



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

City Council Chambers, 33 East Broadway Avenue Meridian, Idaho

Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 4:30 PM

MINUTES

ROLL-CALL ATTENDANCE

☒ Blaine Johnston, Chair

☐ Pam Jagosh

☐ Jack Keller

☒ Heather Giacomo

☒ Patrick Gittings, Vice Chair

☒ Ken Freeze

☒ Debra Pitts

City Staff, Cassandra Schiffler (Arts and Culture Coordinator), Sarah Alford (Arts Assistant), and William Nary (City Attorney) were present. The President of the Preservation Idaho Board, Brittney Scigliano, was also in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA [ACTION ITEM]

K. Freeze moved to adopt the agenda and P. Gittings seconded.

All ayes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES [ACTION ITEM]

1. **Approve:** Minutes from the 3-27-25 Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission

L. Freeze moved to approve the minutes and P. Gittings seconded.

All ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

2. **Presentation:** Preservation Idaho ~ *Brittney Scigliano, Preservation Idaho Board President*

M. Scigliano gave a presentation (see attachment) detailing what Preservation Idaho does. They offer several walking tours that teachers, historians, and architects lead. The Arch Walk (pronounced "Arc" like architecture) highlights architecture and historical aspects. They do many preservation projects. They are a statewide organization led by a volunteer board and they

are 501c nonprofit. They have a 52-year history founded by Boise citizens. Their mission is to preserve historic spaces. They collaborate frequently with the government and private owners.

Scigliano detailed involvement on many preservation projects: new historic districts, restoration projects, the Erma Hayman House and River Street neighborhood. They are also closely following the double silos in Meridian to make sure those are preserved.

The Idaho Architecture Project is a community powered catalog to discuss history in Idaho. They throw the Orchids and Onions Awards on July 26th to highlight good and bad in the community. The Heritage Homes Tour is a big fundraiser. They advocate for state historic tax credit and to preserve and protect landmarks. Idaho Mid-Century Modern places are now being protected. There is only one Frank Lloyd Wright home in Idaho and the Idaho Heritage Homes tour will be able to visit it this year. Preservation Idaho is constantly working towards founding local historic districts to save places because they foster human interaction and showcase rare craftsmanship. The benefits of having historic properties include: using them as a tool for leveraging public investments and creating jobs, encouraging heritage tourism, and preservation=conservation.

Preservation is a great way to have a positive impact on the environment. It takes decades to save energy constructing new buildings compared to saving more energy preserving the buildings ready to be demolished. The Orchid Award Winners are awarded to people who do good preservation work such as The Avery hotel in Boise. There are many ways you can support Preservation Idaho such as: becoming a member, advocating for state historic tax credit which would provide incentives to preserve historic places, serve on an Idaho historic committee, visit a historic site, and/or take a walking tour with them. Preservationidaho.org is their website. After the demolition of the Boise mall, it inspired Boise people to form Preservation Idaho to save places like the Egyptian Theater.

P. Gittings wondered if someone in legislature is on the side to take steps in the future and B. Scigliano replied not that she knows of, but they are rallying lots of people and potentially hiring to take this on. Preservation Idaho is in communication with a few legislatures who might take this on in the future. H. Giacomo questioned if the tax credit is for commercial or residential buildings. B. Scigliano stated commercial because it might not be fair for residential people. B. Johnston inquired if they are looking at anything in Meridian. B. Scigliano replied that the double silos are top priority, and said they would love to help with the Meridian historic preservation plan. The goal for Preservation Idaho is to be not Boise centric, but statewide. B. Johnston stated the HPC is working on providing classes for the community and asked if Preservation Idaho is available to help. B. Scigliano volunteered a yes and stated they work closely with SHIPO.

OLD BUSINESS [ACTION ITEMS]

3. Recap: First Guided Walking Tour of the Season and Public Outreach Event at Hidden Gem Events

B. Johnston stated there were roughly 18-20 people and two walking tour groups which worked very well. He heard general comments that people liked it. P. Gittings observed that people were positive and curious about how often they did the walking tours. K. Freeze said the school is a highlight. He noticed that people thought The Tolleth House was fun to go in and see. He wondered if in the future there could be many homes open once a year. B.

Johnston asked B. Scigliano to come back up to speak. She stated that is what The Heritage Tour does and they could help with forming this. They are working with Pocatello to put together a tour.

