Walk

THROUGH HISTORIC SANDPOINT

STEP BACK IN TIME WITH THIS SELF-GUIDED TOUR

SANDPOINT ARTS, CULTURE, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Produced by:

CITY OF SANDPOINT

Sandpoint Arts, Culture, & Historic Preservation Commission

More information available at:
www.sandpointidaho.gov/arts-culture-and-historic-preservation

A digital version of this tour is located at:
https://www.sandpointidaho.gov/arts-culture-and-historic-preservation-commission/page/historic-walking-tour

BONNER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM
HISTORY CREATING COMMUNITY
www.bonnercountyhistory.org

The Sandpoint Visitors Center is located at
1202 N Fifth Ave, Sandpoint
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Sandpoint THROUGH THE AGES

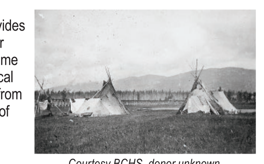
Sandpoint has historically benefited from its key strategic geographic location as a link between water and land based transportation routes. Sand Point, as it was known, was a meeting ground and trading center for local Native American tribes when early explorers and trappers visited the region. In 1882, as the construction work on the railroad began, a small settlement called Pend Oreille developed on the east side of Sand Creek. With the arrival in 1892 of the Great Northern Pacific Railroad, the community grew and this rustic, rough and tumble Sandpoint, as it was nowknown, grew to encompass the east and west sides of Sand Creek and at the same time developed a more genteel and family oriented nature. The Village of Sandpoint was incorporated on February 7, 1907.

The forests, farms and ranch lands, as well as rich mineral deposits in the Lake Pend Oreille region attracted settlers to small communities as they began to form throughout the area. Sandpoint continued to grow as a regional commercial center. Timber became the mainindustry in Sandpoint and Kootenai and the Humbird Lumber Company mill as well as others thrived in Sandpoint into the late 1920s.

The first two-mile bridge connecting Sandpoint with Sagle was completed in 1910. At the time it was the longest wooden wagon bridge in the world. The Panida Theater was built in 1927 to enhance entertainment options for area residents, making a total of 4 theaters in town. The 1940s brought Farragut Naval Station and 300,000 servicemen to the area. In 1963, Schweitzer Basin ski area opened. North Idaho's many unpopulated areas, natural beauty and diverse recreational opportunities began to attract a new wave of families from outside the region in the 1970s.

Between the 1980s and present day, the Sandpoint area transitioned from a resource-based economy of logging, mining, farming and ranching to a more diversified economy. That new economy includes arts and culture, manufacturing, recreation, technology, aeronautics, commercial services, education and small-scale horticulture while logging and mining have diminished.

This booklet provides a self-guided tour that highlights some of the key historical buildings dating from the early history of the City.


Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

Sandpoint – A WALK THROUGH HISTORY

The Sandpoint Art, Culture, & Historic Preservation Commission, in collaboration with Bonner County History Museum, invites you to enjoy this booklet of self-guided walking tours of Sandpoint's Historic District sites and properties around town.

Downtown BLUE Tour – Numbers

This tour focuses on the downtown core business and retail area including the Sandpoint Historic District.** It is comprised of buildings which are hallmarks of this historic, bustling and vibrant town.

Additional Sites GREEN – Roman Numerals

To further your Sandpoint experience, consider a visit to Lakeview Park to explore the lakeside, Knicknick Native Plant Garden with a log cabin and the Arboretum. Also there for your enjoyment are a picnic and play area, the newly furbished train caboose and the Bonner County History Museum. Here you can browse the wonderful and eclectic collections, which illustrate the richly diverse history of Sandpoint and Bonner County. Lakeview Park and the museum are located at 611 South Ella Street. Additional sites of historic significance which are outside of the walking tour areas, and well worth the visit, are also included.

South Sandpoint RED Tour – Letters

This tour focuses on the south side of Sandpoint and encompasses a more extensive scenic tour, featuring private residences and beautiful lake views. Follow the booklet descriptions for architectural and historical significance in this area of Sandpoint.

LEGEND

- ** National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)
- OO Orchids & Onions Award from Preservation Idaho
- ## Eligible to receive NRHP Designation
- ++ Not visible on map, but marked with an arrow on lower left of map

Downtown Blue Tour

Circa 1950s. Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 5269.

1. 300-302 N. First Ave. *Panida Theater* ** OO

A Spanish Mission style structure, built for $70,000 in 1927 by F.C. Weskil, first opened its doors as a vaudeville and cinema venue. The entrance fee was a bottle cap, and by the 1940s had increased to 9 cents. Dedicated to the people of the PANhandle of IDAho, the theater was given the name PANIDA. It was the first building in Sandpoint built of reinforced concrete. The theater had a unique "Cry Room" where mothers with babies could sit in comfort behind a glass window to view performances and films with audio piped into the room. In 1985 the Panida was slated to be destroyed. Three local woman, the "Panida Moms," raised the money to save it. The theater received the Orchid Award from Preservation Idaho in 1986.

Circa 1913. Courtesy BCHS, donated by Mike Fritz. 2015.050.030.

