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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: Idaho Falls Public Library

SITE NUMBER: 8

LOCATION: Elm and Eastern streets

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

City of Idaho Falls
P.O. Box 220
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Idaho Falls Public Library and the property on which it stands, lots 5 and 6, block 23, Idaho Falls Original Townsite.

UTM(S): 12/416130/4815570

DATE OR PERIOD: 1916, 1938-1940

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: Wayland and
Fennell

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: state

CONDITION: good, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

The Idaho Falls Public Library is a one-story red brick building with a raised basement story. The current facade is a tripartite symmetrical composition with a central projecting entrance pavilion. This entryway is a 1938-1940 addition to the original building. The remaining sections of the facade are two bays each, separated by brick piers. Each bay contains metal sash window of twelve panels with two operational lights in each unit. Above each window unit is a flat brick relieving arch with a projecting, scrolled terra cotta keystone. These metal windows are also a 1938-1940 modification of the original structure. Other changes include enlargement of the basement windows, an addition to the rear of the building, and an outset side entrance to the lower level. The original character of the building, with a classical entrance flanked by large Doric columns and windows with heavy wood mullions separating a central window from smaller side lights, was changed somewhat with the 1938-1940 remodeling. The new entrance piece has double metal doors recessed between large brick piers. The terra cotta decoration of floral, leaf, and egg and dart motifs and the thin rope-like columns are suggestive of the Art Deco style of the period of the remodeling. These motifs are repeated on the new side entrance. A metal cornice and brick parapet extend along the entire circumference of the structure.