeks between early February and early June 2015 a public opinion poll was conducted to gather thoughts and opinions from the general public regarding historic preservation in Idaho County. Eighty-one (81) respondents completed the survey either online or on paper copies circulated via Idaho County HPC contacts, direct email, and through online social media. Results of the public input are illustrated below.

| COMMUNITY | NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Big Cedar | 2 |
| Campbell's Ferry | 1 |
| Clearwater | 1 |
| Cottonwood | 2 |
| Elk City | 6 |
| Grangeville | 36 |
| Green Creek | 1 |
| Harpster | 2 |
| Kooskia | 5 |
| Lewis | 1 |
| Mt. Idaho | 1 |
| Riggins | 6 |
| Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness | 1 |
| Syringa | 1 |
| Tahoe Ridge | 1 |
| White Bird | 4 |
| Idaho County - unspecified | 10 |
| Total | 81 |

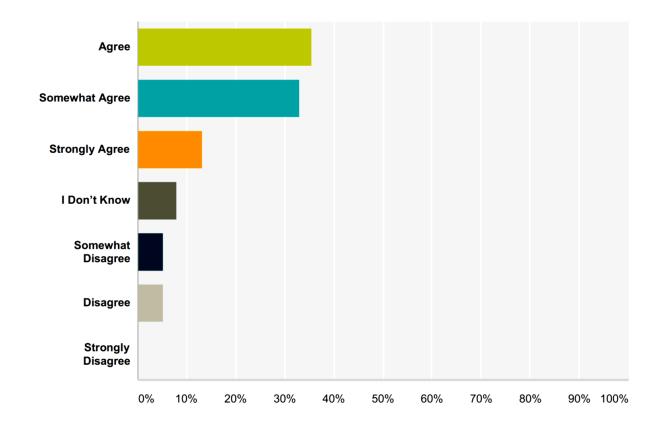
Question 1:Please describe yourself and your connection to Idaho County's heritage. Choose the response(s) that BEST describes you.



Question 2: Why is it important to you to preserve Idaho County's heritage? Choose up to four (4)

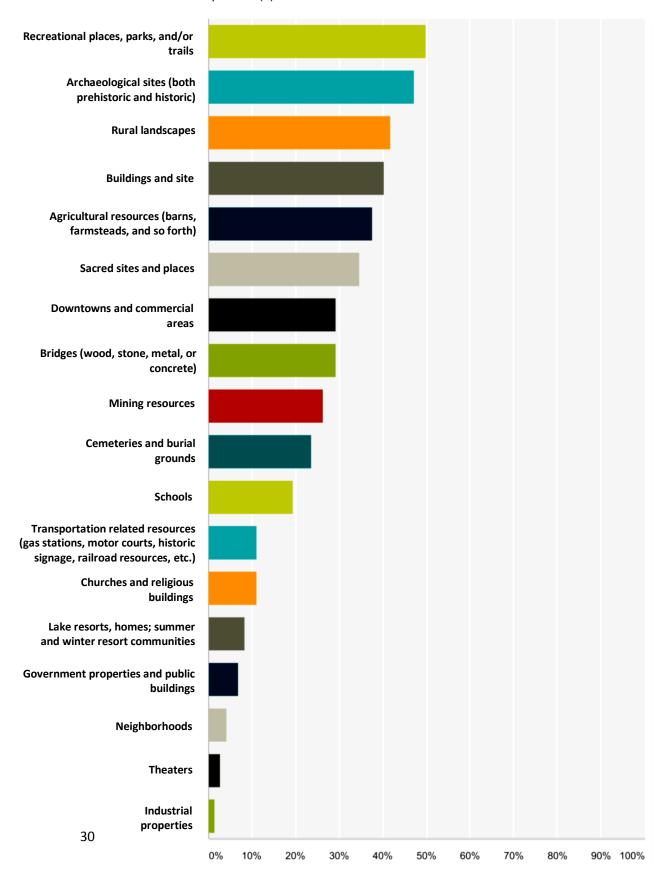


Question 3: How strongly do you agree with the following statement? "Idaho County recognizes and protects its historic and/or prehistoric properties through efforts in historic preservation and archaeology activities."

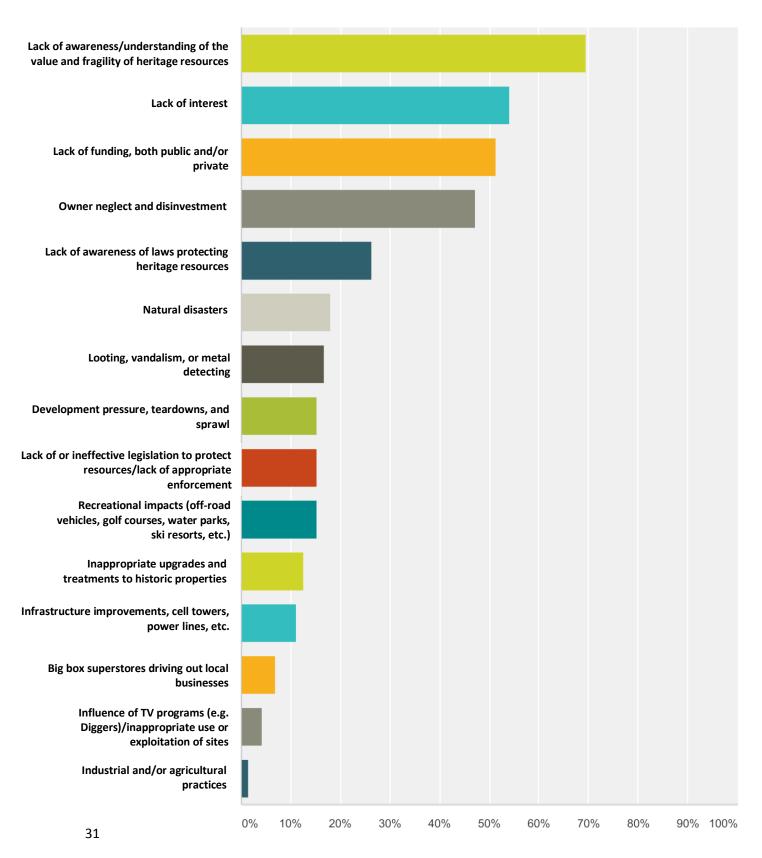


Question 4:

In your community or countywide, which historic or prehistoric properties do you believe are the most threatened? Choose up to six (6)

