

Reconnaissance Survey for Potential Expansion of the Lewiston Historic District

City of Lewiston, Nez Perce County, Idaho



AHA! Project 2016-007

December 2016

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AHA!

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Abstract

The City of Lewiston was awarded a Certified Local Government (CLG) grant by the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office for reconnaissance level survey of 78 buildings within the downtown commercial core, in anticipation of expanding the existing Lewiston Historic District. The survey area, a portion of Section 31, T. 36 N., R. 5 W. and Section 36, T. 36 N., R. 6 W., B.M., is bounded by 5th and 6th Streets on the west, Beachey Street and the railroad tracks on the north, 9th Street on the east, and the base of the bluff on the south, lands totaling approximately 36 acres. The City of Lewiston contracted with Architectural History & Archaeology! LLC (AHA!) to conduct the survey and report the results; since the inventory was a reconnaissance level effort, limited historical research was included in the scope of work. During the fieldwork, conducted in August and September of 2016, 72 historical properties were recorded and six buildings were determined to be of modern construction. Most historical properties within the survey area are commercial buildings, either party wall or freestanding structures, while a few at the southern margin of the project are single- or multiple-family residences. Most historical properties within the Survey Area were built between 1900 and 1930, although a few date to the 1880s and 1890s or the 1930s through the 1960s. Although most of the buildings have been altered through replacement of doors, windows and other fabric and stylistic updates of the storefronts, nearly all remain recognizable as historical structures. Relatively little modern infill has occurred in the area. The 72 properties were added to the Idaho Historic Sites Inventory database and evaluated for National Register of Historic Places eligibility under Criterion A, for their historical association with local community development and commerce, and under Criterion C, for their architectural merit. Although only 13 properties were recommended individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, 56 qualify as contributing elements in an expanded Lewiston Historic District.

CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS

I certify that this investigation was conducted and documented according to Secretary of Interior's Standards and guidelines and that the report is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.



Signature of Ann Sharley, M.A., Senior Architectural
Historian, Principle Investigator

December 26, 2016

Date



Signature of Fran Hamilton, M.A., Senior Archaeologist

December 26, 2016

Date

Cover photo: Overview of the survey area: Main Street at the western project boundary. View to the southeast.

Key Information

PROJECT NAME

Reconnaissance Survey for Potential Expansion of the Lewiston Historic District, City of Lewiston,
Nez Perce County, Idaho

PROJECT NUMBER(S)

AHA! Project 2016-007

LOCATION

City of Lewiston, Nez Perce County

USGS QUADS

Clarkston, Wash.-Idaho, 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey

LEGAL LOCATION OF SURVEY

Section 31, Township 36 North, Range 5 West and Section 36, Township 36 North, Range 6 West,
Boise Meridian

PROJECT AREA

36 Acres

AREA SURVEYED

0 Acres Intensive Survey

36 Acres Reconnaissance Built Environment Survey

PROJECT DATA

72 Built environment cultural resources recorded, some of which had previously been assigned
SHPO site numbers

AUTHORS

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AGENCY

City of Lewiston

REPORT PREPARED FOR

City of Lewiston

REPOSITORY

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DATE

12/26/2016

CONTENTS

Abstract	i
CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS	i
Key Information	
Project Description	1
Project Area	1
Regulatory Context	1
Environmental Setting	4
Cultural Setting	4
Pre-Field Research	7
Previous Cultural Resources Studies	8
Research	8
Field Methodology	8
Results	9
Summary of Results	9
Evaluation of Historical Significance	12
Architectural Styles	12
Conclusions and Recommendations	22
References Consulted	23
Appendix A: Survey Area Buildings	27
Appendix B: Architectural Styles List	37
Appendix C: Architectural Descriptions and Other Information – IHSI Forms	39

Project Description

The City of Lewiston was awarded a Certified Local Government (CLG) grant by the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office for reconnaissance level built environment survey of 78 buildings within the downtown commercial core. This project is the preliminary data collection effort for proposed expansion of the existing Lewiston Historic District. The City contracted these reconnaissance investigations to Architectural History & Archaeology! LLC (AHA!) of Spokane Valley. All phases of the project were conducted by the Principal Investigator, AHA!'s Senior Architectural Historian/Archaeologist Ann Sharley, M.A., a professional who meets and exceeds the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Architectural History as detailed in 36 CFR 61. AHA! Senior Archaeologist Fran Hamilton assisted with research and editing of the final documents. This report provides a summary of the survey, including descriptions of project methodology, results, and historic preservation recommendations.

Project Area

The survey area, a portion of Section 31, T. 36 N., R. 5 W. and Section 36, T. 36 N., R. 6 W., B.M., is bounded by 5th and 6th Streets on the west, Beachey Street and the railroad tracks on the north, 9th Street on the east, and the base of the bluff on the south (Figures 1 and 2). The project comprises portions of the City of Lewiston Addition, Swanson Addition, LeFrancois Tract, and the Subdivision of Lot 13 Block 30 Addition, lands totaling approximately 36 acres. This area is immediately east of the oldest section of the city and represents one of the earlier phases of Lewiston's urban expansion.