2. 301 N. First Ave. *Northern Mercantile*

Built in 1905 by J.K. Dow for $17,000, this two story brick building is slightly off square due to a streetcar line, following the diagonal line of Main Street. Unusual for the time, it had its own private sewer system and electricity. The second floor was dedicated to office space and the ground floor was used as a dry goods store. The building once housed the post office, Sandpoint's first radio station, a hardware store and a drug store.

Circa 1915. Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

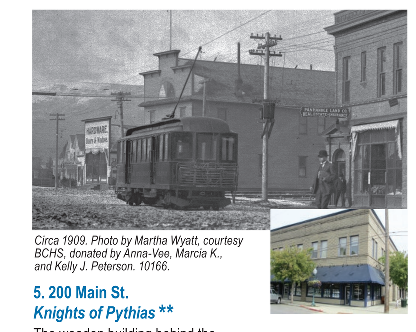
3. N. Second and Main *Farmin School*

The first school district in Sand Point was created in 1883 and catered to gold mining families. The railroad had reached Sand Point, bring more settlers. In 1885, the first school with 7 pupils was held in the White Swan, a converted saloon. By 1892, there were 28 students. In 1897, the 2 room Central School was built on the downtown block donated by L.D. Farmin. The population of Sandpoint by 1902 had grown to 6,000 and plans developed in 1906 to construct a new three-story brick school to house the first high school and all the lower grades. It opened on August 9, 1907, and served Sandpoint until it was demolished in 1970.

Circa 1915. Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 3988.

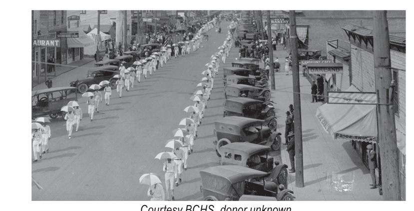
4. 110 Main St. *Sandpoint City Hall* **

Built on property donated by L.D. Farmin, the building was originally graced with a roof cupola housing an 8 ton bell and later a siren. Both cupola and bell were removed in the early 1950s. Up until the 1970s, the curfew siren blew each evening at 10 pm to ensure teenagers were off the streets. The fire station occupied the space where the vehicle bay doors can still be seen. The building also housed the city library until 1967.


Circa 1909. Photo by Martha Wyatt, courtesy BCHS, donated by Anna-Vee, Marcia K., and Kelly J. Peterson. 10166.

5. 200 Main St. *Knights of Pythias* **

The wooden building behind the streetcar in the photograph is the original Knights of Pythias Lodge. This building was moved to the adjacent property to the north and in 1909 the current building, constructed of precast cement block formed at the local Hunt Factory, replaced it. For years, fire-doors connected the two buildings. The ground floor was occupied by Graves Furniture Company and the second floor housed the K.P. Lodge.


Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

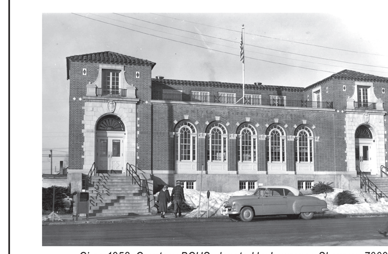
6. 314 N. Second Ave. *Elks Lodge* **

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (B.P.O.E.) building was constructed in 1936 following an original 1920 Art Deco design. The creative design had a small courtyard in the front of the building. B.P.O.E. is on the marker stone above the door. The Elks Convention Parades were highlight of life in Sandpoint..

Circa 1910-1916. Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 9842.

7. 201-203 Cedar St. *Thomason Brothers Hardware and Furniture*

Constructed in 1904 for $30,000, it was the largest building in Sandpoint, built with unique architectural features typical of buildings of this era. At one point in its history, it was converted to house Idaho First National Bank. The Masonic Lodge has been the upstairs occupant for much of its history.


Circa 1958. Courtesy BCHS, donated by Lawrence Shawver. 7009

8. 419 N. Second Ave. *Sandpoint Federal Building* **

Built in 1928 to house the U.S. Post Office, U.S. Forest Service, IRS, Civil Service and military recruitment offices. In 1973, it was listed on the NRHP for its architectural significance and detailing representing the Spanish Revival style. In 1967 the city library moved to this location. When the new library was built in 2000, Sandpoint residents transferred thousands of books (symbolic of entire collection) by forming a one mile book brigade to the new library location on Division Street.

Ones Page's home on Second Avenue in Sandpoint. House later belonged to Olive and Harry Nesbitt. Courtesy BCHS, donated by Jim Parsons, Jr. 2016. 039.129.

9. 506 N. Second Ave. *Page House*

Arriving in Sandpoint in 1900 from Pullman, WA, Dr. Ones F. Page, the company doctor for the Humbird Lumber Company, designed and built the current house in 1917. Constructed of local old growth larch with 'state of the art design', Dr. Page had his patient surgery in the room to the left of the front door. The home was frequently used to house overflow patients from the adjacent Page Hospital. With the family cow and chickens that were "kept out back," his family supplied fresh milk, cream and eggs to the hospital.