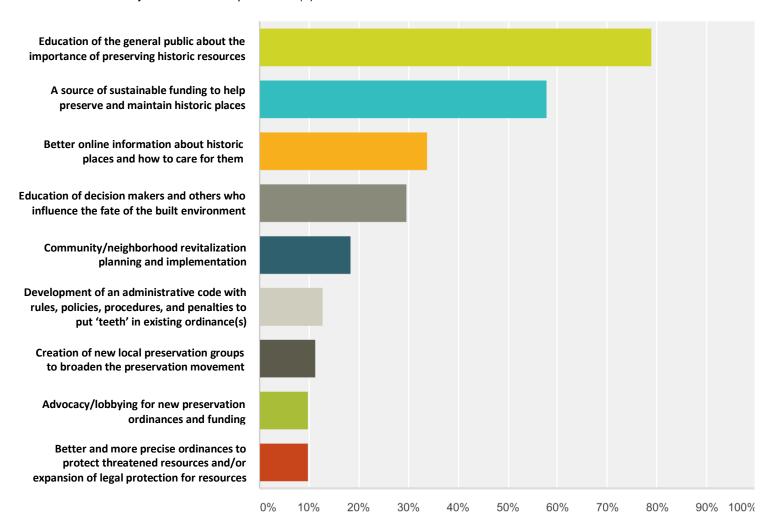


Question 5:In Idaho County, what do you believe are the most serious threats facing historic or prehistoric properties? Choose up to four (4)

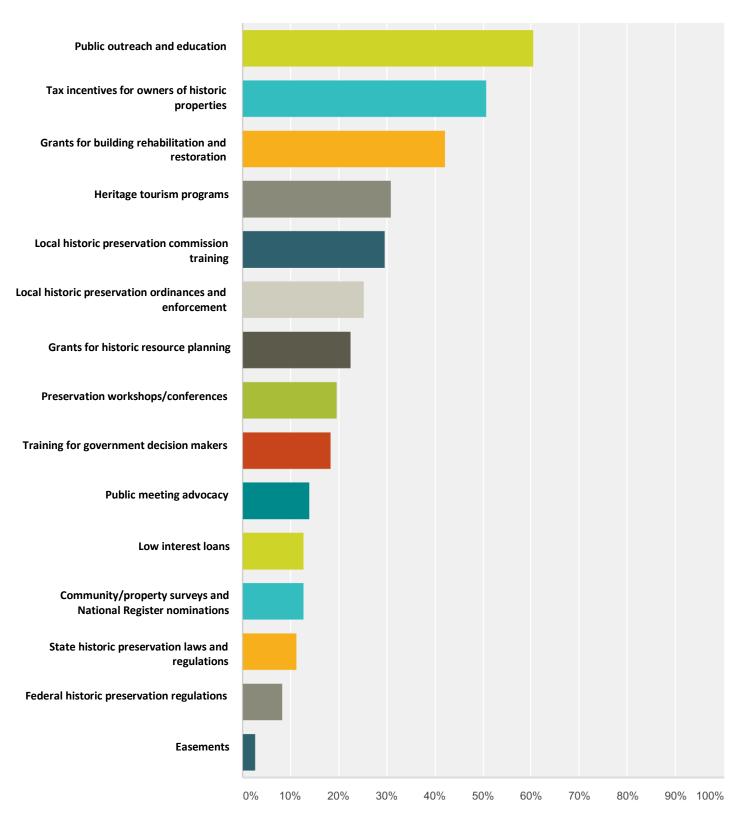


Question 6:

What issues should be the top priorities for the Idaho County preservation community to address over the next 5-10 years? Choose up to three (3)

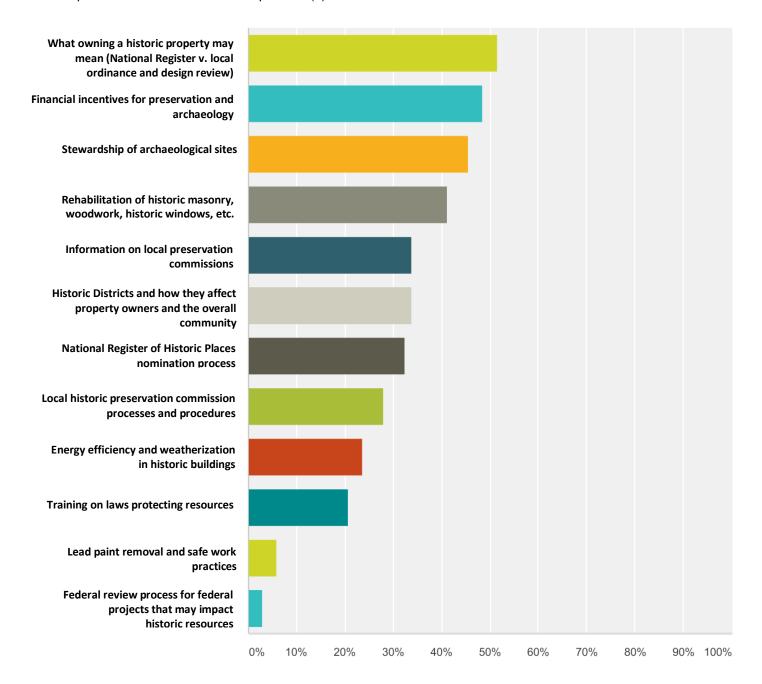


Question 7:
Which of the following preservation tools do you feel are the most effective and realistic approaches for preserving Idaho County's historic or prehistoric properties? Choose up to four (4)



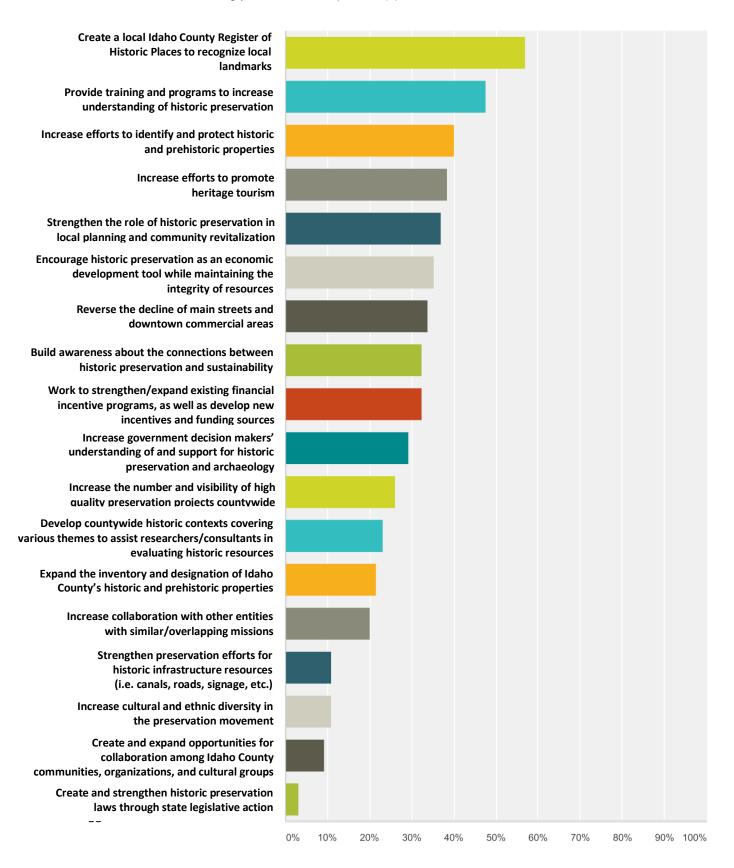
Question 8:

What training, information, or education topics would be the most useful to you and your community in its preservation efforts? Choose up to five (5)



Question 9:

Given your perception of the state of preservation in Idaho County today, please choose the top six (6) goals from the list below that you think are the most relevant for Idaho County HPC/CLG and its partners to focus on in the coming years. Choose up to six (6)



RECOMMENDATIONS - GOALS & ACTION STEPS

OVERVIEW

A Certified Local Government (CLG) since 1997, the Idaho County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) has, over the years, initiated a number of efforts to identify and preserve historic resources countywide. Across Idaho County, there is community commitment to the county's heritage and historic assets, which supports enhancement of the existing preservation program. To aid the county's development and transformation in the future, Idaho County HPC should continue to promote the implementation of public policy supporting historic preservation, while integrating it into the County's planning and land use processes.