B. Johnston stated there are 74 responses to the survey. He shared that it is a good number but hopefully they receive a few more. May 8 is the deadline. He wondered if we could try to do a post and asked people to share online. P. Gittings wondered if B. Scigliano could share. She said she would share. P. Gittings concluded that the weather was great and it was a lot of fun.

4. HPC Review and Discussion: Historic Preservation Plan Draft Documents

B. Johnston said it looked good and questioned what the next step is. C. Schiffler said there are two documents. One was a summary of existing codes and conditions, the other was a draft outline of HPC Plan. She asked if they could all look and see if there were any comments and questions. They are continuing to work on the plan. Once the commissioners look at the documents, they should send to C. Schiffler with any notes. The comments should be back by the end of the month.

5. Other Updates or Discussions: 2025 Historic Walking Tour Series, Addition to the Virtual Tour on Main Street Site by HullFilm, Potential National Historic Register Nomination of the Zamzows Mill

The calendar is set for waking tours. B. Johnston asked who is leading the May tour. P. Gittings is leading and has challenge coins. H. Giacomo is also on that one and inquired what challenge coins are. B. Johnston replied that people get one if they go on a tour as a thank you. B. Johnston reminded everyone to double check schedules. P. Gittings said we should talk about Pine School. B. Johnston said school will be open every other month so they can concentrate on the north side of the tour. P. Gittings noticed that the school portion of the tour can take longer and makes it harder to get to other stops. He hoped that people aren't disappointed they aren't visiting it every time. B. Johnson stated he told people to come back every other month. H. Giacomo asked P. Gittings if we should talk to The Tolleth House about touring. P. Gittings said it would be part of the tour and that they could drop in. C. Schiffler stated there are contacts in the walking tour sign up document she handed out to everyone and to contact them ahead of time. K. Freeze said Elizabeth stated she would have the house open if there is an event.

B. Johnston asked C. Schiffler if there is a schedule from HullFilms. C. Schiffler stated she would reach out to see if they can photograph in the next month or two. B. Johnston reached out to Zamzows about getting on the historic registry. He noted that he has not heard back but will reach out again soon if they want to move forward with that

6. Planning: National Historic Preservation Month Activities (May)

The walking tour is scheduled for 17th and sandwich board signs should go out week before and taken down 19th or 20th back to City Hall. Maybe the 14th or 15th they can get put out. K. Freeze stated that either day is fine. B. Johnston stated he would send out an email and make sure they are in good shape for the walking tour. P. Gittings wondered if they could have a couple more commissioners to come down to set up a table for the market so they could ask questions and maybe go on the tour. B. Johnston reminded everyone that they did that last year, and they have to make sure space is available. C. Schiffler said we would

potentially have to pay a fee and we would have to check with the market manager. B. Johnston said good idea and D. Pitts said good idea. H. Giacomo asked if there was any traffic last year. B. Johnston remembered there was lots of traffic, and they had brochures and challenge coins . He didn't know if it generated anything later on. May is historic preservation month so it might be good. D. Pitts asked when the survey is due and wondered if we should do it the weekend before to get more survey responses. B. Johnston stated we would have to set it out the 3rd, next Saturday. D. Pitts asked what time the market started. B. Johnston said its early and then you sit until 10. They decided the 17th would work for the table and tour. B. Johnston questioned C. Schiffler if that would give us enough time. She said she would check but they could potentially extend the survey. P. Gittings said 8th was arbitrary. K. Freeze said we should try to have qr code sheets to take survey. B. Johnston stated they have them ready. B. Johnston has no problem with the 10th and they could extend survey till 11th. D. Pitts said the 3rd in the morning or 10th anytime she is available to help with market table. B. Johnston said lets just plan for the 10th. D. Pitts wondered what the time frame is. B. Johnston suggested arriving at 7 to set up. He asked for contact for market. C. Schiffler stated 9-1 is when the market runs. B. Johnston explained that vendors come in and set up and Broadway is shut off. D. Pitts volunteered to do it and B. Johnston said he would email the market and send out info to everyone. D. Pitts wondered if anyone else wanted to join. K. Freeze said he couldn't, and H. Giacomo said she would check. D. Pitts stated that its fine but two is always better and maybe P. Jagosh could attend. B. Johnston declared he would get specifics and email it out.

NEXT MEETING: Special Meeting Date: May 29, 2025 (Regular Meeting Date on May 22 will be cancelled due to Public Works Event at City Hall)

ADJOURNMENT [ACTION ITEM]

P. Gittings moved to adjourn, and K. Freeze seconded.

All ayes.