Regulatory Context

The project was funded with federal monies from the National Park Service, disbursed by the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) as a Certified Local Government (CLG) grant. Because of the funding source and oversight, this project was conducted in compliance with the SHPO's survey and reporting directives (State Historic Preservation Office [SHPO] 2005, 2015), which are based on guidelines in the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended (36CFR800.1, 36CFR800.16).

The NHPA defines historic properties as those listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), resources that may include buildings, historical objects, archaeological sites, and places of traditional cultural value. Properties eligible for listing in the NRHP must generally be 50 or more years of age, possess physical integrity, and meet at least one of four criteria of historic significance (National Park Service 1997:2). These criteria designate as significant those resources:

- Criterion A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- Criterion B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- Criterion C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- Criterion D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

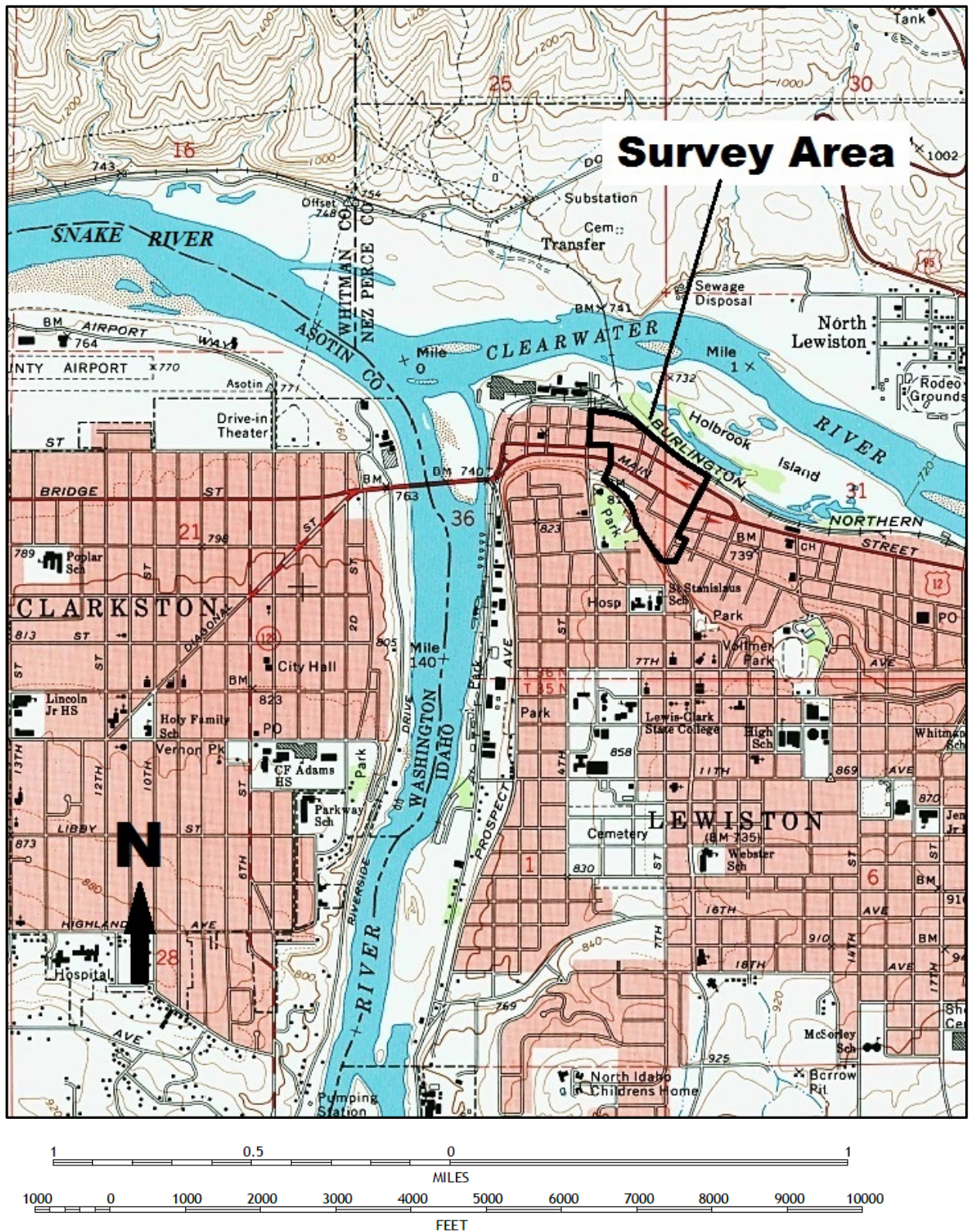


Figure 1. Project location (adapted from Clarkston, Wash.-Idaho 7.5-minute USGS, 1971).



Figure 2. Survey Area, showing building numbers assigned during the project; buildings 34, 48, 56, 67, 70, and 72 are modern (adapted from Google Earth aerial photograph, 2015 image).

Environmental Setting

The City of Lewiston is situated at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater rivers in northern Idaho (Figure 3). This was the head of navigation in the early 1860s, the furthest point that could be reached by commercial vessels traveling up the Columbia and Snake river systems. As the town grew, it expanded east along the riverside flats, constrained by the rivers to the north and west and by the steep bluffs to the south. Today the rivers are controlled by downstream dams and high levees prevent the disastrous floods that frequently inundated early Lewiston (Alford 2014:39-41). Modern bridges provide easy passage across the rivers and highways connect the City of Lewiston with other regional population centers.



