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INVENTORY SHEET FOR GROUP NOMINATIONS: IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOISE, IDAHO

NOMINATION: Idaho Falls Downtown multiple resource area
(partial inventory: architecture)

SITE NAME: Bonneville Hotel SITE NUMBER: 2

LOCATION: 400 block West C Street

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Wong and Clayton Yee, Inc.
410 C Street
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Idaho Falls South, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Bonneville Hotel and the property on which it stands, lots 11 through and including 18, block 14, Holmes Addition, Idaho Falls.

UTM(S): 12/416020/4816060

DATE OR PERIOD: 1927, 1951 alterations ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: unknown

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

CONDITION: good, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

The Bonneville Hotel is a five-story brick veneered hotel building with sections of red tiled mansard roof. The pale to dark burnt red brick is laid in common bond. The building is rectangular with an inset section above the first floor on the south facade. There is a denticulated cornice above three floors of six-over-one double-hung sash windows, and beneath those a second story of one-over-one double-hung sash round-arched windows, a denticulated and molded band of stone or concrete, and then a lower story of storefronts, most of them altered. On the south exposure, some round-arched and square openings are extant. On the second and fourth stories are balconettes surrounded by low relief sculpture and outset brick. The south facade has eleven bays and the east has ten. Walls extend above the mansard on the east and at the southeast and southwest corners to form tower-like massings. Upper stories appear to be intact except for the eastermost windows on the fourth and fifth floors, which have been single glazed.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Hotel Bonneville is a visual as well as economic landmark in the business district of Idaho Falls. The original building, dating from 1927, was seen by people of the time as an important element in the architectural character of the city. It is an excellent example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style, a style that is rare in Idaho Falls. The Salt Lake Tribune printed the following in a description of Idaho Falls in January of 1937:

> Focus a camera . . . and you glimpse in the lens a group of structures that form a city mall of imposing architectural wealth. The Bonneville county courthouse, L. D. S. hospital, the structurally beautiful Bonneville Hotel, a modernized U.S. postoffice, and many fine business buildings.

In order to be able to meet the needs of city growth, the hotel was remodeled in 1951. A compatible five-story addition was made to the rear of the building and the interior was also updated. Two new commercial spaces were installed on the ground floor. The entire structure was fireproofed.

The hotel is one of three eligible hotels along C Street between the railroad depot and the county courthouse. It represents a conscious effort to provide a luxury hotel for city visitors in a period when Idaho Falls was undergoing rapid growth.

FINE FOOD
Bonneville
Bonneville Restaurant
Bonneville
BON NEVILLE Lounge
EXOTIC
DRINKS
DO NOT
ENTER

Bonneville Hotel (historic name)
Site 2, Idaho Falls Downtown multiple resource area
400 block of West C Street
Idaho Falls, Bonneville County, Idaho

photograph by Jennifer Eastman Attebery

6 April 1983

Negative on file at Idaho State Historical Society

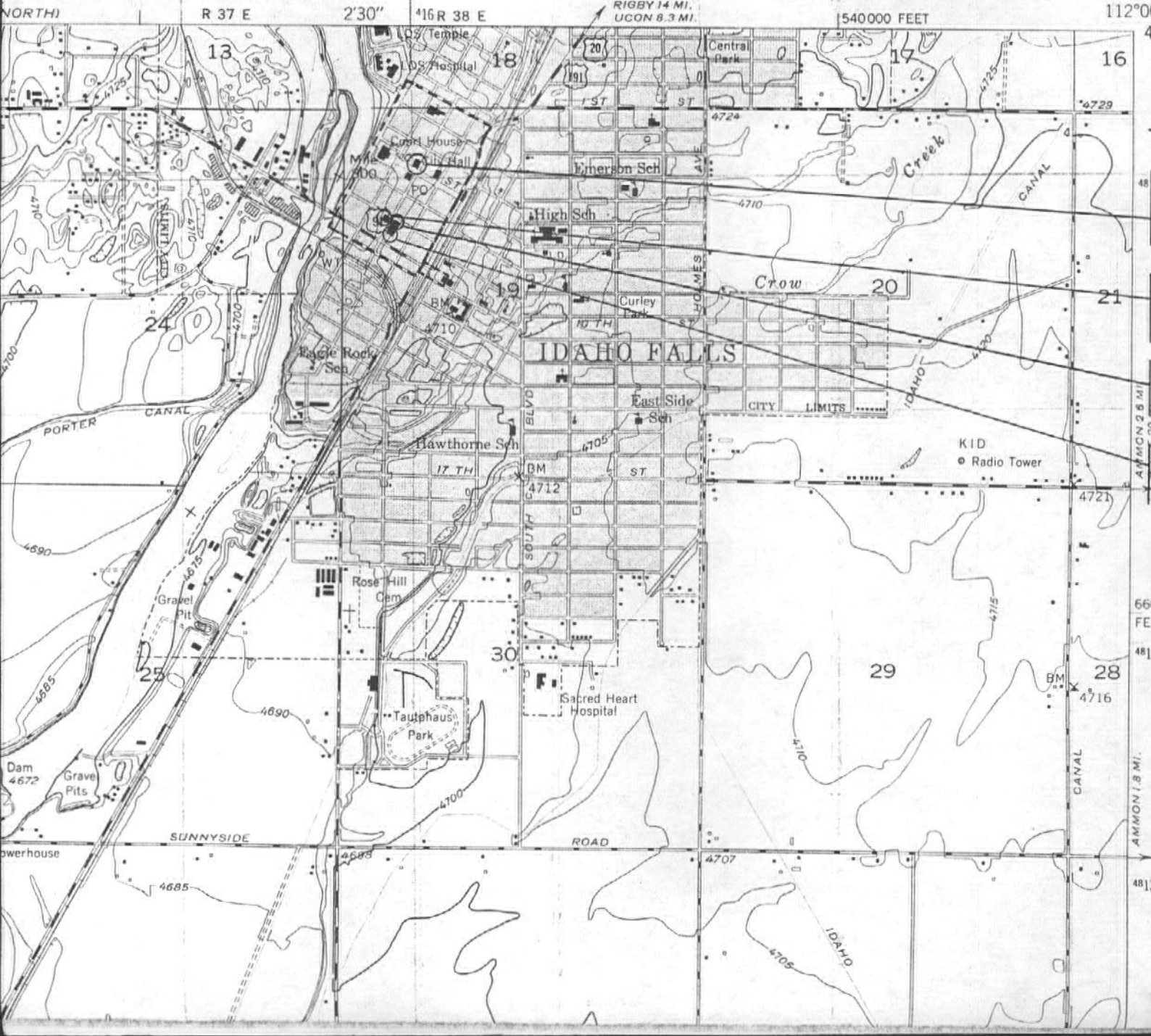
view from south

Photograph one of one

TATES
F THE ARMY
GINEERS

IDAHO FALLS SOUTH QUADRANGLE
IDAHO
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

3671 III SW
(UCON)



IDAHO FALLS DOWNTOWN...
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO

#2 BONNEVILLE HOTEL
12/416020/4816060

#13 IOOF BUILDING
12/415885/4815825

#12 HASBROUCK BLDG.
12/415915/4815820

#11 INKLEY'S (common name)
12/415910/4815770

----- Boundary