HAILEY ARTS & HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING
October 14, 2026, at 3:30 PM
To be held at Hailey City Hall and virtually via GoTo Meeting
3:30 PM
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.
https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/686570877
You can also dial in using your phone.
(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly).
United States: +1 (872) 240-3212
One-touch: Tel: +18722403212,686570877#
Access Code: 686-570-877

Call to Order

New Business

NB 1 Historic Marker:

- Review site renderings
- Discuss the project as a cohesive whole- the intent behind the project and how to bring it full circle to tell the story of the Historic 4 corners.

NB 2 Existing Plaque Maintenance– View photos of existing plaques and determine which ones need to be replaced or maintained.

- Order new plaque for SV Car Wash Mural

NB 3 Create a draft to put in the city newsletter about the progress of the project and public recognition for those companies and people that made it possible.

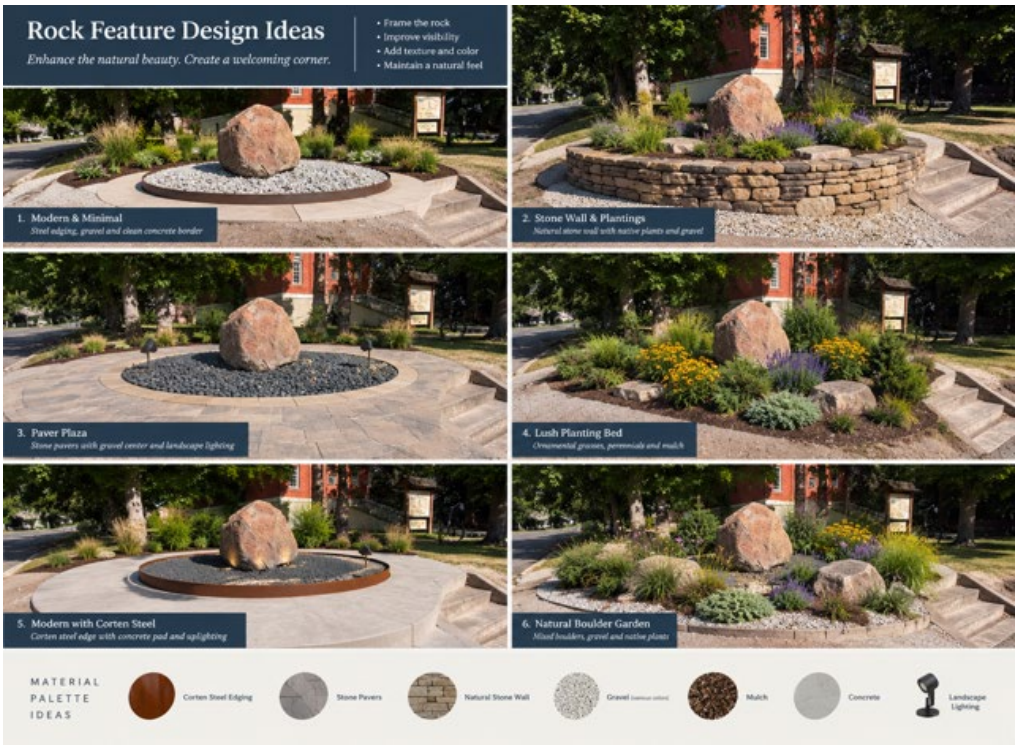
NB 4 Discussion on Projects for FY27

- Wrap Utility box along pathway
- Complete the Historic corner project

Old Business, In-Progress & Status Reports

OB 1 Adoption of the Meeting Minutes from September 9, 2026 – **ACTION ITEM**

Next Meeting Agenda + Topics (Tuesday, November 11, 2026) TBD


Rock Feature Design Ideas
Enhance the natural beauty. Create a welcoming corner.
• Frame the rock
• Improve visibility
• Add texture and color
• Maintain a natural feel
1. Modern & Minimal
Steel edging, gravel and clean concrete border
2. Stone Wall & Plantings
Natural stone wall with native plants and gravel
3. Paver Plaza
Stone pavers with gravel center and landscape lighting
4. Lush Planting Bed
Ornamental grasses, perennials and mulch
5. Modern with Corten Steel
Corten steel edge with concrete pad and uplighting
6. Natural Boulder Garden
Mixed boulders, gravel and native plants
MATERIAL PALETTE IDEAS
Corten Steel Edging
Stone Pavers
Natural Stone Wall
Gravel
Mulch
Concrete
Landscape Lighting