Figure 3. The City of Lewiston at the confluence of the Clearwater River, left, and Snake River, upper and right; view to the southwest.

Cultural Setting

The City of Lewiston had its beginnings in 1861 as a ramshackle transit and supply camp for the newly-discovered gold fields of the upper Clearwater River region. The Oregon Steam Navigation Company, recognizing the financial possibilities associated with the gold strikes, hastily diverted one of its Portland steamships to explore a route into the mining country. Local entrepreneurs also recognized the opportunity and the boat carried a full load of merchants and supplies. The crew carefully made their way up the rushing Snake River to the mouth of the Clearwater, then slowly threaded their way through the Clearwater's rapids and cascades until, at the Big Eddy 30 miles above present Lewiston, they could go no further. The traders offloaded their merchandise and set about building a supply station. During subsequent steamboat runs, however, it became apparent that the Clearwater was too treacherous for regular travel, and the Big Eddy merchants moved their camp to the riverside flats at the Clearwater-

Snake confluence. The area was already in use by local Nez Perce people, a fact that did not stop the newcomers (Branting 2013:11; 2014b:115, 116; 2015:17; Henderson et al. 1903:19, 21; Simon-Smolinski 1984:6, 7).

The tiny settlement soon came to be known as Lewiston, apparently named for Meriwether Lewis whose Corps of Discovery had paddled past the point in 1804 en route to the Pacific Ocean (Boone 1988:223, 224; Branting 2013:10; 2015:17; Rees 1918:89). The camp grew rapidly as word of the gold strikes spread and prospectors poured into the region. Stores and hotels went up but the town continued to have an impermanent look—architecture was flimsy and most buildings were sheltered by canvas roofs. The nature of the construction was mandated by law—Lewiston was within the boundaries of the Nez Perce Indian Reservation, as established by the Treaty of 1855; Euro-Americans were not supposed to be there and permanent Euro-American construction was expressly forbidden (Alford 2014: 3, 4; Branting 2013:10-14; Doermer et al. 2011:3).

For a short time, Lewiston became the largest city in the Pacific Northwest (Alford 2014:3; Branting 2013:11). As the town grew, residents organized and began to agitate for land ownership rights, and permanent buildings became increasingly common. Indian Agents and other federal government officials resisted this movement, but in time public pressure had the desired effect. In 1863 the Nez Perce Tribe, under government coercion, signed a treaty reducing the size of their reservation and leaving the town of Lewiston outside the reservation boundaries (Figure 4) (Bradbury 2014:83; Branting 2013:13, 14, 17; 2014b:101).

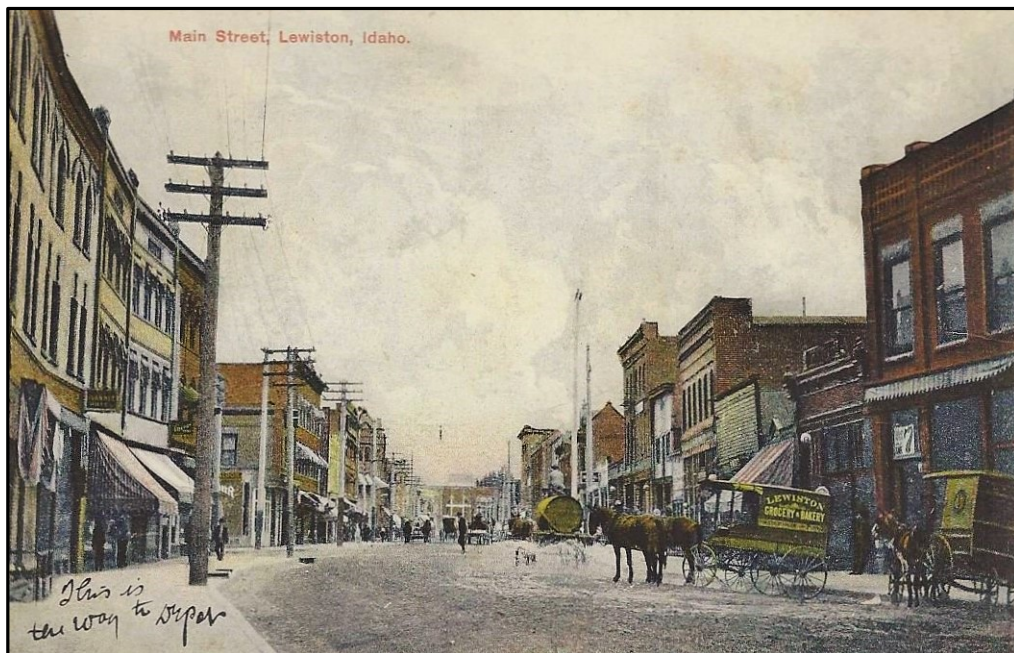


Figure 4. Ca. 1900 view of Lewiston's Main Street, probably west of the present project (post card courtesy of Ann Sharley collection).