Based on review of past performance, existing conditions, and public input, four major goals have been identified. The County's historic preservation program would benefit from the policy objectives and action steps specifically outlined under the following goals:

GOAL 1: CULTIVATE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTNERSHIPS

GOAL 2: INCREASE HERITAGE TOURISM

GOAL 3: STRENGTHEN PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION EFFORTS

GOAL 4: ENCOURAGE PRESERVATION AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOL

GOALS & ACTION STEPS

GOAL 1: CULTIVATE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Public awareness and partnerships promote policies that support preservation efforts and expand the base of preservation players, engaging partners in collaborative preservation activities. While the HPC typically acts as coordinator, advocacy efforts should be shared across a broad base of independent community organizations, private citizens, and non-profit organizations. Leveraging the capabilities of these organizations supports broad community involvement and facilitates efficient use of limited resources.

GOAL 1: CULTIVATE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Policy Objective 1.A: Increase Access to Information

Among the best practices for administering a preservation program is the provision of convenient access to information needed by property owners and other users. This includes making information on Idaho County's historic buildings, the Historic Preservation Program, and best practices for historic building maintenance and rehab readily available.

Action 1.A.1: Create HPC website

Who: HPC, HP student

When: Priority

How: Engage a volunteer or HP student with web building skills; identify free or low-cost webhosting services such as WordPress (https://wordpress.org/); review Deschutes County, Oregon, HPC website for reference - www.deschutes.org/cd/page/historic-preservation; add links to the following to improve access to information about the Idaho County HPC and preservation, in general;

- List of Idaho County's National Register-listed properties and nomination documents;
- · Secretary of the Interior's Standards
- Idaho SHPO
- National Register of Historic Places program, noting impact and benefits to property owners
- National Park Service preservation briefs for rehabilitation best practices
- List of surveyed properties, past survey reports and inventory forms, eligibility assessments, survey maps, and so forth
- HPC project information, brochures, interpretive materials, etc.
- Nez Perce-Clearwater and Payette National Forest History & Culture websites
- Other County departments interrelated to HPC (e.g. planning, permitting, land use, etc.)
- Related and/or associated organizations (see item 1.C.3 below)
- Preservation Idaho

Considerations: Access to information and transparence is a priority. Currently the only information readily available about the Idaho County HPC is the ordinance language. Property owners, developers, and builders need clear guidance for the treatment of historic resources to make informed decisions about their properties, particularly if they are eligible for incentives or potentially impacted by other preservation tools/programs. As an advisory commission that is part of County government, hosting of the website on the County server is the most appropriate option and should be a long-term goal.

Policy Objective 1.B: Raise Awareness and Promote Preservation Education

Action 1.B.1: Nominate buildings for Preservation Idaho's Orchids & Onions

Who: HPC When: Ongoing

How: Nominate individuals, organizations, and/or buildings that reflect positive contributions to historic preservation; download application from www.preservationidaho.org/orchids-

onions

Considerations: Deadline is in March

Action 1.B.2: Recognize good rehabilitation efforts

Who: HPC When: Ongoing

How: Develop a protocol/procedure for an annual recognition program; create a form letter for County Commissioner signature; present to property owner; send press release to newspaper(s); post photos and award on HPC website.

Action 1.B.3: Arrange rehabilitation skills training workshops for local trade workers, preservation partners, and the general public

Who: HPC, SHPO, Preservation Idaho, and/or NTHP

When: Long-range

How: Coordinate with SHPO, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and/or Preservation Idaho to arrange for rehabilitation techniques training program; promote the event to both property owners and local trade workers

Considerations: The public opinion poll indicated a desire for training opportunities related to appropriate procedures for historic building maintenance and rehab.

Action 1.B.4: Arrange for annual public workshop regarding preservation, its impacts, and its benefits

Who: HPC, SHPO, Preservation Idaho

When: Ongoing

How: Apply for a CLG grant for HP education; Coordinate with SHPO and/or Preservation Idaho, or a hire a professional consultant; each year hold an evening public meeting to present information and answer any and all questions from constituents; promote the event to a variety of property owners, organizations, and agencies.

Considerations: Change location of workshop each time to make more accessible to the broad geography of Idaho County; the public opinion poll indicated a desire for education and training opportunities related to preservation and the various interrelated and often overlapping programs.

Policy Objective 1.C: Improve Partnerships and Collaboration

Action 1.C.1: Encourage public participation in the preservation program

Who: HPC, general public When: Priority/Ongoing

How: Hold HPC meetings and other hearings at a regular, well-advertised time and place to allow for more public participation; engage residents and property owners in researching and nominating resources for designation; regularly invite constituents to comment on city

preservation activities; in addition to the current meeting notice posted on the county courthouse entrance door, investigate other meeting notice opportunities online and in the newspaper.

Considerations: In addition to professionals, lay people should also participate in the system at a variety of levels. When property owners, builders, and developers understand how the system operates, they can make informed decisions about historic properties.

Action 1.C.2: Cultivate economic development partnerships and integrate historic preservation into economic development efforts

Who: HPC, Chambers of Commerce in Grangeville, White Bird, Riggins, et al

When: Ongoing

How: Identify potential economic development partners; engage directly and consult to determine areas of mutual interest; propose inclusion of historic resources in redevelopment policies and economic development plans.

Action 1.C.3: Develop a preservation consortium to consolidate efforts and improve coordination between organizations and agencies

Who: HPC, and various partners listed below

When: Long-range/Ongoing

How: Identify and contact representatives (e.g. board members or staff) from various organizations or agencies that have a mission either wholly or partially involving history and/or cultural resources; meet quarterly to share ideas, actively collaborate on promotional efforts, coordinate fundraising efforts, and so forth.

Considerations: See 2.A.3 below; suggested members would include Bicentennial Historical Museum, USFS, St. Gertrude's Historical Museum, Idaho County Chapter of the Idaho Genealogical Society, ITD District 2, community center groups meeting in historic buildings countywide (e.g. Big Cedar Community), various community libraries, and the National Park Service (Nez Perce NHS, Lewis & Clark NHT).