City of Sandpoint Hospital. This was known as the Page Hospital. Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 1427

10. 514 N. Second Ave. *Page Hospital*

Dr. Ones F. Page built the Page Hospital, in 1907 in the current location of Bonner General Health. The three-floor building with a full basement housed 27 patients and had steam heat throughout with sewage connection through a private line to the creek. Dr. Page offered annual insurance at $12 per patient that covered "hospitalization, surgery, medicine and medical treatment with no additional costs." Refurbished and renamed City Hospital in 1908 and without an elevator, patients were transported up the steep stairs on gurneys. The hospital was torn down in 1951 to make way for the new infirmary, purchased from Farragut Naval Station, which was shipped up the lake in sections on 14 barges.

Circa 1909. Courtesy BCHS, donated by Mrs. Hollin Farmin. 2021.002.015

11. 109 Cedar St. *Farmin Building* **

Built in two sections by brothers L.D. and Earl Farmin, the precast cement block building's first section was completed in 1909. Excavation of the building's foundation was halted as quicksand was uncovered and pilings were driven through the quicksand to bedrock below. Originally built as their offices it later housed a bank, telephone exchange, drug store, millinery shop and ladies' clothing store

Northern Pacific depot in Sandpoint with Cedar Street Bridge in foreground, circa 1920s. Courtesy BCHS, donated by Bud Dunn. 109.

12. 334 N. First Ave. *Cedar Street Bridge*

As early as 1893, there was a low footbridge spanning Sand Creek that connected the old part of town of Sand Point on the east side of Sand Creek to the new town on the west side of the creek. It was often washed out and needed constant repair. In 1906, L.D. Farmin built a wider "2 wagon width" bridge; thereby creating a safer bridge with better access to the train depot. The bridge was rebuilt in 1933 and again in the early 1980s when the current bridge opened as a public market. In the early years, Sand Creek was the summer camping and fishing area of the Kalispel tribe of Native Americans.

Courtesy BCHS, donated by Dora Pennington. 3454.

13. 329 N. First Ave. *Northern Idaho News* (right of photo)

The only timber framed two story structure in the Historic District, it began life in early 1904 and was originally covered with a brick veneer façade, now covered with stucco. The foundation had similar problems to the Farmin Building and also sits on pilings. Home to the *Northern Idaho News*, it housed a gasoline powered printing press. The second floor was occupied by Dr. Page, the local dentist whose office equipment is preserved at the local museum.

Circa 1960's.Courtesy BCHS.

14. 327 N. First Ave. *Traders Bank* **

Built in 1906, this two story building was purpose built as a bank and dry goods store. Ole (born October 1886 in Sandpoint) and his wife Hannah opened 'Jennestad's Good Clothing' store in 1900 at 317 First Avenue opposite the Panida Theater. Many of Ole's customers were loggers who couldn't always get to town, so Ole traveled to the logging camps with his horse-drawn wagon full of heavy wool working pants, flannel shirts and woolen socks to sell. In 1908, Ole partnered with his employee Chris Larson to open the Jennestad & Larson Clothiers located in this building. By 1940 the partnership had dissolved and Larson's Men's and Boys' Store occupied the site. Jennestad's also remained in business in a new location and Ole was tasked with the responsibility of outfitting 750 prisoners of war located at Farragut Naval Station with boots and socks.

Fourth of July Parade down 1st Ave, circa 1950. Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 3467

Star Meat Market, circa1906. Donated by Dora Pennington. 1983.057.001

15. 321-323 N. First Ave. *Travis and Hunt Buildings* **

These two buildings, built in 1906 costing $8,000 each, were identical in appearance until 1909 when the Hunt Building (323) was remodeled adding two more windows to the upper story and using cement block to contrast with the brick. D.E. Brown's Jewelry Store shared the ground floor space with Mieman's Royal Sweet Shop that by 1927 became the Peter Pan Tea Room and Fountain operated by Mrs. Patterson. The Travis Building's (321) ground floor housed the Star Meat Market which supplied fresh meat to logging and remote mining camps, while the second floor had a lodge hall that was later converted to a hotel and apartments.

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 2019.022.065

16. 319 N. First Ave. *Bigelow Building* **

Built in 1909 by P.E. Bigelow who financed the construction of the building bearing his name, the ground floor housed the Cranston Brothers Hardware store til the early 1930s.

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 9853

17. 307–311 N. First Ave. *Bernd Building* **

William August Bernd, born in Bernburg, Germany, arrived in Sandpoint in 1903. W.A. Bernd, 23 and unmarried, opened a dry goods store before commissioning the substantial two-story brick Bernd building in 1907. The second floor was a fourteen-bed hotel, while ground floor housed a dry goods store and grocery store. Circa 1913, Bernd married Sarah L. Hughes, they lived in the hotel. The building has a unique upper façade, decorated by eight evenly spaced round arched windows and accented by a raised band of repetitive arches. The building was placed on the NRHP in 1983.

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

18. 305 N. First Ave. *Sandpoint Drug Company* ** (center of photo)

Part of the Historic District, this 1905 building was designed by J.K. Dow for owner C. R. Ross, a pharmacist, who opened the Drug Store in March 1906. The upper story contains two pair of arched windows joined by a continuous concrete sill that terminates in an elaborate scroll at each end. A raised brick band accents the window arches and a cornice band of corbeled brick pendants tops the façade. The roofline, the only one in the district which is not horizontal, comes to a flattened peak.

Courtesy BCHS, donated by Ken Conger.