Following the return of Lewiston and surrounding lands to the public domain, the federal government conducted cadastral surveys. In 1870 the present project was at the eastern edge of town: during the

surveys the town of Lewiston was noted, extending into the western portion of the project, and two fenced agricultural fields separated by an east-west road were observed in the eastern portion (General Land Office 1870a, 1870b, 1871a, 1871b). Around this time, the town filed a townsite application under the Townsite Act of May 23 1844. Lewiston paid the federal government the required per-acre fee, and patent to the 561.21 acre (nearly one square mile) townsite was issued on April 10, 1875 to Dr. Henry W. Stainton, a local physician and the town mayor (Branting 2013:15-17; Bureau of Land Management 2016a, 2016b). Developed areas near the confluence were subsequently platted, and as the town expanded to the east, additional plats were filed. From the town's earliest days the terrace above the town—now called Normal Hill—was used as a cemetery and at some point this area was also platted (Branting 2014a:85, 95). Initially residences were mixed with commercial buildings in the downtown area but, as time went on, wealthier individuals built their homes along Snake River Avenue, bordering the Snake River to the south (Doermer et al. 2011:35, 36).

Completion of 5th Street from downtown Lewiston to the top of the terrace around 1900 improved access to the cemetery and also permitted residential development of the area (Branting 2014a:85, 86; Doermer et al. 2011:16). As the area grew, a decision was made to move the cemetery farther south away from the developed part of town. Burials were apparently moved in a rather haphazard fashion and, when developers proposed large-scale development of the former cemetery, the city opted to add deep fill and turn the land into a city park (Branting 2013:102, 103; 2014a:101-110; 2014b:119).

From the beginning, Lewiston was a rough frontier town with numerous saloons and brothels. As the town matured, cultural institutions, including fraternal organizations, theatres, churches and schools, were built (Figure 5). The Lewiston area is naturally devoid of trees and early residents began to plant poplars and other shade trees along the city streets (Branting 2014a; Henderson et al. 1903:108, 109).



**Figure 5. Lewiston's Masonic Temple (Project Number 28), ca. 1910
(post card courtesy of Ann Sharley collection).**

Around 1870 the Clearwater mining rush ended and the prospectors left for new diggings in southern Idaho and Montana. Lewiston's population dropped precipitously, but many residents chose to stay (Simon-Smolinski 1984:2). Agriculture and lumbering supported the economy, although lack of transportation limited such enterprise (Alford 2014:7, 15, 75; Simon-Smolinski 1984:9). The town remained quite isolated, accessed only by river steamer or pack train, until 1898 when the Northern Pacific extended its line from Juliaetta to Lewiston, providing low-cost transportation to national population centers and market outlets for local agricultural products (Alford 2014:111; Branting 2013:88; Simon-Smolinski 1984:61). Bridges eventually replaced the small ferries that conveyed traffic across the two rivers (Doerner et al. 2011:36). As automobiles became increasingly popular in the early twentieth century, gas stations and repair shops became part of the urban landscape (Figure 6).



Figure 6. Main Street, ca. 1940 left and ca. 1960 right, view to the west; the building at the far right is now Sylvan Furniture (Project Number 33) and the Breier Building (Project Number 36) is visible in the distance (post cards courtesy of Ann Sharley collection).

Pre-Field Research

Prior to project fieldwork, AHA! personnel conducted a cultural resource records search through the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)—SHPO Record Search #16424—to identify previous cultural resource investigations conducted in the project vicinity, as well as types and locations of built environment resources identified during such studies. Jacqui Gilbert, Regional Initiatives Planner at the City of Lewiston's Community Development Department, provided AHA! with a list of the buildings within the current survey area, designated as low, medium, or high historical interest by the Lewiston Historic Preservation Commission, as well as previous documentation for buildings in the downtown commercial area; she also accompanied AHA! personnel on a tour of the current project. Additional sources of historical information were also sought out. Further information regarding these investigations follows.

Previous Cultural Resources Studies

According to records on file at the Idaho SHPO in Boise, at the City of Lewiston Community Development Department, and on the National Register of Historic Places website, the original Lewiston Historic District, nominated under the themes of Architecture and Commerce, was listed on the NRHP in 1975 (Hart 1975). Nine years later, in 1984, the boundary of the District was enlarged and the expanded District was placed on the NRHP (Attebery 1984). As buildings in adjacent areas to the east reached historical age, two subsequent attempts were made to again expand the Lewiston Historic District (Julin 2004; Ross-Minton 2012). Although neither was completed, a number of buildings in the present survey area were minimally recorded and issued SHPO site numbers during these efforts. In 1985 the Breier Building was recorded and in 1986 it was listed individually on the NRHP under the theme of Architecture (Compau 1985).

Research

Relatively little historical research is conducted during a reconnaissance level survey. Since research for the Lewiston Reconnaissance Survey project would necessarily be limited, AHA! personnel focused on sources of information that could provide building construction dates, important for assessing a building's degree of alteration; general history references for the area were also sought out so a historical context statement could be developed. During the research phase of the project, AHA! reviewed the following materials: General Land Office and other government documents available on Bureau of Land Management websites; historical maps in various online collections; County Assessor's records available through the Nez Perce County Assessor's Interactive Web Map application and on the Assessor's Office field sheet database in Lewiston; plat maps for appropriate City of Lewiston additions at the County Auditor's office in Lewiston; and historical reference works on file at AHA! in Spokane Valley. Sanborn fire insurance maps for the years 1888, 1891, 1896, 1900, 1904, 1909, 1918, 1928, and 1945, available as black-and-white microfilm in the Spokane Public Library Northwest Room, were also checked. A number of historical photographs, in the form of postcards, were obtained through online auction sites. Although considerable building-specific historical information was collected during a search of the Nez Perce County Historical Society photograph files and from historical accounts of the area, this information was generally not included in the IHSI forms and survey report due to lack of time. Although knowledgeable informants encountered during the survey were briefly interviewed, local historians were not contacted due to time and budget constraints.