Action 1.C.4: Investigate opportunities with the Pacific Northwest Preservation Partnership

Who: HPC, SHPO, USFS

When: Priority

How: Contact Idaho SHPO and regional NPS representatives about possibilities for involvement; propose a threatened or other historic property in need of rehab/restoration/attention.

Considerations: The Pacific Northwest Preservation Partnership is comprised of the University of Oregon (UO) Historic Preservation Program, the NPS, and the Oregon, Washington, and Idaho SHPOs and State Parks, as well as local partners when applicable. The primary focus of the Partnership is the Pacific Northwest Preservation Field School held annually at a historic site in one of the three states.

GOALS & ACTION STEPS

GOAL 2: INCREASE HERITAGE TOURISM

The National Trust for Historic Preservation defines cultural heritage tourism as "traveling to experience the places, artifacts, and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present." Investing in preservation sets the stage for visitors seeking a glimpse of Idaho County's historic areas. Heritage tourists spend more on travel than other tourists, spurring economic development in historic areas and generating jobs in service sectors, as well as construction trades.

GOAL 2: INCREASE HERITAGE TOURISM

Policy Objective 2.A: Amplify the heritage tourism program for Idaho County

Heritage tourism, which focuses on offering experiences engaging historic resources with other visitor activities, is a strong economic development tool. The ICHPC preservation program should promote heritage tourism to support economic development and preservation efforts. The program can include developing an inventory of resources to be marketed, assuring they are rehabilitated and in service, and then preparing interpretive materials that enrich the experience of visiting those places.

Action 2.A.1: Expand visitor awareness of Idaho County's heritage and its historic resources online

Who: HPC When: Ongoing

How: See item 1.A.1 above; ensure Idaho County historic/cultural events are well represented and readily located on VisitIdaho.org, Yelp.com, TripAdvisor.com, and BoiseWeekly.com calendar; update existing and create new self-guided historic tours – walking and driving; incorporate a range of media including printed publications, websites, and hand held digital devices.

Considerations: Design tours in loops; vary lengths and difficulty; design around themes such as schoolhouses, homesteads, Chinese immigration, etc.; see WPA guide for route ideas (Works Progress Administration, Federal Writers' Projects. *Idaho: A Guide in Word and Picture*. Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Printers, 1937).

Action 2.A.2: Coordinate efforts to promote Idaho County as a destination for visitors interested in cultural and historic attractions

Who: HPC When: Ongoing

How: Coordinate marketing efforts with those of other Idaho County destinations; include preservation representatives in groups that plan regional economic development and tourism promotions.

Action 2.A.3: Create a catchall website for cultural activities and historic sites countywide

Who: HPC When: Priority

How: See Action 1.C.3 above; include links, photos, and information on the wide variety of sites and organizations countywide; for example see Great Falls Museum Consortium website http://www.greatfallsmuseumsconsortium.org/

GOALS & ACTION STEPS

GOAL 3: STRENGTHEN PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION EFFORTS

Though a CLG since 1997, Idaho County HPC has the opportunity to amplify its historic preservation program in a variety of ways. While identification and designation are key planning tools, HPC capacity development and coordination with other County programs and departments are also necessary actions toward the effective function of a countywide preservation program.

GOAL 3: STRENGTHEN PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION EFFORTS

Policy Objective 3.A: Identification and Designation

By improving two fundamental historic preservation tools – historic resource inventory and historic register listings – the Idaho County HPC can provide property owners with economic development tools, streamline federal project review, and substantiate other preservation planning efforts. Additionally, the identification of properties eligible for listing in the National Register is a key component of economic development (See Goal 4 below). Furthermore, numerous resources do not currently meet the NRHP integrity requirements, but may merit protection by designation as local landmarks. Currently, Idaho County's Historic Preservation Code gives the ICHPC broad powers to make recommendations to the County Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the designation of landmarks and/or districts and the adoption of specific ordinances for properties having special cultural, historic, archaeological, community or architectural value.

Action 3.A.1: Develop a Survey Plan

Who: HPC When: Priority

How: Apply for CLG Grant; hire a professional consultant; identify planning needs, citizen interest, available funding, and nature of historic resources; identify research sources, broad historical contexts, expected property types, and geographic areas that appear to contain a high concentration of historic resources; develop phased approach to systematically document based on prioritized survey efforts and recommended levels of survey activity.

Considerations: Due to the vast geographic area and restricted capacity of the Idaho County HPC, the Survey Plan should be phased over a five to ten year period with each phase defined as a readily achievable project within existing constraints.

Action 3.A.2: Update Surveys & Conduct New Surveys

Who: HPC, HP students, volunteers

When: Ongoing

How: Apply for CLG grant; hire a preservation professional; include volunteer support from HPC and HP students from University of Oregon or History and/or Architecture students from University of Idaho.

Considerations: Most previous survey efforts are at least ten (10) years old or are USFS projects; examples of recommended new surveys include Residential Resources of Grangeville, Downtown Cottonwood, and Historic Bridges of Idaho County;⁵⁷ survey under existing statewide Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) cover documents can

41

⁵⁷ The old Idaho County fairgrounds (now the Idaho National Guard headquarters located on E North 4th Street at N Hall Street and currently serving as the Border Days Rodeo Arena) are also recommended for documentation, as the site appears as the Idaho County Fair Grounds on the 1941 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Grangeville.

streamline National Register nominations in the future – some existing statewide MPDFs include Post Offices, Movie Theaters, Granges, and Highway Bridges; see Item 3.A.5 below.

Action 3.A.3: Increase recognition of historic buildings by establishing a local historic register program

Who: HPC, County Commission

When: Long-range

How: Amend preservation ordinance; create prototype Idaho County register nomination form similar to the NRHP nomination form; distribute press release whenever a building is listed in the Idaho County register.

Considerations: Require owner consent; for example, use the local register for buildings such as Big Butte School and other historic buildings important to Idaho County history and worthy of documentation, but that are not eligible for NRHP listing due to secondary siding.

Action 3.A.4: Pursue MPDF "Historic Resources of Idaho County, Idaho"

Who: HPC When: Long-range

How: Apply for CLG grant; hire a preservation professional

Considerations: See Implementation Tools section below for elaborated discussion on the MPDF

nomination vehicle.

Action 3.A.5: Survey Agricultural Resources

Who: HPC, HP students When: Ongoing/Long-range

How: Apply for CLG grant; hire a preservation professional; include volunteer support from HPC

and HP students from University of Oregon

Considerations: 2006 windshield survey of Agricultural Resources due for an update and expansion; in addition to ranches and barns, processing sites such as the Denver Flour Mill should be included.