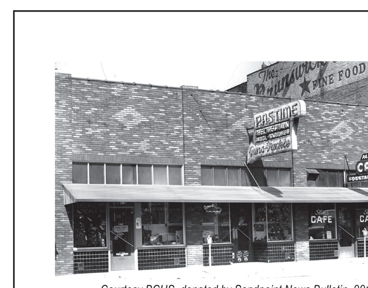
19. 223 N. First Ave. *Commercial Building* **

This building was originally the Saratoga Bar and opened for business in April 1907. In July 1908 B.F. Scoville rode, on a bicycle, across a tightwire that strung about 20' above the ground from the Saratoga to the pool hall across the street. It later housed a cigar shop, jewelry store, a barber shop, a grocery store, a doctor's office a café and a music store.

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 18710

20. 219 N. First Ave. *219 Lounge* **

A long-time tavern in Sandpoint, it was formerly known as The Diamond, and a diamond design can be seen on the front façade. A recent renovation uncovered murals inside, several that were painted by locally famed artist Gene Hayes. Hayes, a WWII veteran, lost his lower right arm and hand in a feed mill accident and transferred his painting skills to his left hand. He was Sandpoint's premier business sign painter and artist for many years.


Courtesy BCHS, donated by Sandpoint News Bulletin. 9917

21. 207 N. First Ave. *Pastime Sports Shop and Pastime Café*

This building complex has held many businesses over the years, including a notorious gambling hall, but was primarily known as the Pastime Sports Shop and the Pastime Café. The Pastime Café opened in 1941 and was a favorite meeting place for locals, being well-known for its horseshoe counter and strong black (camp) coffee.

Courtesy BCHS. Gem Theatre on First Avenue in Sandpoint. Donor Unknown, 10.0386

22. 202 N. First Ave. (right of photo)

Built as one of the many saloons in Sandpoint and operated by Bill Abbott until 1910 when Idaho went "dry," the building has had various occupants, including the Gem Theater. Used as a bakery for many years, it later became Sandpoint Saddlery, where cowboy boots were made and repaired. This building was destroyed by fire in January 2019 .

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 335

23. 101 N. First Ave. *Bonner Meat Company* **

Built in 1908 as the Bonner Meat Company, this was a central location for local farmers to supply bountiful amounts of livestock. Providing meat both locally and regionally, the company prided itself on being an upscale meat market. The two-story brick building cost $75,000 and was equipped with an elevator, modern refrigeration, huge marble counters and tiled floors and walls.

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 7374

24. 105 S. First Ave. *Fidelity Trust Building*

The brick Fidelity Trust Building, one of the first brick buildings in this section of town, was constructed between August and December of 1909. Originally to be built as a one story building to house the C.J. Shoemaker Real Estate and Abstract (Title) office, by September 1909 it was decided to add a 2nd story to be able to offer rental space to other businesses. The second floor offices were occupied by Attorney Allen Asher and the Tigglebeck Engineering Company. This is the home of a resident ghost that walks the upper floors and often passes the kitchen window. Could it be Asher or Tigglebeck?

Additional Sites (indicated on map in Green)

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 450

I. 450 Railroad Ave. *Train Depot* ** OO

The 1916 Northern Pacific Railroad Train Depot was built in Gothic style of local brick replacing the original 1882 wooden structure. It is the last surviving building of the original town of Sand Point. It is the only active Amtrak passenger station in Idaho. The depot is the recipient of the prestigious 2015 Orchid Award from Preservation Idaho for restoration and renovation.

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown. 9845

II. 602 N. Fourth Ave. *Nesbitt/Tanner House* ** OO

Built in 1906 by Dan Tanner, it was occupied by widow Amanda Nesbitt who purchased the home and ran it as a boarding house to support herself and her two sons. Amanda was quite significant in the life of Sandpoint as a card-carrying member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. She was well-known for her parrot that sang the Star Spangled Banner. The house is significant as the only Queen Anne style home with a tower left in Sandpoint. Renovated in 2012, the building was awarded the prestigious Orchid Award from Preservation Idaho 2015.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

III. 502 N. Fourth Ave. *Boarding House*

Originally built circa 1906, as a boarding house for Charles Melquist, the house later became known as Dr. Wagner's naturopathic practice. Extensively restored in 2002, the building's renovation revealed in a wall, the lost wallet of lovelorn Billy Hines that concealed a steamy love letter written to the lovely and beautiful Marlleyn. Perhaps Billy had cold feet and did not give her the letter, or perhaps she rebuffed Billy's declaration of undying love and returned the letter. The mystery remains as to why he still had the letter in his wallet.

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

IV. 417 N. Fourth Ave. *Presbyterian Church*

In 1904 Reverend Samuel Harris was the first Presbyterian pastor sent by the Spokane Presbytery to Sandpoint to support the small and active Presbyterian congregation and to build a church building. Reported to have cost $4,500, Rev. Harris spearheaded most of the planning and participated in much of the work and it was Rev. Harris who insisted on having the beautiful stained glass windows installed rather than the more commonly used cheaper milk glass windows.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

V. 301 Cedar St. *Williams Block* **

Constructed circa 1904, this building originally housed a dry goods store, drug and grocery store. By 1915 the upstairs had been converted to the St. James Hotel and Apartments, and the ground floor was home to a restaurant and confectionery. The building housed J.C. Penney from 1916 to 1923, when it became a furniture store in 1950 and remained so until renovations took place in 2014.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

VI. 401 Church St. *Olson House* **

In 1915 Charles and Mary Olson commissioned their Arts and Crafts bungalow to be designed and built by architect H.L. Mountjoy. In 1935 the Olsons sold the home to Mr. Vic Barber. Over the years, numerous families owned it. In 1999, Barber's grandson purchased the home and began an extensive restoration based on old photographs, returning the home to its original style and grandeur. The home was placed on the NRHP in 2001.