ALTURAS COURTHOUSE

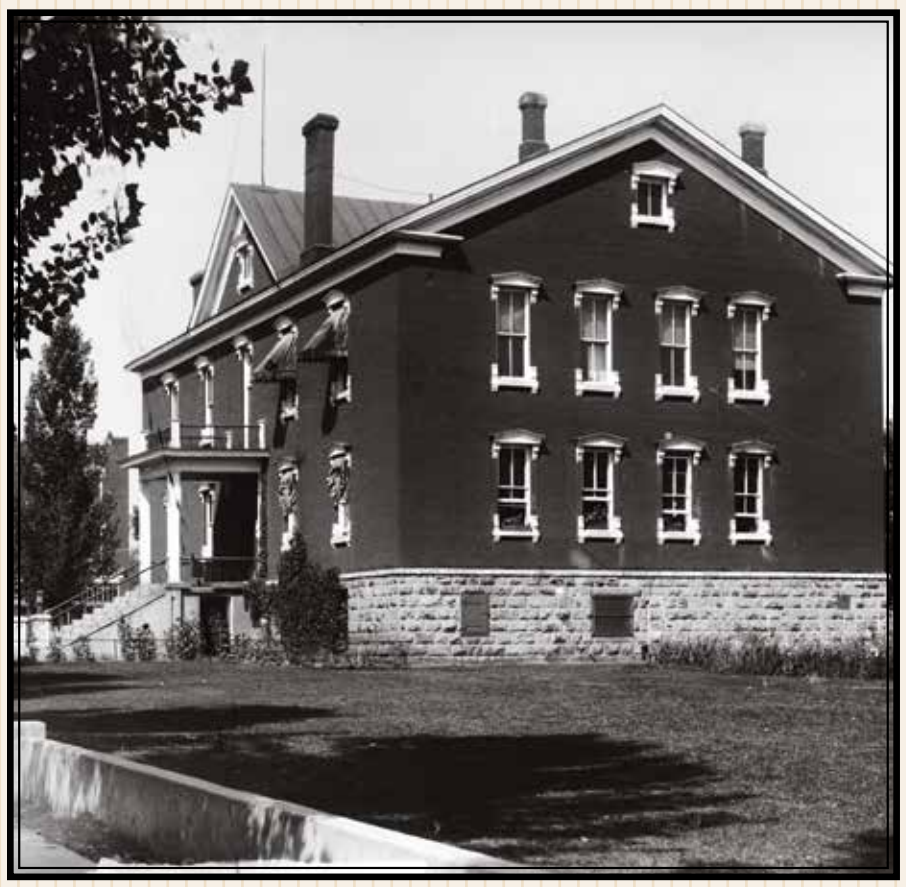
206 South First Avenue

One of the oldest courthouses in Idaho, the Blaine County Courthouse was constructed in 1883 as the Alturas County Courthouse. Alturas County was a county in Idaho Territory and later, the State of Idaho, from 1864 to 1895. It covered an area larger than the states of Maryland, New Jersey, and Delaware combined. Most present-day southern Idaho counties were created at least in part from the original Alturas County area. The name Alturas comes from a Spanish word for "mountain summits" or "mountainous heights." The County seat was moved from Rocky Bar Mining Camp - now a ghost town in Elmore County - to Hailey in 1882, after a contentious election to choose between Bellevue, Hailey and Rocky Bar. The Oregon Short line terminus in Hailey gave this City the edge over Bellevue for the County seat.

Blaine County was created in 1895 by combining Alturas and Logan Counties. Various portions of Blaine County were carved off, and the final boundaries of present day Blaine County were set in 1917. Hailey remained the County seat of Blaine County and Alturas County disappeared from the Idaho map.