Action 3.A.6: Support Individual listings in the NRHP

Who: HPC When: Ongoing

How: Maintain a list of potentially individually eligible properties; notify owners directly of their eligibility status, as well as of the benefits of listing, such as rehabilitation tax credit incentives, as well as the procedures for nominating properties and the appropriate treatment/maintenance of historic buildings (i.e. Secretary of the Interior's Standards; NPS Preservation Briefs, etc.); see Item 3.B.3 below.

Policy Objective 3.B: Strengthen the Capacity of the Historic Preservation Program

Action 3.B.1: Expand HPC Membership

Who: HPC When: Priority

How: Network among the building trades, realtors, Chamber of Commerce members, etc.; invite

directly

Considerations: Actively network among the building trades, realtors, Chamber of Commerce members, etc.; invite directly; if necessary, adjust bylaws to accommodate at least a few more members; there is currently a vacancy and only three (3) active commissioners.

Action 3.B.2: Staff and HPC Continued Training

Who: County, HPC When: Priority/Ongoing

How: HPC members attend annual SHPO, Preservation Idaho, and/or National Trust conferences, trainings, and workshops; reach out to these entities and other partners for technical assistance.

Considerations: In particular, Section 106 process training is strongly recommended considering the high level of federal involvement within the borders of Idaho County.

Action 3.B.3: Establish Computer Database for all documented historic resources

Who: HPC, SHPO
When: Priority/Ongoing

How: Request a copy of SHPO inventory database for Idaho County; ensure HPC members are familiar with its usage; update database from SHPO each year.

Considerations: As a Microsoft file, this database would not necessitate a separate computer and can be saved to a personal computer or to a secure server (e.g. GoogleDocs) to be accessible by any HPC member; with ready access to this information, the HPC can anticipate and be more nimble in response to inquiries/invitations to comment; to prevent compromising locational data outside the HPC, access can be restricted to HPC members; see Action 3.A.6 above and Implementation Tools section below.

Policy Objective 3.C: Improve Coordination and Communication Across County & City Departments

Historic preservation is as an important tool in Idaho County's economic development, sustainability, public health, and housing toolkit. In this respect, it is a vital part of broader community development policies and objectives. Coordinated efforts across various levels of county and city governments will strengthen the program.

Action 3.C.1: Monitor the preservation program on an ongoing basis to assure a high level of performance

Who: HPC, County Commissioners, various city officials as appropriate

When: Ongoing

How: Initiate an annual program review and report to County Commission, as well as any city departments, as appropriate; develop a simple reporting form measuring program activity and tracking progress against the Goals and Action Steps outlined herein.

Considerations: This can be a simple one-page form documenting actions completed and goals for the upcoming year in bullet format; reporting can be via email and copied to all relevant County and City representatives/staff.

Action 3.C.2: Keep County and various municipal departments and boards apprised of HPC actions and policies to facilitate effective working relationship

Who: HPC, various county departments and commissions as appropriate

When: Priority/Ongoing

How: Implement an official reporting protocol for sharing information about HPC actions, such as a simple email copied to various relevant County and City representatives/staff; establish annual goal-setting sessions with other county/municipal departments; plan an annual work session with the County Commission and any other appropriate commissions to ensure mutually supportive actions and identify any areas of concern.

Considerations: Actively engage and ensure various local government entities are aware of the Section 106 process and federal regulations requiring HPC notification of any federally licensed (e.g. FCC license for cell towers), permitted (e.g. USFS permit for ski area expansion), or funded (e.g. ITD, HUD, CDBG) projects.

GOALS & ACTION STEPS

GOAL 4: ENCOURAGE PRESERVATION AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOL

Heritage appreciation aside, historic preservation is a proven economic development tool that has demonstrated effectiveness in downtown revitalization efforts nationwide. The ICHPC can facilitate private investment in historic buildings countywide in a number of ways; specifically by packaging and promoting existing incentives, efficiently approaching regulatory processes that impact private rehab projects, and investigating opportunities through the Idaho Main Street program.

GOAL 4: ENCOURAGE PRESERVATION AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOL

Policy Objective 4.A: Utilize, Package, and Promote Existing Programs & Incentives

Action 4.A.1: Compile historic rehabilitation development incentive packages

Who: HPC When: Ongoing

How: Identify vacant and/or blighted historic buildings, either NR-eligible or NR-ineligible; review all available programs and incentives for applicable programs (see Appendices B and C for selected various incentive programs available); compile a standard development options form for each building and make readily available to property owners, realtors, developers, economic development partners, and any other associated entity, as appropriate.

Action 4.A.2: Notify property owners of available incentives and facilitate their use

Who: HPC When: Ongoing

How: See Action 3.B.3 above; review historic building inventory information; contact directly and notify property owners of historic buildings of federal, state, and nonprofit incentive programs; identify NRHP-ineligible buildings built before 1936 and notify property owners of the federal 10 percent rehab tax credit.

Considerations: Survey efforts include documentation of property owner information; this information can be readily inserted into a form letter including information about NRHP eligibility and its benefits.

Action 4.A.3: Initiate participation in the Idaho Main Street program to access the various program incentives for downtown revitalization

Who: HPC, various Chambers of Commerce (i.e. Grangeville, Cottonwood, Kooskia, et al)

When: Priority

How: Contact Idaho Main Street program director regarding application, opportunities, and so forth.

Considerations: It is recommended the ICHPC investigate the Idaho Downtown Improvement Network (part of the Main Street program in Idaho) and facilitate participation by various small communities countywide.

| Goals | Policy Objectives and Action Steps | Priority | Ongoing | Long-range | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------|---------|------------|--|
| Goal 1: Cultivate | Policy Objective 1.A: Increase Access to Information | ation | | | |
| Public Awareness | Action 1.A.1: Create HPC website | | | | |
| and Partnerships | Policy Objective 1.B: Raise Awareness and Pron | note Preservation Edu | ıcation | | |
| | Action 1.B.1: Nominate threatened buildings to for Preservation Idaho's Orchids & Onions | | | | |
| | Action 1.B.2: Recognize good rehabilitation efforts | | | | |
| | Action 1.B.3: Arrange rehabilitation skills training workshops | | | | |
| | Action 1.B.4: Arrange for annual public workshop regarding preservation, its impacts, and its benefits | | | | |
| | Policy Objective 1.C: Improve Partnerships and Collaboration | | | | |
| | Action 1.C.1: Encourage public participation in the preservation program | | | | |
| | Action 1.C.2: Cultivate economic development partnerships and integrate historic preservation into economic development efforts | | | | |
| | Action 1.C.3: Develop a preservation consortium | | | | |
| | Action 1.C.4: Investigate opportunities with the Pacific Northwest Preservation Partnership. | | | | |