Field Methodology

Standard architectural history methods, adapted to the project objectives and field conditions, were utilized in completing this reconnaissance level built environment survey. The level of detail collected during reconnaissance level fieldwork is limited, relative to intensive level surveys. The AHA! Senior Architectural Historian conducted fieldwork for the project August 22-26 and September 22-27, 2016. As agreed with the City of Lewiston, built environment features 50 or more years of age were defined as historical for the purpose of the survey. Since many buildings in the project area have been divided into multiple stores or combined into one, individual buildings were identified by roof configuration as seen on aerial photographs and from the top of the Normal Hill bluff, as well as building fenestration,

decorative detailing, height and form. The architectural historian walked the entire project to visually identify historical buildings. All historical buildings within the survey area were recorded from both front and rear with field notes and several high resolution digital photographs. The buildings were recorded from the exterior only and, if permission to enter the property was not obtained, from public roads or sidewalks. Each recorded property was assigned a number and its location marked on an aerial photograph (Figure 2). Due to the reconnaissance nature of the survey, historical features of lesser importance, such as planters, sidewalks and historical vegetation were not recorded.

Following the fieldwork, AHA! personnel compared Sanborn fire insurance maps with County Assessor's records to verify building ages. The AHA! architectural historian then completed a reconnaissance level Idaho Historic Sites Inventory (IHSI) form for each historical built environment property. These forms, completed in the IHSI database, included architectural descriptions, architectural styles, approximate construction dates, photographs, map locations, aerial photograph locations, and National Register of Historic Places eligibility recommendations. The number assigned each historical property during the field survey was included in the IHSI form following "Lew" at the end of the field number. These forms were submitted to the the City of Lewiston to be forwarded to the Idaho SHPO.

Results

This section summarizes the results of the Lewiston Reconnaissance Survey. In addition to the text below, a list of the Survey Area properties is included in Appendix A and a summary of architectural styles is included in Appendix B. Descriptions of the resources and recommendations regarding their eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), either individually or as a contributing element in a NRHP Historic District, are included in the IHSI forms provided in Appendix C. Project building numbers, assigned during the field survey, allow the reader to locate the various historical properties in these appendices and on the Figure 2 map.

Summary of Results

The Survey Area comprises the section of the downtown Lewiston commercial core that developed during the 1890s to 1930s period, as the town expanded to the east; a few buildings were constructed during later periods as new businesses filled empty lots. Main Street is the primary thoroughfare through the downtown commercial core (Figure 7). This street is oriented at an angle, generally paralleling the Clearwater River and the bluff to the south. Other roads, oriented at odd angles, are reminders of a city that grew from an unplanned mining supply camp. Buildings were constructed to face the streets, resulting in buildings oriented at unusual angles and trapezoidal-shaped lots with trapezoidal buildings. Many commercial buildings are one-story structures with plate glass storefronts or two-story buildings with storefronts on the first level and residential or office space on the upper level. Roofs are generally flat with flat or low stepped parapets (Figure 8). Additions have been built onto the rear elevations of many buildings. Broad concrete sidewalks separate the Main Street buildings from the street, and tall leafy trees and low planter boxes shade and accent the pedestrian walkway. Most commercial buildings in the downtown core are occupied, and the area appears prosperous and flourishing.



Figure 7. Project overview: Main Street as viewed from 9th Street; large building in center is the Masonic Temple (Project Number 28). View to the northwest.



Figure 8. Project overview: Ninth Street as viewed from D Street; building in right foreground is Idaho Impressions Inc. (Project Number 42). View to the southwest.

During this reconnaissance survey, 72 historical properties were identified and recorded—66 commercial buildings, either party wall or freestanding structures; two theaters; three apartment buildings; and one single-family residence (Appendix A). Most of these properties were built between 1900 and 1930, although a few date to the 1880s and 1890s or the 1930s through the 1960s. Buildings lining Main Street are generally party wall retail spaces; theaters and fraternal lodges are also sited in this highly trafficked area. Most commercial buildings in the less visible areas north and south of Main Street are freestanding structures, many of which functioned as horse or automobile-related facilities—livery stables, hauling services, automobile dealerships, auto repair shops and gas stations. With the exception of the Breier Building, residential buildings are at the southern margin of the project area, the result of the twentieth century trend to live outside the urban core. Relatively little modern infill has occurred in the Survey Area: only six buildings are of modern construction.