The Blaine County Courthouse was designed by Horace Greeley Knapp in the simple "Italianate" style, a popular style in the mid-1800's characterized by flat or hipped roofs and pedimented windows. The two-story Courthouse sits on a raised cutstone basement and features unique cast iron window sills and a rectangular entrance portico. It once included the County jail and still houses the original vault containing important county records. At the time of construction, the building cost $40,000, making it the most expensive in Idaho Territory. The Courthouse was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

Blaine County Commissioners have strived to preserve the structural integrity of the building for the future. This landmark Courthouse represents an important period in Idaho political history.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

ALTURAS (HIAWATHA) HOTEL SITE

93 East Croy Street

Billed as the finest hotel between Denver and the Pacific Ocean, the Alturas Hotel opened for business on this site on May 25, 1886 with a grand gala ball. Each guest room in the three-story brick structure featured its own wood burning stove.

The hotel was complete with a dining room, bar, and billiard hall, and a small theater. All that luxury could be had for $1.50 per day. The Alturas soon became the gathering place for area social events.

In 1913, the hotel was purchased by the Hiawatha Land and Water Company of Kansas City. Following extensive remodeling, the newly named Hiawatha Hotel opened for business in September of 1915. Besides new furnishings, the remodel included a telephone in each room, running water, and a toilet. Most shared a bath down the hall, but if you wanted real five-star accommodations you could have one of the ten rooms that boasted bathtubs.

All rooms in the hotel were heated with natural hot water. The water was piped from the hot spring near the mouth of Democrat Gulch, west of Hailey, and was also the water source for the newly added swimming pool constructed on the north side of the hotel.

Between 1928 and 1970 the Hiawatha changed hands several times. In 1977, the hotel closed its doors for the final time. Sadly, the Hiawatha experienced a fatal fire in 1979. The remains were subsequently removed to make way for the present-day Atkinson's Market and a contemporary chapter in Hailey's history.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

ASSAY OFFICE
EPISCOPAL THRIFT STORE

19 East Bullion Street

This building, built in the early 1900's, was originally an assay office, a business critical to any mining community. An assayer's main service was to determine types and quantity of precious metals within a sample of ore.

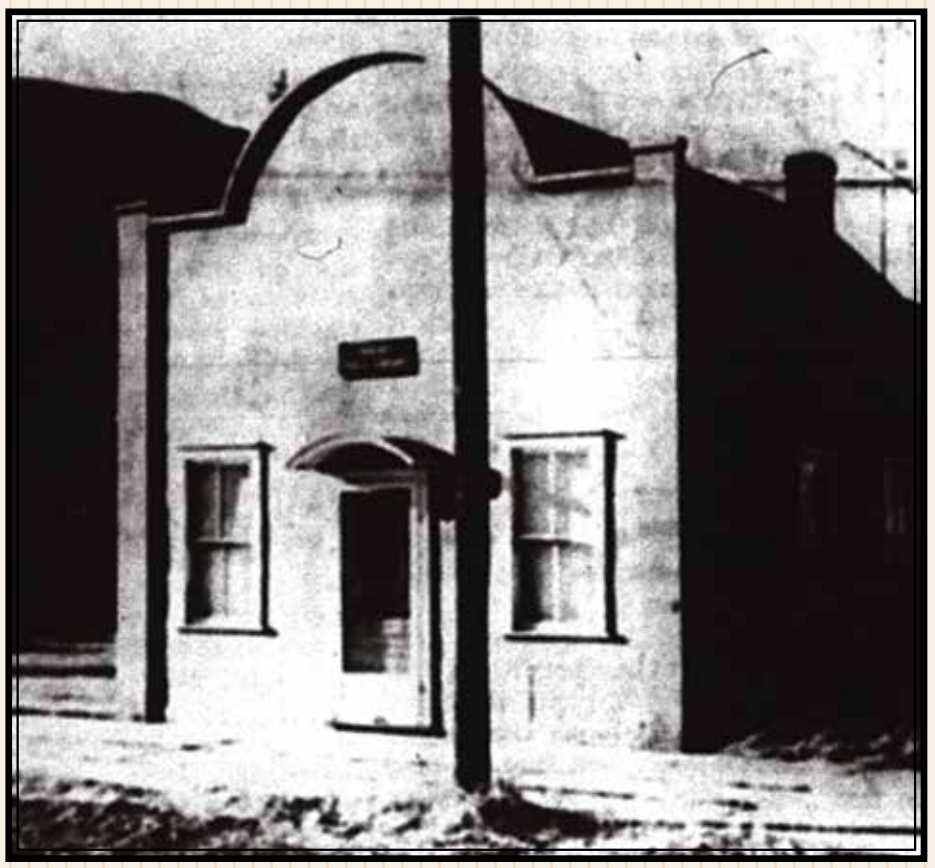
Prospectors brought ore samples to the office to be labeled, weighed, crushed and reduced to powder. Samples of the powder were mixed with chemicals (lead, borax, soda, salt) in a crucible and put in a furnace. This molten mixture was poured into an iron mold, forming a small button holding these precious metals. Once cooled, the assayer broke the slag away and the remainder was reheated to separate out the various metals. The final step was to weigh the processed metals.