| Goals | Policy Objectives and Action Steps | Priority | Ongoing | Long-range |
|------------------|---|----------------------|----------|------------|
| Goal 2: Increase | Policy Objective 2.A: Amplify the heritage tour | ism program for Idah | o County | |
| Heritage Tourism | Action 2.A.1: Expand visitor awareness of | | | |
| | Idaho County's heritage and historic resources | | | |
| | online | | | |
| | Action 2.A.2: Coordinate efforts to promote | | | |
| | Idaho County as destination for visitors | | | |
| | Action 2.A.3: Create website for cultural | | | |
| | activities & historic sites countywide | | | |

| Goals | Policy Objectives and Action Steps | Priority | Ongoing | Long-range | |
|----------------------|--|----------|---------|------------|--|
| Goal 3: Strengthen | Policy Objective 3.A: Identification and Designation | | | | |
| Protection and | Action 3.A.1: Develop Survey Plan | | | | |
| Preservation Efforts | Action 3.A.2: Update Surveys & Conduct New | | | | |
| | Surveys | | | | |
| | Action 3.A.3: Increase recognition of historic | | | | |
| | buildings by establishing local historic | | | | |
| | register program | | | | |
| | Action 3.A.4: Pursue MPDF "Historic | | | | |
| | Resources of Idaho County, Idaho" | | | | |
| | Action 3.A.5: Survey Agricultural Resources | | | | |
| | Action 3.A.6: Support Individual NRHP listings | | | | |
| | Policy Objective 3.B: Strengthen Capacity of Historic Preservation Program | | | | |
| | Action 3.B.1: Expand Membership | | | | |
| | Action 3.B.2: Staff & HPC continued training | | | | |
| | Action 3.B.3: Establish Computer Database | | | | |
| | for all documented historic resources | | | | |
| | Policy Objective 3.C: Coordinate Efforts Across County & City Departments | | | | |
| | Action 3.C.1: Monitor preservation program | | | | |
| | on an ongoing basis | | | | |
| | Action 3.C.2: Keep County/City | | | | |
| | departments/boards apprised of HPC actions | | | | |
| | & policies | | | | |

| Goals | Policy Objectives and Action Steps | Priority | Ongoing | Long-range |
|--------------------|---|------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Goal 4: Encourage | Policy Objective 4.A: Utilize, Package, and Pro | mote Existing Programs | & Incentives | |
| Preservation as an | Action 4.A.1: Compile historic rehabilitation | | | |
| Economic | development incentive packages | | | |
| Development Tool | Action 4.A.2: Notify property owners of | | | |
| | available incentives and facilitate their use | | | |
| | Action 4.A.3: Initiate participation in Idaho | | | |
| | Main Street program | | | |

ORGANIZED BY LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE - PRIORITY

| Level of Priority | Policy Objectives and Action Steps | Priority | Ongoing | Long-range |
|-------------------|---|----------|---------|------------|
| | Action 1.A.1: Create HPC website | | | |
| | Action 1.C.1: Encourage public participation | | | |
| | in the preservation program | | | |
| | Action 1.C.4: Investigate opportunities with | | | |
| | the Pacific Northwest Preservation | | | |
| | Partnership. | | | |
| | Action 2.A.3: Create website for cultural | | | |
| | activities & historic sites countywide | | | |
| Delouite | Action 3.A.1: Develop Survey Plan | | | |
| Priority | Action 3.B.1: Expand Membership | | | |
| | Action 3.B.2: Staff & HPC continued training | | | |
| | Action 3.B.3: Establish Computer Database for all documented historic resources | | | |
| | Action 3.C.2: Keep County/City | | | |
| | departments/boards apprised of HPC actions | | | |
| | & policies | | | |
| | Action 4.A.3: Initiate participation in Idaho | | | |
| | Main Street program | | | |

ORGANIZED BY LEVEL OF PRIORITY - ONGOING

| Level of Priority | Policy Objectives and Action Steps | Priority | Ongoing | Long-range |
|-------------------|---|----------|---------|------------|
| | Action 1.B.4: Arrange for annual public workshop | | | |
| | regarding preservation, its impacts, and its | | | |
| | benefits | | | |
| | Action 1.C.2: Cultivate economic development | | | |
| | partnerships and integrate historic preservation | | | |
| | into economic development efforts | | | |
| | Action 1.B.1: Nominate threatened buildings to | | | |
| | for Preservation Idaho's Orchids & Onions | | | |
| | Action 1.B.2: Recognize good rehabilitation efforts | | | |
| | Action 1.C.1: Encourage public participation in | | | |
| | the preservation program | | | |
| | Action 2.A.1: Expand visitor awareness of Idaho | | | |
| | County's heritage and historic resources online | | | |
| | Action 2.A.2: Coordinate efforts to promote | | | |
| | Idaho County as destination for visitors | | | |
| Ongoing | Action 3.A.2: Update Surveys & Conduct New | | | |
| | Surveys | | | |
| | Action 3.A.5: Survey Agricultural Resources | | | |
| | Action 3.A.6: Support Individual NRHP listings | | | |
| | Action 3.B.2: Staff & HPC continued training | | | |
| | Action 3.B.3: Establish Computer Database for all | | | |
| | documented historic resources | | | |
| | Action 3.C.1: Monitor preservation program on | | | |
| | an ongoing basis | | | |
| | Action 3.C.2: Keep County/City | | | |
| | departments/boards apprised of HPC actions & | | | |
| | policies | | | |
| | Action 4.A.1: Compile historic rehabilitation | | | |
| | development incentive packages | | | |
| | Action 4.A.2: Notify property owners of available | | | |
| | incentives and facilitate their use | | | |

ORGANIZED BY LEVEL OF PRIORITY - LONG-RANGE

| Level of Priority | Policy Objectives and Action Steps | Priority | Ongoing | Long-range |
|-------------------|---|----------|---------|------------|
| | Action 1.B.3: Arrange rehabilitation skills training workshops | | | |
| | Action 1.C.3: Develop a preservation consortium | | | |
| Long-range | Action 3.A.3: Increase recognition of historic buildings by establishing local historic | | | |
| | Action 3.A.4: Pursue MPDF "Historic | | | |
| | Resources of Idaho County, Idaho" Action 3.A.5: Survey Agricultural Resources | | | |

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

NATIONAL REGISTER DESIGNATION

Concurrent with identification of historic resources is the need to target specific resources for protection through proactive measures such as nominating eligible properties for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and thus qualifying them for voluntary participation in federal and other incentive programs.

The National Register program provides several ways to nominate properties based on their level of significance, architectural integrity, and proximity to other historically significant resources. Properties can be nominated individually, as part of a thematically linked Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF), or as contributing elements to a historic district.

Multiple Property Documentation Form Nomination

Based on a combination of both intensive and windshield survey across a significant portion of the county, it is recommended the Idaho County HPC sponsor the preparation of the NRHP Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) "Historic Resources of Idaho County, Idaho."

Among the various types of nomination vehicles, the MPDF approach is best suited for Idaho County. It matches the scope and scale of the county, as well as the presence of scattered individual and small groupings of potentially eligible buildings with shared contexts. Throughout Idaho County, integrity is the primary limiting factor for eligibility and this manner of documentation allows for the comparison of these discontiguous resources, linking them with common themes and associations. Using professionally accepted standards, development of a MPDF can provide the ICHPC with a complete picture of the community's historic resources so decisions to recognize specific buildings or areas will not be arbitrary.