Findings of particular interest within the Survey Area include:

- Two relatively intact storefronts (Project Numbers 9 and 20/844 Main) (Figure 9).
- A relatively intact storefront, discovered shortly after completion of this survey beneath a remodeled stucco and tile façade (Project Number 11).
- Three long-term fraternal lodges (Project Numbers 28, 41, and 77) (Figure 10).
- Three long-term theaters (Project Numbers 10, 28, and 40) (Figure 11).
- An 1882 residence converted to a funeral home and later moved from the Main Street business district to its present location in what was then the outskirts of town (Project Number 78) (Figure 12).
- A building that housed a bottling plant and later a commercial laundry (Project Number 77) (Figure 13).
- Numerous buildings associated with horse, automobile or truck transportation (Project Numbers 42, 43, 44, 49, 54, 55, 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63 and 71) (Figure 14).



Figure 9. Storefront at 844 Main (Project Number 20); view to the south. Transom lights have been covered.



Figure 10. Detail of I.O.O.F. fraternal lodge (Project Number 41); view to the north.



Figure 11. Liberty Theater (Project Number 40); view to north.



Figure 12. Former residence, former funeral home (Project Number 78); view to southeast.



Figure 13. Former bottling plant, former commercial laundry; view to southeast.



Figure 14. Former livery stable, former freight company (Project Number 54); view to southwest.

Evaluation of Historical Significance

The historical significance of the Survey Area is its ongoing contribution to the City's economic vitality, making it a good candidate for expansion of the NRHP historic district under Criterion A, representing the 1890s through 1966 period (1966 was selected as the cut-off date since, in addition to the standard 50-year minimal age for listing properties on the NRHP, six years elapsed between construction of the 1966 project buildings and construction of the next building in 1972).

The significance of each of the 72 historical built environment properties within the Survey Area was evaluated per National Register of Historic Places criteria, both individually and as a contributing element in an expanded Lewiston Historic District. Since the project was a reconnaissance level survey including minimal historical research, the properties were evaluated under NRHP Criterion A, for association with historically important events or trends, in this case community development and local commerce, and under NRHP Criterion C, for their architectural merit.

In addition to historical significance, properties must retain sufficient integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association to qualify for NRHP listing. As is typical of prosperous communities, most buildings in the Survey Area have been altered through replacement of doors, windows and other fabric and stylistic updates to the storefronts. Despite these changes, nearly all historical buildings in the present project retain sufficient integrity to remain recognizable as historical buildings and, in many cases, replacement fabric has become historical in its own right.

Although the integrity requirements for individual listing on the NRHP are quite stringent, more leniency is generally employed when identifying resources that can contribute to the NRHP eligibility of a historic district. More leniency is generally also employed when nominating a resource under Criterion A, rather than under Criterion C, although integrity must still be sufficient to convey the property's historical significance. For the present project, all historical buildings were considered contributing to a potential expanded Lewiston Historic District if they remain recognizable as historical when viewed from the front. Although only 13 properties in the current Survey Area were recommended as individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, 56 qualify as contributing elements in an expanded Lewiston Historic District.

Architectural Styles

American architectural styles, represented by ornamental detailing, changed regularly during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, driven by changes in popular taste, technological advances, and historical trends. All 72 historical properties in the present Survey Area were built in, or updated to, architectural styles or forms common throughout the nation during the 1880s through 1960s period, generally simple vernacular expressions of common styles. Most buildings in the project have been remodeled to a later style, often leaving the original style uncertain. Frequently only the first level of a multiple-story building has been remodeled, leaving original stylistic detailing intact on upper levels. When assessing these buildings' levels of physical integrity, one must bear in mind that stylistic updates represent improvements that can only occur within the context of a healthy, thriving economy. Some stylistic updates within the project are excellent examples of early and mid-twentieth century architectural styles and have acquired historical significance in their own right. Styles in areas far from national population centers often persist longer than in major urban areas and styles used for commercial architecture are often used longer than if employed for residential construction.

Architectural styles observed in the Survey Area are summarized in Appendix B; brief discussions of these styles follow.

Italianate Architectural Style

Three buildings in the Survey Area, two commercial structures and one built as a residence, are examples of the Italianate architectural style (Project Numbers 18, 77 and 78) (Figure 15). The Italianate tradition, based on the informal aesthetic of Italian farmhouses and villas, developed in England as part of a reaction against traditional classical architecture. The style, with its vertical proportions, masonry construction, window crowns (frequently inverted-U shape), widely overhanging eaves with decorative brackets, tall narrow windows, arched and paired windows, belt courses, corner quoins, low-pitched roofs, and two- or three-story heights, dominated American domestic architecture from 1850 to 1880. The style was also used for commercial buildings, particularly in the 1880s and 1890s, with ornamental features produced in wood, brick, or metal rather than stone. These buildings often had wide projecting bracketed cornices and segmentally arched or rectangular windows or doors with inverted crowns.



Figure 15. Italianate style: Building at 908 Idaho Street (Project Number 77), north and west (front) sides.

Romanesque Revival Architectural Style

Only one building in the Survey Area was constructed in the Romanesque Revival (Richardsonian Romanesque) architectural style (Project Number 3) (Figure 16). This style developed during the mid-nineteenth century, derived from European Romanesque precedents, and used primarily for public and commercial buildings. In the 1870s and 1880s Henry Hobson Richardson, an American graduate of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris, experimented with and popularized his own version of the style. The style is characterized by masonry walls, rough-faced squared stone, corbelled brick, combinations of stone and brick, and round-arched windows, doors, and porch supports. The buildings often have round towers with conical roofs. By 1900 the style had largely been passed from the architectural scene, supplanted by newer architectural traditions.