The assayer calculated the weight ratio of gold and silver at the end of the process against the earlier recorded weight of the sample of ore to determine the yield and quality of metal per ton of ore. The assay office was critical as the value of a mining claim hinged on these calculations as prospectors sought investors to operate the mining claim.

Retaining its importance to the community, this building served as Hailey's Public Library. Hailey established its Public Library in 1919, in a building that burned down in 1927.

This vacant assay office was rented and served as the library until the mid 1930's when, for some reason, another renter took the space. The books were stored and the Library Board sought to purchase land and build. The Board had the opportunity to purchase this building in 1938 for $500, and moved the books back in. Those who grew up with this library recall the musty smell of the books and sitting in the corner reading Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys.

In 1969, the Emmanuel Episcopal Church obtained this building through a public auction after the library moved to a larger location.



THE COMMERCIAL BUILDING

108 North Main Street

Aptly named, the building is where the Commercial Club of Hailey met. In a circa 1909 pamphlet, the Club touted itself as a 'strong and active organization thoroughly supported by the business and professional interests of Hailey'. In the advertising section of the Pacific Monthly Newsletter, circa 1910, it is listed as one of twenty-two such Clubs within the State of Idaho. The Advertisement goes on to proclaim that it is part of the League of Southern Idaho Commercial Clubs and that 'All varieties of irrigated lands, at all prices, and on all terms may be found in Southern Idaho…and the [Club] will gladly supply you with literature from each district in order that you may select the one best suited to your needs.

A 1917 document published by the Department of Commerce and Labor states that the City of Hailey, according to the Census Bureau, had a population of 1,231 people with 80 Commercial Club members and an annual membership income of $3,000.00