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

VII. 615 Oak St. *St. Joseph's Catholic Church* OO

Built in 1907, St. Joseph's Catholic Church was home to a burgeoning congregation and was in use until 2008. In 2014 the church was sold and remodeled to its current configuration. Awarded the prestigious Orchid Award in 2015 from Preservation Idaho, the building is currently used as an events center called the Heartwood Center.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

VIII. 602 S. Ella St. *Moran House*

This home was purchased from Sears & Roebuck in 1907 as a "Kit House" by P.H. Moran, the first Chief of Police of Sandpoint. The building materials were shipped by rail to Sandpoint. The original kit cost about $2,500, however the family incurred the additional costs of the cement block veneer installed by local craftsmen. The Moran family owned the land two blocks east and south of the home, which was planted with fruit trees. This "Kit House" was one of earlier Sears and Roebuck models prior to the publication of the catalog in 1908.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

IX. 611 S. Ella St. *Bonner County Museum*

Built in 1976 on what was the old Bonner County Fairgrounds, the building was dedicated in 1980. Former Idaho Governor Don Samuelson, a local resident and historian, spearheaded the construction of the building. The museum has many wonderful exhibits of the history of this area and is well worth a visit.

X. S. Division St. *Lakeview Cemetery* ++

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

The first cemetery, known as the Humbird Cemetery and later as Sandpoint Cemetery, was located on the west side of Sand Creek on a strip of donated forest land. In 1893 the J.D. Nesbitt family owned a small shingle mill and a boarding house that adjoined the cemetery. The Humbird Lumber Mill, the largest mill in the area, was expanding and in search of more land. They purchased the Nesbitt shingle mill, the boarding house and in addition acquired the cemetery land. A five-acre parcel of land was purchased by Humbird Lumber Mill on the west of town in which to re-locate and inter the bodies from the old cemetery. The Lakeview Cemetery was incorporated in 1903. Today, these five acres are known as the old part of Lakeview Cemetery; an additional four acres were purchased in 1929 completing the cemetery as seen today. A perpetual care cemetery that is still in use today, the cemetery currently numbers 2,200+ known graves and has a unique section known as "Little Lambs" dedicated to the children who died during the 1918-19 Spanish Flu epidemic, a GAR 1920 Civil War grave section, and is also home to many of the founding families of Sandpoint. The oldest burial on record is that of "BARTON, Father" who died in 1881 and was interred from the original Humbird Cemetery.

South Sandpoint Red Tour

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

A. 110 S. First Ave. *Moose Lodge*

Built in 1905, the original location was at the old town site on the east side of Sand Creek. It was moved across the creek to "Mill Town" and was a residence for many years. It also served as an induction center during WWII. The house was then moved to its current location and purchased by the Fraternal Order of the Moose until it was converted to a business.

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

B. 120 E. Lake St. *Power House* OO

The Northern Idaho and Montana Power Company power house was completed in 1910 for $200,000. This large building is constructed of brick, concrete and steel with 13 inch walls between the engine and boiler room. The 500 kilowatt, 670 horsepower Allis-Chalmers engine was fueled by wood and sawdust fed to the furnace by a conveyor belt from a nearby shingle mill. The Power House furnished power to Sandpoint and surrounding areas for many years. The building was awarded the Orchid Award from Preservation Idaho in 1990.

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

C. 215 S. First Ave. *Courthouse*

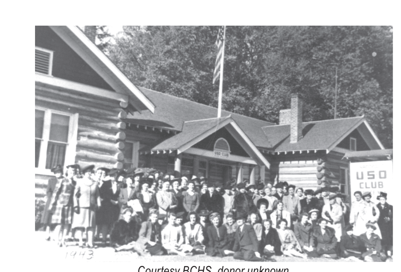
The County of Bonner was created in 1907 necessitating a courthouse. Commissioned by Ignatz and Irene Weil on property they owned, the building was rented to the County. In 1908 the County decided to purchase both the building and property. Extensively renovated in the 1970s the only remaining visible detail from the original design is the white brick trim.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

D. 202 S. First Ave. *Johnson House*

Built in the early 1900s by attorney Peter Johnson and his wife Bertha, the front of the building was used as his law office and the rear of the building was their residence. After Peter died, Bertha would sit in the front office window with binoculars targeted towards the Bonner County Court House across the street, watching courthouse proceedings through the large front courthouse windows.


Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

E. 200 S. First Ave. *Community Hall* **

Construction began in 1935, originally to house the Boy Scouts and youth activities during the winter months. This log building was built of native peeled 13" tamarack logs, milled and donated by the Humbird Lumber Company. Due to lack of county funds and labor the Works Progress Administration (WPA) continued and completed the construction in 1936. In 1942 the Y.M.C.A. leased the Hall from the city for $1 a year for use as a U.S.O. club and later added the south wing. Regularly scheduled buses brought military personnel from Farragut Naval Station (300,000 sailors) from 1942 to 1946 during WWII. In October 1953 the Bonner County Museum opened its doors in the small basement of the Community Hall with access on the south side.

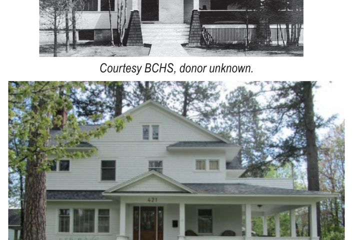
Courtesy City of Sandpoint

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

F. 227 S. First Ave. *Ignatz Weil/McFarland House* ## OO

The first person of record to reside where the McFarland house sits today was an 'old timer' by the name of Jack Waters. In 1892, an article ran in the *Pend d'Oreille News of Sand Point* regarding the death of Jack Waters who was accidentally shot in the arm while passing the Sandpoint Slaughterhouse. Frank Hull, who was employed by the slaughter house was killing a beef when the bullet ricocheted and hit Waters in the arm. Drs. Dutton and Harvey were called to attend Waters with both doctors recommending the arm be amputated. Waters was transported by train to Spokane where the arm was amputated but Waters later died. Mr. Waters, an elderly (50) unmarried man, had left no will or heirs. He owned 160 acres of land including a homestead in the area called Whistletown. Local lawyer Ignatz Weil settled Waters' affairs and took possession of the 160 acres and homestead as payment for "services rendered." Later Weil built "Sandpoint's finest house in town" where the family lived for many years. Poor investments resulted in the sale of the house to L.D. McFarland, lumber mill owner. A garage was added to the home in the late 1970s; however, the house remains almost as built, including the wrought iron rail fence and gate surrounding the property. The house was awarded the Orchid Award from Preservation Idaho in 1990.

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.


Courtesy City of Sandpoint

G. 421 S. First Ave. *Catlin House*

Frank Eugene Catlin, a banker who served in the Civil War and younger brother of renowned artist George Catlin, built the home in 1905. During the 1930s, the home became the Graham Hospital and during the 1940s was used as a boarding house for the wives of men stationed at Farragut Naval Station. During the 1930s the grand porch was totally enclosed. However, with the recent renovation the porch has been re-opened to display its original design. Members of the Catlin Family have resided in Sandpoint throughout the years. A book written by Marjorie Catlin Roehm, granddaughter of F.E. Catlin, titled *The Letters of George Catlin and his family - A Chronicle of the American West* illustrates many aspects of life in the newly burgeoning small towns of the Wild West.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

H. 509 S. First Ave.*Tudor Revival*

This Tudor revival home was a common architectural style in the 1920s and '30s. A front entry porch spans the width of the façade which is sheltered by the overhang of the roof. The stucco exterior, leaded glass windows and timber elements are indicative of the Tudor style.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

I. 412 S. Second Ave. *Selle House*

In 1908, Charles Selle, owner of many acres of timber and supplier to the Humbird Lumber Company, built the home as a Christmas present for his wife. However, the home was barely lived in. Mrs. Selle missed being out in the country and living in their log cabin in the Matchwood area (later the Selle Valley). The family moved back to the farm and used the town house for parties. The original carriage house is still standing in the back, although it leans precariously.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

J. 421 Michigan *Spanish Style Bungalow*

Built in 1920, the home features an arched tiled entryway with a recessed door. The stucco walls are in varied contrast to the many wood siding homes in town.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

K. 428 Huron *Popular Design*

Built circa 1900, diamond paned windows and a bay window highlight this home. An integral recessed porch invites you to enter the home. It has had some additions over the years, but is a very good example of a home with original characteristics for this time period in Sandpoint.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

L. 511 Huron *Dell Brown House*

A Dutch Colonial, this home is known as the Dell Brown house and was built between 1915 to 1921 when Erie Street was closed and replaced with residential lots. The bay windows and hip roof extension are both original features. This style's characteristics include the gambrel roof and gable end chimney.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

M. 514 Euclid St. *Popular Design*

This dwelling is a fine example of early twentieth century homes in Sandpoint featuring leaded windows and a triangular upper window.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

N. 504 Euclid St. *Queen Anne*

A turn of the century dwelling stands proudly at this location. The high style of the Queen Anne roofline, along with decorative windows and wrap around porch, are highlights of this grand historic home.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

O. 502 Euclid St. *Foursquare Design*

This classic Foursquare Design has its original motif. With original fir and tamarack flooring, crown molding, doors and hardware, and leaded windows, it has been restored without losing the integrity of this classic home. This home was the first to be built in 1908 in the newly platted South Sandpoint.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

P. 436 Euclid St. *S.M. Moore House*

This Dutch Colonial Revival was built in 1908 for Samuel and Mary Moore. In 1911 Samuel and his son Don C.D. Moore purchased the Northern Idaho News where Don was manager for many years. The Moore family were very civic minded and served the community of Sandpoint in various ways, from electoral positions including Samuel as City Clerk and Don as Sandpoint Mayor; to daughter Alice Stidwell's son Charles, who became the school principal for whom Stidwell Elementary is named.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