Figure 16. Romanesque Revival style: Detail of upper level at 618-628 Main Street (Project Number 3), north (front) elevation.

Queen Anne Architectural Style

Two buildings in the Survey Area, a large residence and a commercial building, were constructed in the Queen Anne – Free Classic subtype architectural style (Project Numbers 11 and 75) (Figure 17). The Queen Anne style traces its roots to the work of a nineteenth century English architectural group that based its designs on late Medieval precedents. The style is misnamed, as the resulting tradition had little to do with Queen Anne or with the architecture of her age. The style soon spread to the United States, where Americans added their own interpretations, resulting in the Spindlework and Free Classic subtypes. The Queen Anne style, popular from about 1880 to 1910, utilized a variety of techniques to add texture, shape, and color to a building, including bay windows, large wrap-around porches, spindlework posts, a variety of wall cladding materials, windows divided into multiple small lights, and an irregularly shaped roof, usually with a prominent front-facing gable. The Free Classic subtype of the style, dating from about 1890 to 1910, replaced the turned spindlework posts with classical columns and added symmetry and other elements of classical detailing to the design. The Queen Anne tradition spread throughout the nation as pattern books featured the style and completion of railroads made pre-cut architectural elements widely available and, during the 1880 to 1900 period, the style dominated domestic American construction. The style was also frequently used in commercial construction during the 1890 to 1910 period.



Figure 17. Queen Anne – Free Classic style: House at 224 9th Street (Project Number 75), south and east (front) sides.

Colonial Revival Architectural Style

Two buildings in the Survey Area are expressions of the Colonial Revival architectural tradition (Project Numbers 9 and 16) (Figure 18). During the late nineteenth century Americans experienced a surge of interest in their heritage, resulting in architectural traditions that attempted to replicate Colonial building styles. The Colonial Revival style, popular from about 1880 to 1955, typically features prominent doors embellished with classical ornament, a symmetrically balanced facade, multi-pane double-hung wood sash windows often arranged in pairs, cornices frequently with dentils or modillions, and pilasters or other classical detailing.



Figure 18. Colonial Revival style: Building at 816 and 818 Main (Project Number 16), east and north (front) sides.

Renaissance Revival Architectural Style

Only one building in the Survey Area was constructed in the Renaissance Revival (Italian Renaissance) architectural style (Project Number 28) (Figure 19). This tradition, like the earlier Italianate, traces its roots to Italian precedents. The Renaissance Revival, however, strove for more authenticity since, by this period, many architects and clients had visited Italy; improved photography and printing also allowed documentation of actual Italian buildings. The style, popular from 1890 to 1935, features arches above doors and first-floor windows, upper level windows smaller and less elaborate than those below, widely overhanging bracketed eaves or a prominent dentiled cornice, low-pitched or flat roofs, roofline or balcony balustrades, rusticated (exaggerated joint) masonry on first level and smooth wall surfaces above, symmetrical facades, and sometimes small classical columns or pilasters.



Figure 19. Renaissance Revival style: Building at 855 Main Street (Project Number 28), south (front) elevation.

Classical Revival Architectural Style

Two buildings in the Survey Area were constructed in the Classical Revival (Neoclassical) architectural style (Project Numbers 10 and 41) (Figure 20). This revival of interest in classical architecture followed the World's Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago in 1893. Organizers of the exposition required all major buildings to be constructed in the classical style and, within a few years, the style was being built throughout the nation. This architectural tradition is characterized by prominent often full-height classical porch support columns or pilasters, doors with elaborate classical surrounds, moderately overhanging cornices with dentils or modillions, sometimes a wide frieze band beneath the cornice, and rectangular windows with double-hung sash.



Figure 20. Classical Revival style (upper level): Building at 714 Main Street (Project Number 10), north (front) elevation.

Early 20th Century Commercial Vernacular Architectural Style

Several buildings in the Survey Area were constructed in what is sometimes called the Early Twentieth Century Commercial Vernacular architectural style (Project Numbers 19, 20, 26, 37, 61 and 66) (Figure 21). This style developed in the early 1900s as commercial design became less elaborate, paralleling and influenced by the emerging Modernist traditions such as Art Deco and Art Moderne. The style is characterized by brick masonry often of buff-colored brick, concrete trim, parapets instead of projecting cornices, simple brick corbelled or inset designs on the upper façade, and single or grouped windows.



Figure 21. Early 20th Century Commercial Vernacular style: Building at 835 F Street (Project Number 61), south (front) elevation.

Spanish Eclectic Architectural Style

Only one building in the Survey Area was constructed in the Spanish Eclectic (Spanish Colonial Revival) architectural style (Project Number 69) (Figure 22). This style traces its roots to the earlier Mission style, as well as a great variety of other Spanish precedents researched by Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue and other architects and popularized by the Panama-California Exposition held in San Diego in 1915. The style, characterized by stucco wall surfaces, red tile roofs, arched openings, low-pitched or flat roofs, and narrow tile-covered shed roofs over windows and doors reached its peak of popularity during the 1920s and 1930s, particularly in the southwestern states and Florida.