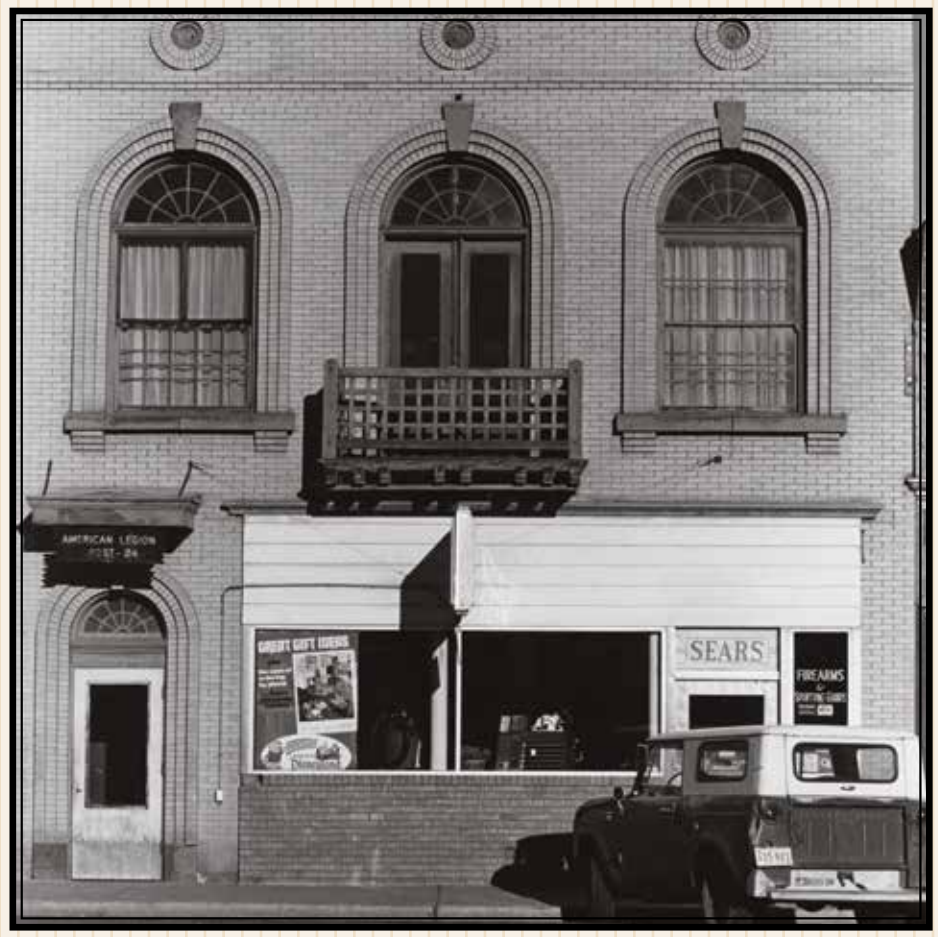
Architecturally, the two-story brick building is quite unique compared to other historic commercial buildings within Hailey. While most brick buildings of the era were the traditional red color with grey mortar joints, this building features a striking cream-colored brick with pink colored mortar joints. The bricks were manufactured and shipped from Salt Lake City, UT.

Its Main Street facade features window and door openings designed with three layers of arched brick with each arch layer intricately offset from the other. Each arch is further detailed with a pink color granite keystone. Centered and above each of the arches of the second floor are small circular windows. Each circular window is framed in two layers of brick, which again, are offset from the other, matching the detail of the window arches.

The small second floor wooden balcony is an uncommon feature for a building such as this but did allow for a prime spot for one to see and be seen.

Even more unusual compared to most buildings of its time, the street facade is asymmetrical at its first floor with the entry door dramatically offset to one side. Photos of the building taken by local photographer, Martyn Mallory during the 1920's and 1930's, indicate this asymmetrical design was in fact original to the structure and not a later alteration. The cornerstone of the building contains ore from each of the mines that were active at the time of its construction. However architecturally unique, subsequent construction alterations deemed it unworthy of being placed on the National Historic Register of Places.

Over the 108-year history of the building, it has been home to numerous tenants, including the Hailey Post Office, a Sears Store, and appliance store.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

101 South Second Avenue

In 1883, Reverend Israel Osborn of St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Boise was appointed to the Wood River District. Through the energies and dedication of Rev. Osborn and his wife, Sarah, planning and fundraising soon resulted in the congregation's capacity to commence construction of a new church on the present site.