PRESERVATION IDAHO

THE IDAHO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COUNCIL

**OUR MISSION IS TO PRESERVE IDAHO'S HISTORIC PLACES
THROUGH COLLABORATION, EDUCATION, AND ADVOCACY.**



PRESERVATION IDAHO

THE IDAHO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COUNCIL

PRESERVATION IDAHO HAS PARTNERED
WITH THE
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER
TO RESTORE THE 1963-64 SURGEON'S QUARTERS
BLDG. 4

THE FIREPLACE ROOM WITH INTERPRETIVE EXHIBITS
WILL BE AVAILABLE
TO VETERANS AND THE PUBLIC.

PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING SUPPORT AND SAVE THIS HISTORIC BUILDING
THAT HAS SERVED FORT BONE AND THE VAMC FOR 50 YEARS.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Who Is Preservation Idaho?

Arch Walks











“Boiseans are an amiable, even-tempered people...not long ago, though, a great many of them made the common discovery that cars were parked where their childhoods used to be, that their city was in serious danger of ceasing to exist, and that directly in the path of the bulldozers lay virtually all that remained of their architectural heritage. It made them mad as hell.”

— L.J. Davis





What does Preservation Idaho Do?



COLLABORATION

We rely on collaboration with public and private property owners to ensure they understand and appreciate the architectural and historic value of their property.



BC
DE
&H



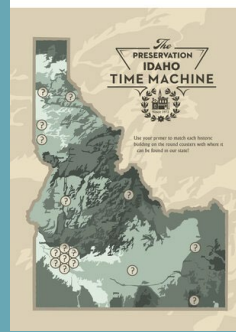
COLLABORATION



EDUCATION

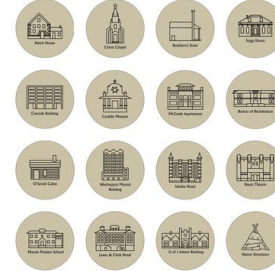


BOISE CITY
DEPT OF ARTS
& HISTORY



Idaho State Map

Canvas Map: 60" x 82" Circle Wooden Coasters: 3" x 3"



Program

HERITAGE HOMES TOUR



Harrison Boulevard Historic District

Saturday, October 14th, 2006



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Search By Type



Residential



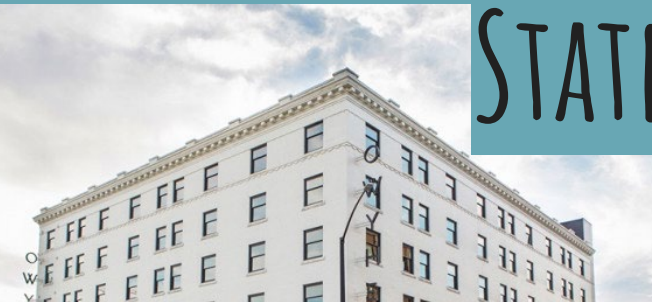
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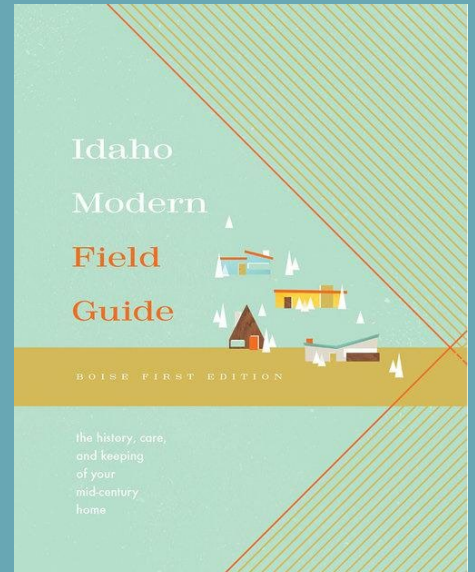
STATE HISTORIC TAX CREDIT