Figure 22. Spanish Eclectic style: Apartment building at 240 New 6th Street (Project Number 69), east and south (front) sides.

Art Deco / Art Moderne Architectural Style

Numerous buildings in the Survey Area were built or remodeled in the Art Deco / Art Moderne architectural style, or Art Deco / Art Moderne features were added (Project Numbers 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 17, 21, 22, 30, 31, 32, 36, 40, 42, 49, 54, 55, 57, 59, 60, 63, 73, 74 and 76) (Figure 23). This tradition is one of the earliest Modernist styles, characterized by its rejection of classical ornament in favor of simple smooth light-colored wall surfaces, horizontal and vertical lines, geometric shapes, curved corners, flat roofs with ledge coping, glass blocks and general asymmetry. The style was popular throughout the nation, particularly for commercial and public buildings, from about 1920 to 1950.



Figure 23. Art Deco/Art Moderne style: Building at 505 Capital Street (Project Number 57), west and south (front) sides.

International Architectural Style

Three buildings in the Survey Area were constructed in simple variations of the International style, a type of Modernist architecture generally reserved for commercial and public buildings (Project Numbers 25, 29 and 71) (Figure 24). The style is derived from European Modern architecture that arose during the immediate post-World War I period as a backlash against all things traditional, a rejection of the “old order” perceived as the cause of the era’s political instability and social turmoil. Closely allied with socialist causes, European Modernists sought to reduce class disparity by creating a universal architectural style using economical materials such as concrete and steel to create simple, utilitarian structures. In America, however, architects were more attracted by the clean, simple aesthetics of the new style than by its social implications. During the 1950s and 1960s American architects finally embraced Modernism’s fully developed International Style, with its flat-roofed asymmetrical geometric forms featuring smooth unadorned wall surfaces and bands of unembellished windows, and variations of the style remain popular today.



Figure 24. International style: Building at 856 F Street (Project Number 71), east (front) and north sides.

Googie / Exaggerated Modern Architectural Style

One building in the Survey Area has been remodeled in the Googie (Exaggerated Modern) architectural style (Project Number 62) (Figure 25). Googie is a type of flamboyant Modernist architecture that originated in southern California in the late 1940s. The style was inspired by space age imagery and was intended to attract attention with its exaggerated oversize roofs, dynamic rooflines, large signs featuring shining globes and starbursts, curving and geometric shapes, and use of steel, glass, glass blocks, and plastics. The style reached its peak of popularity in the mid-1960s.



Figure 25. Googie / Exaggerated Modern style: Building at 831 and 833 F Street and 119 New 6th Street (Project Number 62), west and south sides.

Brutalism Architectural Style

One building in the Survey Area was updated as a simple expression of the architectural style known as Brutalism (Project Number 27) (Figure 26). This style is a type of Modernist architecture that was used primarily for government and institutional buildings between 1953 and the mid-1970s. The term is French for “raw concrete” and these buildings were frequently built of unembellished concrete or other materials that resulted in massive weighty structures with broad unembellished wall surfaces and recessed or protruding window and door openings.



Figure 26. Brutalism style: Building at 859 Main Street (Project Number 27), south and east (front) sides.

Utilitarian / Industrial Architectural Type

Several buildings in the Survey Area, some of which are modern, are examples of the Utilitarian / Industrial building type (Project Numbers 48, 67, 68, 70 and 72) (Figure 27). This type of construction uses corrugated sheet metal and other low-cost materials to create economical, practical buildings.



Figure 27. Utilitarian / Industrial building type: Building at 132 New 6th Street (Project Number 68), east and south sides.

Undifferentiated Modernist Styles

Numerous buildings in the Survey Area exhibit elements or forms drawn from the Modernist tradition (Project Numbers 15, 33, 34, 35, 38, 39, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 50, 51, 53, 56, 58, 64 and 65) (Figure 28), an architectural style that was discussed previously under the International Style entry. Most Modernist buildings in the Survey Area are earlier buildings, remodeled for an updated look.



Figure 28. Undifferentiated Modernist styles: Building at 625 D Street (Project Number 53), south and east sides.

Unstyled Vernacular Architecture

Three buildings in the Survey Area have been remodeled to the point that no architectural style is currently recognizable (Project Numbers 23, 24 and 52).

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Survey Area contains 72 historical properties and six modern properties, both representing a variety of business types and architectural styles. All historical properties within the Survey Area were evaluated for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, for their historical association with local community development and commerce, and under Criterion C, for their architectural merit. Of the 72 historical properties 13 are recommended individually eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A or Criterion C, and 56 are recommended as contributing to a potential expanded Lewiston Historic District.

Results of the current investigations correspond closely with anticipated findings based on information provided by the City of Lewiston, pre-field research, and previous studies. These investigations support the City's belief that the Survey Area is historically significant and portions retain sufficient integrity to qualify for addition to the existing NRHP-listed Lewiston Historic District.

Over the past several decades historical buildings have become increasingly popular as venues for restaurants, brewpubs, and other public uses. Addition of appropriate portions of the Survey Area to the Historic District will serve to educate property owners, local residents, and visitors regarding the Lewiston area's history and increase awareness of the potential benefits of preserving historic buildings.

Original documentation for the current studies, including field notes, photographs and research materials, are on file at the AHA! office in Spokane Valley.

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