Q. 428 Euclid St. *Craftsman Style Bungalow*

This home was built in 1912, and is a fine example of an intact Craftsman style bungalow, including heavy knee braces, visible rafter tails, and flared porch columns.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

R.102 Euclid Ave. *Sandpoint High School* ** OO

Built in 1923 the first graduating class consisted of 36 students while the last graduating class in 1953 was 118 students. Used in turn as a high school, junior high and ninth grade center, the school was condemned and closed in 1986. The building was unique in having a 2nd floor open mezzanine running track and still has the 3rd floor auditorium and performing stage. It was the 2014 recipient of the prestigious Orchid Award from Preservation Idaho for restoration and renovation. The locally known "Ninth Grade Center" or "Old High School" is currently being used as private offices.

Courtesy City of Sandpoint

S. 101 Euclid Ave. *First Baptist Church*

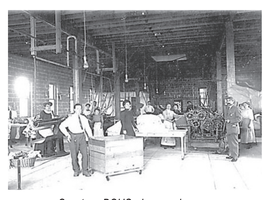
Incorporated in 1905, the First Baptist Church congregation met in various local halls in town until their new church building was dedicated on August 14, 1910. The original architect was the first pastor, the Rev. R.W. King, with help from his congregation. Wood from another structure on the lot was used to construct the church. Since the early 1980s the building has housed Sandpoint Head Start.

T. 102 S. Second Ave. *Lenox Pool Hall and Hotel*

Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

The two-story brick building was built in 1909 as a hotel and pool hall. In 1920, the pool hall became the Economy Grocery offering fresh butchered meats, farm produce and merchandise and lasted until the mid-1970s. Local wildlife artist Ward Tollbom's part time job was to help his father Stewart Tollbom, the butcher, wrap customers' meat purchases whereupon Ward would embellish the plain brown paper with hand-drawn ducks, birds or plants. Now named the Hotel Elliott, upstairs rooms are still available for rent.

U. 125 S. Second Ave. *Lakeside Laundry/Pend Oreille Cheese Factory*


Courtesy BCHS, donor unknown.

Built in 1908, the Lakeside Laundry was operated by W.J. Davis and his wife Martha. This commercial laundry catered to hotels and boarding houses and the Pullman trains arriving in Sandpoint. Built of concrete block to simulate stone, it was gutted by fire in 1949. The Pend Oreille Cheese Factory, a family business founded by Bill Beyer in 1961, relocated into the building in 1965, completely remodeling and considerably enlarging it. A July 8, 1965 article in the *Sandpoint News-Bulletin* lauded the cheese factory as "a dream of dairymen, chamber of commerce committees and county agents for many years." Some of the neighbors weren't as pleased and complained to the City Council about "blocking of the alley by large milk trucks, diesel trucks running at all hours, employee language and blaring radios." (*Daily Bee* Sept. 15, 1966). Beyer promised to put an end to the radios and loud talking, while the city established a loading zone on Lake Street north of the factory, so the alley would not have to be used.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF LAKE PEND OREILLE & CITY BEACH

The Ice Age of more than 12,000 years ago transformed Sandpoint's landscape by molding its mountainous topography and carving out Idaho's largest and deepest lake, Pend d'Oreille. It is believed that the eastern side of the lake was in the path of the ancient Missoula Floods. The lake sits at the south end of the Purcell Trench, carved by glaciers moving south from Canada. The eastern side of the glacier is believed to have formed the dam for the Missoula floods, at the point where the Clark Fork river enters the lake between the Cabinet and Bitterroot mountains. The lake is made slightly larger by the dam at Albeni Falls, just east of Oldtown; the dam is ninety feet (27 m) high and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Along with Crater Lake, Lake Tahoe, Lake Chelan, and Lake Superior, Lake Pend Oreille is among the five deepest lakes in the United States.

Lake Pend d'Oreille was long the scene for local Native Americans — the Lower Kalispel or the Pend d'Oreille, the Kootenai, and the Coeur d'Alenes, among others — who came to the lake shores for fishing, hunting and social gatherings.

As early as 1915, there was an idea to create a city bathing beach in the current location of City Beach. In December of 1922, the city closed a deal with the Union Pacific Railroad for lakefront property for a city park and lake.

