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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: Douglas-Farr Building SITE NUMBER: 7

LOCATION: 493 North ~~Capital~~ B Avenue & 456 No. Capital Ave.

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Sterrell Earl Douglas
P.O. Box 307
Idaho Falls, ID 83402
493 No. B Ave.

Aden Hyde
c/o Shirley H. McCracken
3502 North 30th
Tacoma, WA 98407

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Douglas-Farr Building and the property on which it stands, lot 6, block 22, Railroad Addition, Idaho Falls.

UTM(S): 12/415880/4815960

DATE OR PERIOD: between 1911 and 1921 ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: unknown

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

CONDITION: good, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

The Douglas-Farr Bulding is a one-story brick structure, the brick being laid in common bond with a header course every seventh row. The brick has been painted a cream color over the original brick red. The building probably was not originally painted. A stepped corbel table forms a denticulated cornice. There are five storefonts along the west facade, some with standard rectangular glass plate and slanted entryways, some with segmentally arched windows. The single-paned glazing of some openings may be an alteration. Wooden doors, paneling, and trim around the storefronts are original or early. Mezzanine lights on two storefronts are boarded over. There is a diagonal entry at the northwest corner with an early signboard above. On the north facade, a segmentally arched opening has been bricked and replaced with a garage door. The north storefront has been reglazed. The party wall with the now demolished building to the east is still extant and attached to the building.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The only one-story building in the multiple resource area nomination, the Douglas-Farr Building is architecturally significant as the area's only remaining unaltered example of the one-story commercial buildings of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century period. Simple, one-story brick commercial buildings were once common as part of the Idaho Falls downtown streetscape. This building is a late example that draws on the Rennaissance Revival for its brick corbelling and its segmentally arched windows. Built between 1911 and 1921, the building first housed Anthony F. Douglas' auto repair shop and the Farr Candy Company. Such industrial uses typically were scattered throughout the downtown areas of Idaho towns during their first decades and gradually became more confined to specific areas. Capital Avenue in Idaho Falls, where the Douglas-Farr Building is located, is one such area. During the 1930's and 1940's, the southern portion of the building was used to publish a regional weekly paper called The Eastern Idaho Farmer. The publisher was Aden Hyde, and his partner was Henry Dworshak, then a U.S. Representative and later a U.S. Senator.

Park 'n Shop

Douglas-Farr Building
Site 7, Idaho Falls Downtown multiple resource area
493 North Capital Avenue
Idaho Falls, Bonneville County, Idaho

photograph by Jennifer Eastman Attebery

6 April 1983

Negative on file at Idaho State Historical Society

view from north

Photograph one of two

FIRST
FEDERAL
SAVINGS
PARTS
The Fire
BOX
THE FIREBOX
The Fire
BOX
PONTIAC

Douglas-Farr Building
Site 7, Idaho Falls Downtown multiple resource area
493 North Capital Avenue
Idaho Falls, Bonneville County, Idaho

photograph by Jennifer Eastman Attebery

6 April 1983

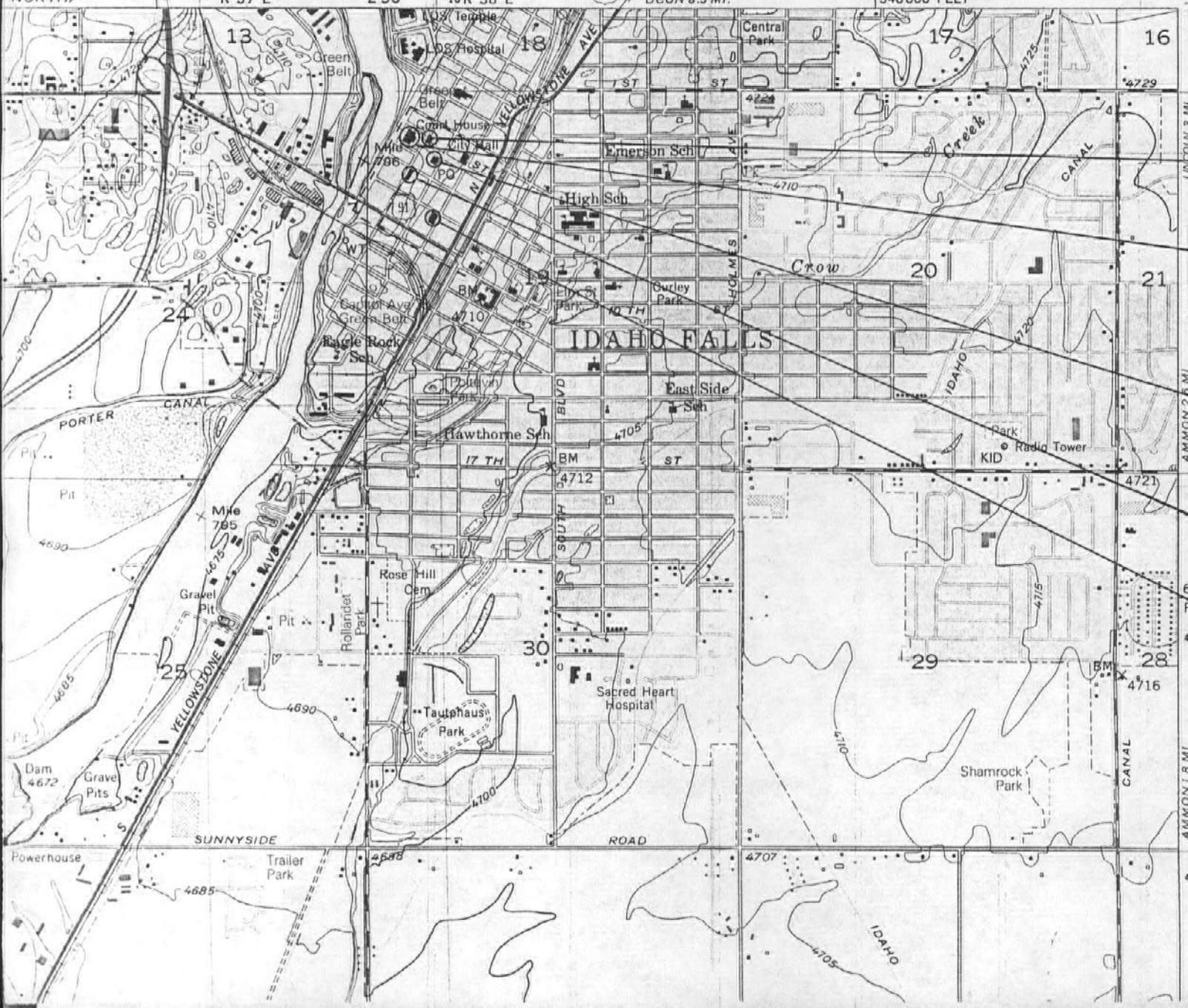
Negative on file at Idaho State Historical Society

view from southwest

Photograph two of two

STATES
F THE ARMY
NGINEERS

IDAHO FALLS SOUTH QUADRANGLE
IDAHO
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



IDAHO FALLS DOWNTOWN...
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO

3 HOTEL IDAHO
12/415965/4816100

A BONNEVILLE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
12/415880/4816120

B IDAHO FALLS FEDERAL BLDG.
12/415990/4816020

7 DOUGLAS BUILDING/ HYDE BUILDING
12/415880/4815960

10 SHANE BUILDING
12/415980/4815780