



a/b/n of The Arrowrock Group, Inc.

March 20, 2026

Meridian Historic Preservation Commission
c/o Cassandra Schiffler, Arts & Culture Coordinator
City of Meridian Parks and Recreation Department
33 E Broadway Ave. Ste 206
Meridian, ID 83642

2022 & 2023 Meridian Survey Report Amendment

TAG has responded to comments received in November 2025 from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) pertaining to the two-phase Reconnaissance Level Survey of Meridian conducted in 2022 & 2023. The project was completed before the initiation of the Idaho Cultural Resources Information System (ICRIS) which replaced the former Microsoft Access-based database, but all records have been added to ICRIS and the changes requested by SHPO were made in the current system.

SHPO provided 60 comments, most of which requested documentation for resources within the survey boundaries which we had not added to the database. The 2022 and 2023 surveys did not include pre-recorded properties evaluated not eligible or resources less than 50 years of age, as noted on p. 2 of the original report. SHPO reviewers in 2025 requested that those resources be included. All have been added to ICRIS. Other comments were information corrections (such as missing construction dates). In addition, reviewers suggested that eligibility determinations be reviewed, that statements for NRHP eligibility and historic integrity be added for each resource, and that the proposed historic district boundaries should be adjusted to exclude non-contributing properties. These corrections have also been made in ICRIS.

Based on a request from the Meridian HPC, one resource, 1310 N Main St (Avest Commercial Properties office), was added to the North Main Street Historic District. The HPC also requested that the Masonic Lodge and the 1974 First Methodist Church be added to the East Idaho Avenue Historic District. Because those resources were built outside of the district's period of significance (1908-1915), we did not include them, but both are individually eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. The Historic District descriptions are included at the end of this amendment to the 2023 report.

We appreciate the opportunity to revise the survey and look forward to our presentation next week. Please see the following pages for the revised descriptions of the two proposed historic districts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Jacox", written in a cursive style.

Elizabeth Jacox
Historian

Proposed Historic Districts

10AA991 East Idaho Avenue Historic District

SHPO comment:

Need period of significance. How does mid-century architecture fit into the downtown history of Meridian. Update district boundary to exclude non-contributing properties.

TAG Notes

Boundaries were adjusted to include five commercial buildings constructed 1908-1915, a small intact historic commercial block. This group illustrates development during the early 20th century with a period of significance ending well before the 1950s. There are no non-contributing properties within the proposed district boundaries.

Description

The East Idaho Avenue Commercial Historic District consists of five adjacent commercial buildings on East Idaho Avenue from its midpoint at the west lot line of 126 E Idaho Ave, east to NE 2nd St, ending at the east lot line of 140 E Idaho Ave.

History

The oldest building in the group is the Bank of Meridian, currently The Vault, built in 1908 on the northwest corner of the intersection of E. Idaho Ave and NE 2nd St. Most of the other buildings were under construction by 1913, causing the local newspaper to speculate that this would be the new business center of Meridian.

Areas of Significance Community Planning and Development, Architecture

NRHP Eligibility

The five buildings in the East Idaho Avenue Commercial Historic District are an intact remainder of the bustling commercial center that grew up in Meridian in the early years of the 20th century. The group is comprised of three modest one-part commercial buildings with one two-part commercial building and a bank building. This small intact group is eligible under Criterion A for Community Planning and Development. The district is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past (Criterion B). The five buildings in the district retain enough characteristics of a typical early 20th century commercial district to be eligible under Criterion C, Architecture. The district has not yielded, nor is it likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory and is not eligible under Criterion D.

Integrity

The East Idaho Avenue Commercial Historic District retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association, despite changes over time as Meridian has evolved from a small farm town to a fast-growing modern urban center. Some alterations have been made to individual buildings, but they largely retain their original form and massing and still show their original design, workmanship, and materials.

Property Type District

Boundary description

The district encompasses the five adjacent buildings on the north side of E Idaho Avenue from the west lot line of 126 E Idaho Avenue to the west lot line of 140 E Avenue and from the north lot lines to the south lot lines for each adjacent building in the group.

Boundary justification

The boundary encompasses the five adjacent buildings as described.

10AA992

North Main Street Historic District

SHPO comment:

Need to re-evaluate district boundaries.

TAG Note:

Will redraw boundaries to exclude non-contributing properties. Meridan HPC requested 1310 N Main, on the east side of the road, be included in the district.

Description

The North Main Street Historic District encompasses nine resources on the west side of the street from its intersection with East Carlton Ave to the north lot line of 1409 North Main Street plus one resource, 1310 N Main Street, on the east side of the street. The historic buildings have all been converted to commercial use while preserving their historic character, including landscaping.

NRHP Eligibility

The ten resources in the North Main Street Historic District are an intact remainder of the residential neighborhood that grew up north of Meridian's early commercial center with resources dating from 1916 through 1954. The group represents a variety of residential styles which have been preserved in what is now a commercial block. This small intact group is eligible under Criterion A for Community Planning and Development. The district is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past (Criterion B). The ten resources in the district retain enough characteristics of their original design to be eligible under Criterion C, Architecture. The district has not yielded, nor is it likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory and is not eligible under Criterion D.

Integrity

The North Main Street Historic District retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association, despite changes over time as Meridian has evolved from a small farm town to a fast-growing modern urban center. Some alterations have been made to individual buildings, but they largely retain their original form and massing and still show their original design, workmanship, and materials.

Property Type District

Boundary description

The district encompasses nine resources on the west side of the street from its intersection with East Carlton Ave to the north lot line of 1409 North Main Street plus one resource, 1310 N Main Street, on the east side of the street.

Boundary justification

The boundary encompasses the ten resources on North Main St, including nine on the west side of the street and one on the east side of the street which have retained the characteristics of popular architectural styles for homes built between 1900 and 1960, with appropriate landscaping although the neighborhood has evolved to a commercial district.