A MPDF for the "Historic Resources of Idaho County, Idaho," will treat the entire county as the subject area, with a variety of historic contexts and associated property types serving as the organization. The document might include contexts such as "Mining and Immigration Patterns of Idaho County," and/or "Late Nineteenth through Mid-Twentieth Century Residential Resources of Idaho County." The MPDF then identifies property types that have shared physical characteristics and/or historic contexts and provides integrity thresholds based on comparisons with similar resources located elsewhere in the county. With a MPDF cover document in place, property owners or the ICHPC can initiate NRHP nominations that require significantly less time, effort, and expense to prepare.

The MPDF format provides an economy of scale by allowing similar resources to be nominated under one cover document, thus avoiding redundancy. Furthermore, the ability to nominate similar properties over a period of time provides flexibility to a nomination process that is dependent on owner support. The MPDF format also assists in preservation planning and cultural resource management because it establishes registration requirements for similar properties that may be nominated in the future, thus providing the advantage of predetermining the shared physical and thematic characteristics of particular functional or architectural property types to facilitate future identification and evaluation.

Many communities nationwide and across Idaho now employ the MPDF nomination approach, which emphasizes the use of historic contexts as a streamlined way to organize research information and to evaluate potentially significant individual properties and districts as they are identified. With hundreds, if not thousands, of properties to survey throughout Idaho County, the MPDF approach will yield significant

benefits in survey and evaluation consistency, quality, and efficiency. The standards for preparing a MPDF are presented in detail in the National Register Bulletin *How to Complete the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form,* which can be found at www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb16b/.

MANAGEMENT OF DOCUMENTATION DATA

The ICHPC should work with SHPO and County staff to establish a computer database for all surveyed historic resources. This database should not only meet federal and state requirements for inventory of historic resources, but also present the type of information which would be useful to the citizens and staff of the County, as well as be compatible with the City/County GIS system. See Action 3.B.3 above for specific action steps and considerations related to implementation tasks and prevention of the potential compromising of sensitive locational information.

As a CLG, the Idaho County HPC agrees to be a partner with the Idaho SHPO in the preservation of the state's historic resources. One of the requirements of the program dictates that the CLG "maintain an inventory of historic properties in the community." Property owners, developers, real estate professionals, educators, and public agencies frequently have use for historic resource data. It is recommended that an information management system be developed to make survey information is accessible to the public. The Idaho County HPC can restrict data in multiple ways to prevent the distribution of any potentially sensitive information. Simple Standardization of survey methods and procedures, along with improved sharing of information and resources, will expand dissemination of historic resource data.

It is essential to ensure that survey results and information can be easily transmitted in a usable form to those responsible for other planning activities. For example, the plans of agencies such as the School District #241 and the Idaho Department of Transportation could affect historic resources; the availability of historic resource survey data within the project area can streamline the planning process, as well as serve to protect significant properties.

Regular updating and maintenance of historic resource data will be extremely important to ensure that the county's records remain reliable. The county should develop standards for its historic resource data to be maintained and routinely updated. Simple methods to maintain results and add to the county's historic resource inventory could include the following:

- When resources are identified and new surveys are conducted by other agencies (e.g., ITD, BLM, U.S. Forest Service, SHPO), Idaho County HPC can request that findings be shared for integration into the Idaho County/ICHPC database.
- Resources of recent age or of a type not yet considered significant at the time of survey could still be surveyed to document their physical characteristics until their significance is recognized.
- Within the Idaho County community, the Bicentennial Historical Museum, Grangeville Chamber of Commerce, and other knowledgeable groups and individuals could report to the ICHPC when their research and work identify previously undocumented historic resources or changes to those already documented.

⁵⁸ Idaho SHPO Certified Local Government Program,

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FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PRESERVATION NETWORK

Nationwide, a variety of federal and state laws, as well as incentive programs protect many historic properties. In general, local preservation laws provide the most substantive protection for historic properties.

Federal Framework

A number of federal laws affect historic preservation in various ways:

- by establishing preservation programs for federal, state, and local government agencies;
- by establishing procedures for different kinds of preservation activities; and
- by creating opportunities for the preservation of different types of resources.

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, is the centerpiece of the national historic preservation program. The primary mandates of the act of 1966 are as follows:

- Authorization for the Department of the Interior, National Park Service to expand and maintain the National Register of Historic Places;
- Provision for the establishment of State Historic Preservation Officers to administer federal preservation programs;
- Specification of how local governments can be certified for participation in federal programs;
- Authorization for preservation grants-in-aid to states and local governments;
- Provision of a process for federal agencies to consider and mitigate adverse impacts on historic properties that are within their control; and
- Establishment of a rehabilitation tax credit program for private property owners that is also part of the Internal Revenue Code. The tax codes also allow charitable contributions through façade and scenic easements.

National Park Service

All preservation programs are administered by the National Park Service (NPS), Department of the Interior. One component of this charge is the development of programs and standards to direct federal undertakings and guide other federal agencies, states, and local governments in developing preservation planning and protection activities on a local level.

Secretary of the Interior's Standards (http://www.nps.gov/hps/tps/standguide/)

The centerpiece of this effort is the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation. These standards provide all federal agencies, state historic preservation officers, and other organizations with methodologies and guidelines for the preservation of historic and archaeological resources. These standards and guidelines address issues relating to preservation planning, which includes the identification, evaluation, and protection of historic/cultural resources. They

serve as the standards for all projects undertaken with federal funding, incentives, loans, or action by the federal government that impact significant historic resources. They have been upheld in federal and state court decisions. Perhaps most importantly, the standards serve as the base for design guidelines in the majority of designated districts and sites throughout the United States. In the three decades the standards have been used, they have proven to stabilize and increase property values.

National Register of Historic Places (http://www.nps.gov/nr/)

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of properties important in the history, architectural history, archaeology, engineering, and culture of the United States. The National Park Service oversees the National Register program. In Idaho, the State Historic Preservation Office administers the National Register program. Properties of local, regional, state, and national significance may be nominated to the National Register. Resources listed in the National Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects. Listing a property in the National Register has a number of advantages, including:

- Recognition of the property's value to the community, state, and nation;
- Eligibility for grants and loan programs that encourage preservation;
- Qualification for participation in federal and state rehabilitation tax credit programs; and
- Consideration in planning for federal or federally assisted projects.

Section 106

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation act of 1966, as amended, requires federal agencies to consider the effect of federally assisted projects on properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. If a project threatens to harm such properties, the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation may be consulted in a process designed to promote consideration of ways to avoid or minimize such harm. The federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) provides a detailed summary at http://www.achp.gov/106summary.html.