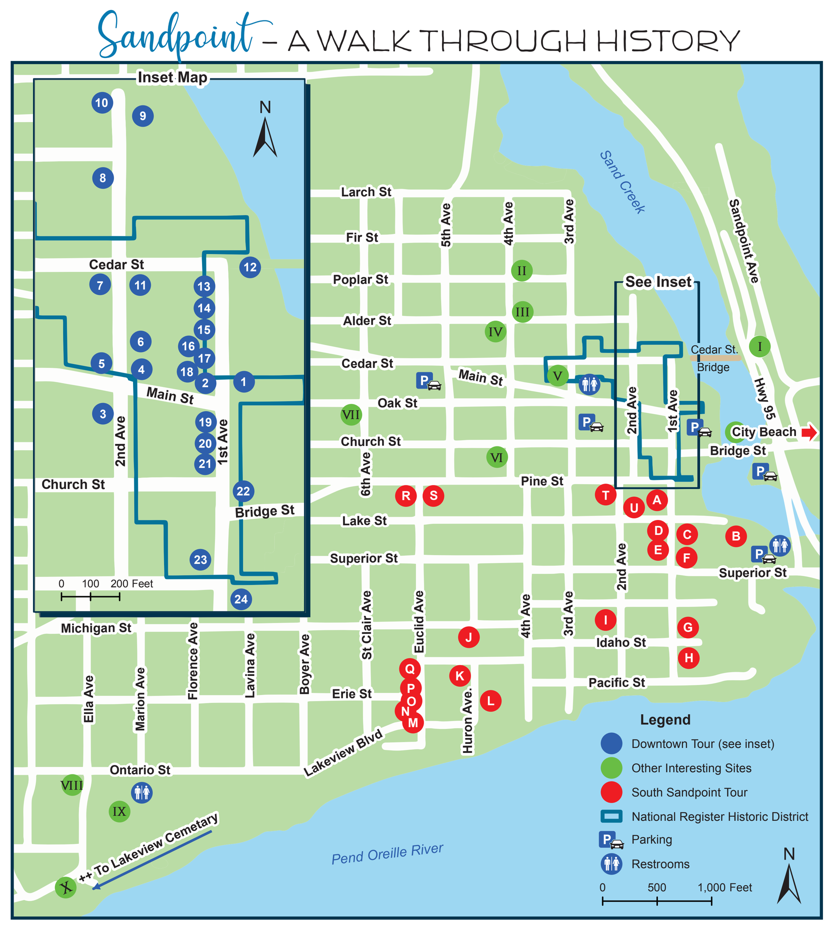
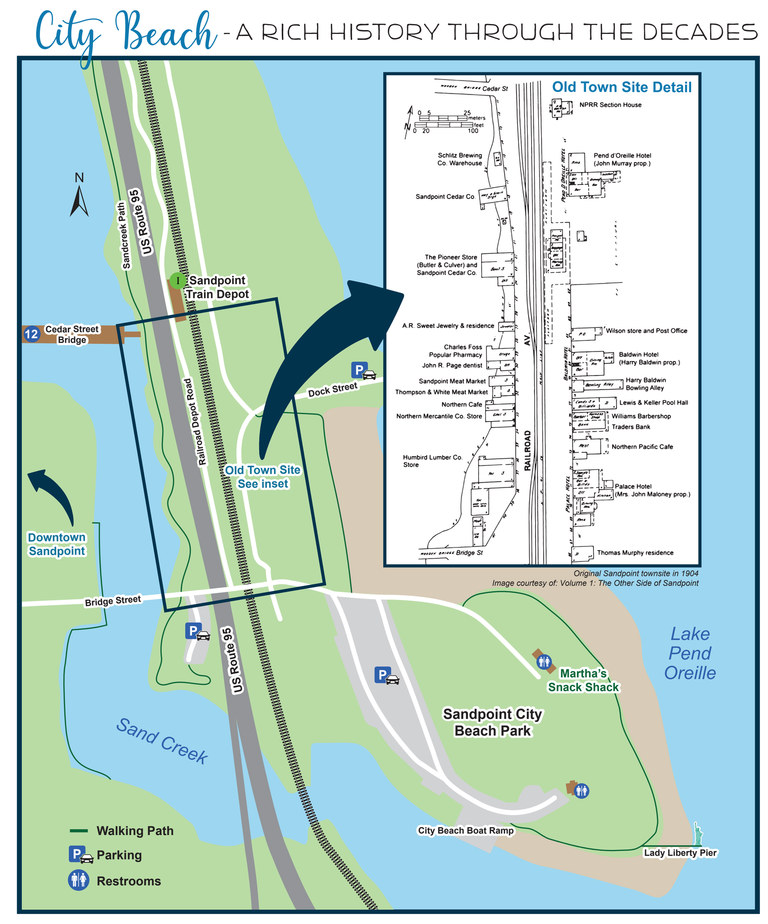
In 1939, a plan to dredge Lake Pend Oreille to create City Beach was formulated. The idea was to fill the park above water level by pumping sand from the bottom of the lake then the land would be graded and the Sand Creek outlet would be diverted away from the beach. Additional new improvements would be a boat harbor, bench-park, shaded parking, a formal garden with fountain, new bath house and outdoor fireplace to add comfort for night bathing.

The winter of 1947 brought a lot of snow which led to the worst flood on record. The flood destroyed most of the work that had been done on the beach. The city now had to re-build and repair the beach. The reconstruction raised the land level of the beach five feet over the high water mark. In 1951, The Albeni Dam and Cabinet George Dams were built to help with flooding and provide power.

In 1953, the Lions Club charted and launched a program to improve City Beach. Due to their efforts a new slide was installed, wings were added to the baseball backstop, concrete slabs were poured for tennis courts. From 1970 into the 80's the city worked on funding plans to successfully run City Beach. Programs and grants were established.

On May 20, 1988, the City Beach basketball courts were opened. In 1989, a bicycle and pedestrian path around the entire perimeter of the beach was created. These are just a few highlights of events that helped to form City Beach as we see it today. See back page for map.

Sandpoint – A WALK THROUGH HISTORY



City Beach - A RICH HISTORY THROUGH THE DECADES