PRESERVATION IDAHO
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS STRONG



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IDAHO HERITAGE BARN

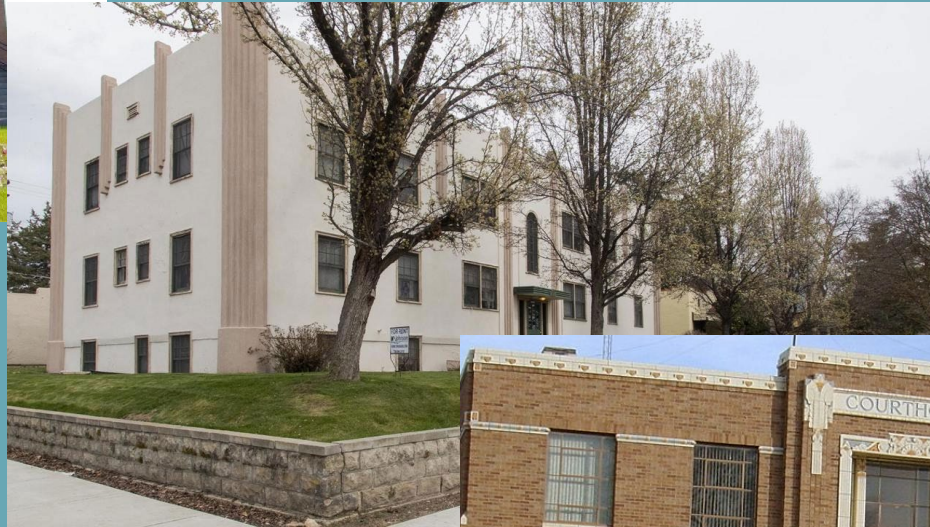
Historic
Barns Of
Southeastern
Idaho:
A Self-
Guided
Driving Tour

A Project of the Bear River Heritage Area



Why Preservation Idaho?