Federal Law

Other federal laws protecting cultural resources include:

- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
- Housing and Community Development Act of 1974
- Surplus Real Property Act of 1972
- Public Buildings Cooperative Use Act of 1976
- AMTRAC Improvement Act of 1974
- Emergency Home Purchase Assistance Act of 1974
- The Department of Transportation Act of 1966
- Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974
- Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979
- Antiquities Act of 1906
- Historic Sites Act of 1935
- Executive Order 11593, Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment

Certified Local Government Program (http://www.nps.gov/history/hpg/local/clg.html)

The federal government established the Certified Local Government (CLG) program in 1980 to promote the preservation of prehistoric and historic resources and allow local communities to participate in the national historic preservation program to a greater degree. Prior to this time, preservation programs developed within a decentralized partnership between the federal and state governments, with the states carrying out the primary responsibility for identification, evaluation, and protection of historic properties. Through the CLG program, Congress extended this partnership to the local government level to allow local participation in the preservation planning process. Communities that meet Certified Local Government qualifications have a formal role in the National Register nomination process, establishment of state historic preservation objectives, and participation in designated CLG grant fund.

Grants-in-Aid Programs

The National Park Service provides grants-in-aid to states to promote preservation activities on the state and local level. In Idaho, grants are awarded for identification, evaluation, and protection of historic and archaeological resources according to federal and state guidelines.

Federal Preservation Incentives (http://www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives.htm)

Tax incentives for the preservation and rehabilitation of historic properties are among the most useful tools for a local government to encourage the protection of historic resources. The most widely used federal incentives are the historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits and the charitable contribution deduction. Since the passage of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, the most widely used federal tax incentives allowed under the Internal Revenue Code are the Rehabilitation Tax Credits, the Charitable Contribution Deduction (Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980), and the Low Income Housing Credit.

State Framework

Each state has a State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) appointed by the Governor to administer federal preservation programs. The Idaho Historic Preservation Program is a division of the Idaho State Historical Society. The program's responsibilities include:

- conducting ongoing surveys to identify and evaluate cultural resources;
- preparing comprehensive statewide preservation plans;
- nominating properties to the National Register of Historic Places;
- reviewing federal projects for effects on cultural resources:
- administering the rehabilitation state and federal tax credit program;
- administering a range of assistance programs;
- providing public information, education, and training programs; and
- providing technical assistance to counties and local governments in developing local preservation programs.

Local Framework

As noted above in the discussion of federal programs, local governments strengthen their local historic preservation efforts by achieving Certified Local Government (CLG) status from the National Park Service (NPS). The NPS and state governments, through their State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs), provide valuable technical assistance and small matching grants to hundreds of diverse communities whose local governments endeavor to retain what is significant from their community's past for the benefit of future

generations. In turn, the NPS and state governments gain the benefit of having a local government partnership in the national historic preservation program. Another incentive for participating in the CLG program is the pool of matching grant funds SHPOs set aside to fund CLG historic preservation sub-grant projects, which is at least 10 percent of a state's annual Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grant allocation. Grant funds are distributed through the HPF grant program, administered by the NPS and SHPOs.

Jointly administered by the NPS in partnership with SHPOs, the CLG Program is a model and cost- effective local, state, and federal partnership that promotes historic preservation at the grassroots level across the nation. Working closely with such national organizations as the National Association of Preservation Commissions, the CLG program seeks: (1) to develop and maintain local historic preservation programs that will influence the zoning and permitting decisions critical to preserving historic properties and (2) to ensure the broadest possible participation of local governments in the national historic preservation program while maintaining preservation standards established by the Secretary of the Interior.

| PRESERVATION NETWORK | PUBLIC | PRIVATE |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| FEDERAL / NATIONAL | NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (NPS) ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION | NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION PRESERVATION ACTION NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF STATEWIDE ORGANIZATIONS AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION FOR PRESERVATION TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY |
| STATE | STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICES (SHPO) REGIONAL OFFICES FOR THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (NPS) | PRESERVATION IDAHO REGIONAL OFFICES FOR THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION |
| LOCAL GOVERNMENT | IDAHO COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION | BICENTENNIAL HISTORICAL MUSEUM OTHER LOCAL PRESERVATION AND HISTORY ORGANIZATIONS |

FEDERAL FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The **20 percent Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit** applies to owners, and some renters, of incomeproducing National Register-listed properties. The amount of tax credits is calculated based on qualified rehabilitation expenditures at the end of the project. Eligible properties must be eligible and/or listed in the National Register of Historic Places. More information relating to the federal program requirements can be found at the following National Park Service websites:

http://www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives.htm and

http://www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives/taxdocs/about-tax-incentives-2012.pdf.

In addition, a **10 percent Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit** is available for the rehabilitation of commercial, non-residential buildings that are *not* eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and were constructed before 1936. With no formal application process and limited restrictions to the design of rehabilitation work, this can be a good tool for buildings in locally designated conservation districts (see Recommendations for an elaborated discussion of conservation districts). For more information on the federal tax credit incentives, please visit

http://www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives/taxdocs/about-tax-incentives-2012.pdf.

Transportation Alternatives (TA) federally funds community-based projects that, among other things, improve the cultural, historic, and environmental aspects of our transportation infrastructure. TA projects must relate to surface transportation and be one of 10 eligible activities, among which are Historic Preservation & Rehab of Historic Transportation Facilities.

(http://itd.idaho.gov/transportation-performance/cci/programGuide.html)

To qualify for the either the federal incentive programs, the rehabilitation work typically must comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, which can be found at the National Park Service's website at http://www.nps.gov/hps/tps/standguide/. The Secretary's Standards are designed to address changes that will allow older buildings to function in the twenty-first century.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

- National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places http://www.nps.gov/nr/
- National Register Instructional Bulletins http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/publications/
- Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, National Register Program http://history.idaho.gov/national-register-historic-places

ADVOCACY SOURCES

- National Trust for Historic Preservation http://www.preservationnation.org/
- Preservation Idaho http://www.preservationidaho.org/

FINANCIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

- National Park Service, Historic Preservation Tax Incentives http://www.nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives.htm
- Idaho Main Street Program http://commerce.idaho.gov/communities/main-street

OTHER PROGRAMS

- Pacific Northwest Preservation Partnership http://hp.uoregon.edu/pnwfs
- National Trust for Historic Preservation Heritage Tourism Principles and Recommendations
 - http://www.preservationnation.org/information-center/economics-of-revitalization/heritagetourism/#. VZ28a IViko
 - http://www.preservationnation.org/information-center/economics-of-revitalization/heritagetourism/basics/the-five-principles.html#.VZ278flViko

PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION MAPS

The maps below, generated in August 2014, reflect all previously documented (survey and/or NRHP listing) historic above-ground sites and linear sites (waterways, trails, roads, etc.). These maps are included as a tool for the Idaho County HPC. To prevent the dissemination of sensitive locational information, the archaeological site map has not been included.