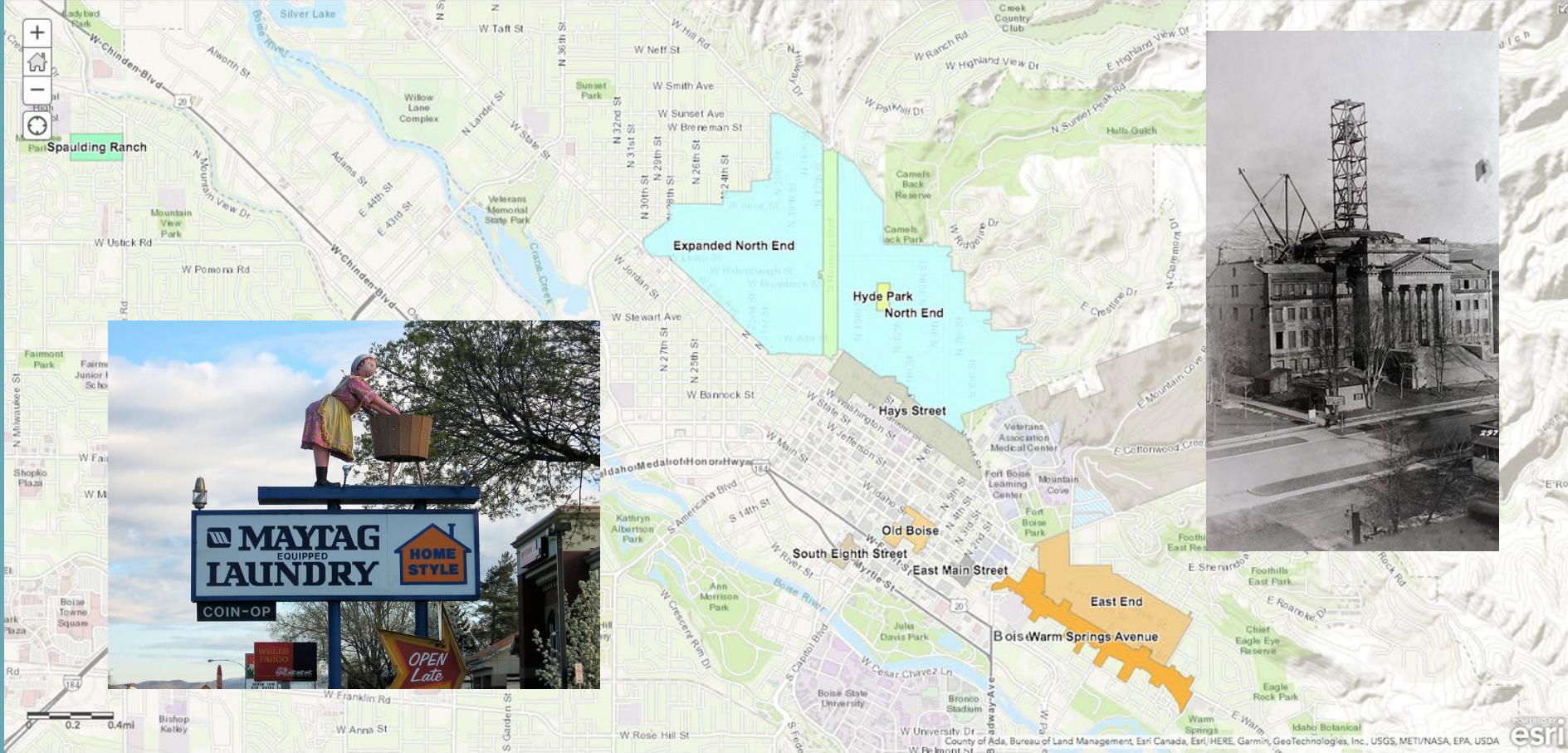


America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places.

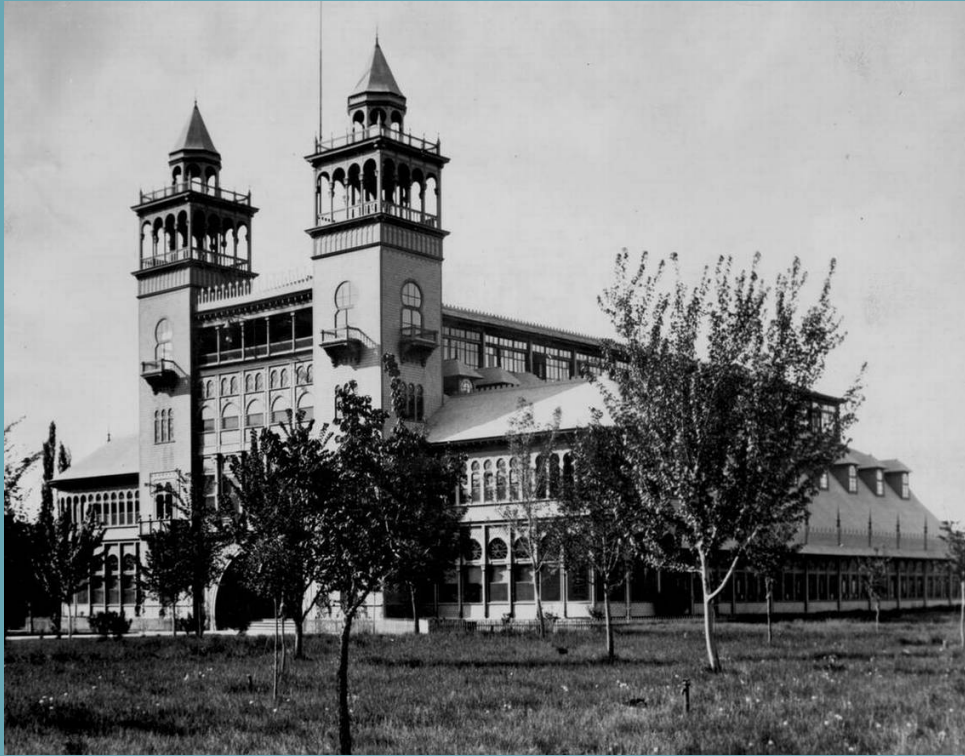
National Trust for Historic Preservation



PRESERVATION = ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY



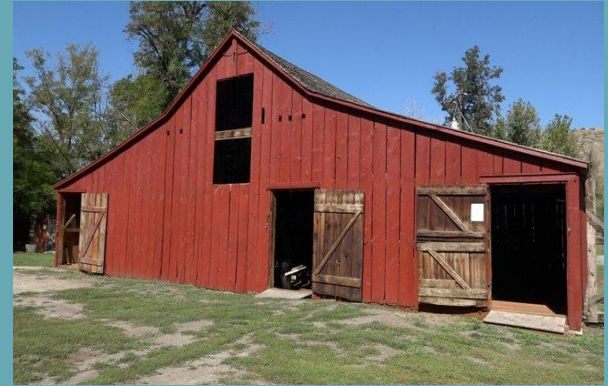
PRESERVATION = HERITAGE TOURISM



PRESERVATION = CONSERVATION



It takes energy to construct a new building.
It saves energy to preserve an old one.
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WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Become a Member!

Visit a Historic Site

Advocate for the Historic State Tax Credit

Serve on a PI Committee

Take a Walk with Us!

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!









THANK YOU