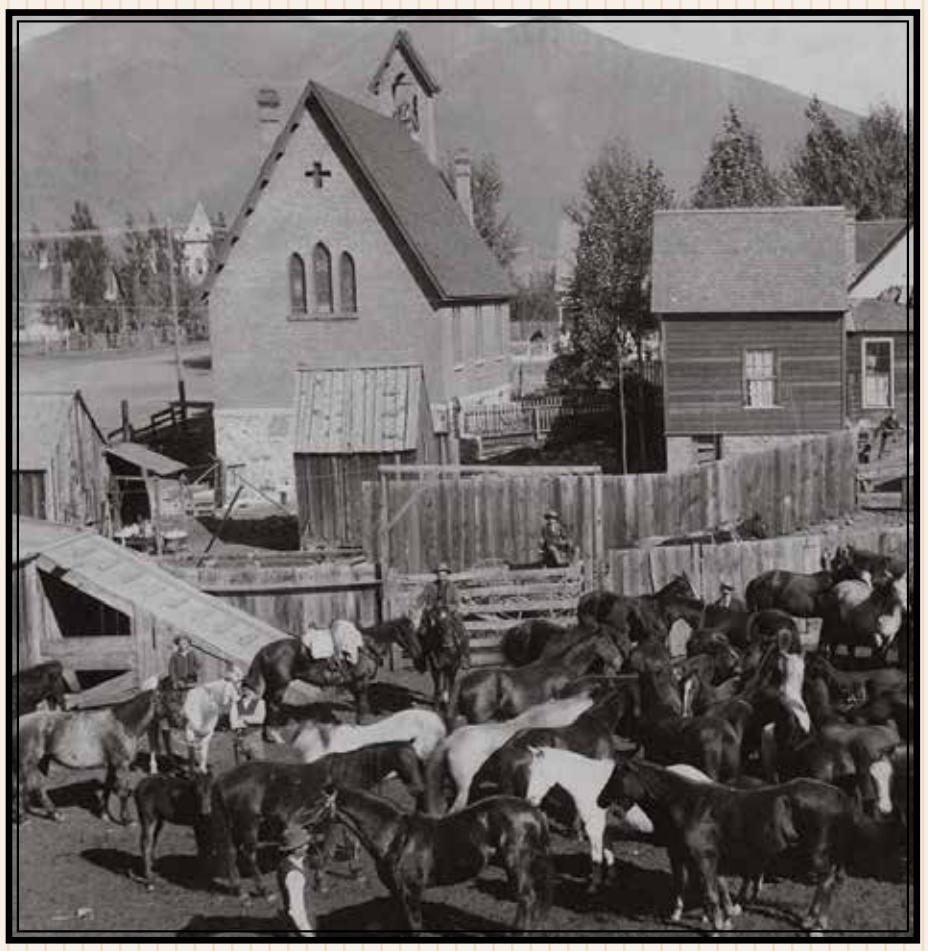
On July 29, 1885, a cornerstone ceremony conducted by the Masons of the Masonic Lodge pronounced the stone to be "square and plumb". Following that ceremony, the Rt. Rev. Daniel Sylvester Tuttle, the Episcopal Bishop for Idaho, Montana, and Utah, and the person responsible for purchasing the church property in Hailey, conducted the consecration of the building.

Upon completion of the brickwork in November 1885, the supervising mason declared: "The workmanship is first-class and will be a good card for the masons", ... "This church will be a great ornament to the City".

With the first service held in the nearly completed church on Christmas Day 1885, Emmanuel Episcopal Church represents the oldest, continuously used church in Hailey, and also within the Episcopal Diocese of Idaho.

The church architecture is classic Gothic Revival using polychrome brickwork, a steep gabled roof, Gothic arched entry, and a bell cote topped by a Celtic cross.

A project to restore the elegant lancet windows was completed in 2016. Experts note that these windows may represent the finest historical church windows in the continental northwest. The grisaille technique used to create the painted-on-glass images dates back to the 13th century. Visitors are encouraged to make arrangements to view and study these windows from the serene interior calm of the church.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

ERZA POUND HOME

314 South Second Avenue

This home was built in 1883 by Horace Greeley Knapp, and poet Ezra Pound was born here on October 30, 1885. It is a modest house with shiplap siding. The cast iron fence on the property's south and east sides is noted to be one of the better-preserved examples of its genre in Idaho. The house was listed on the National Register in 1978.

Pound's father, Homer, was registrar at the U.S. Land Office in Hailey from 1883-1887. Ezra Pound was the first child to be christened in Emmanuel Episcopal Church, two blocks away. The family left the Wood River Valley for Pennsylvania when Pound was 18 months old, and he never returned. He was known though to occasionally refer to himself as the "Idaho Kid".

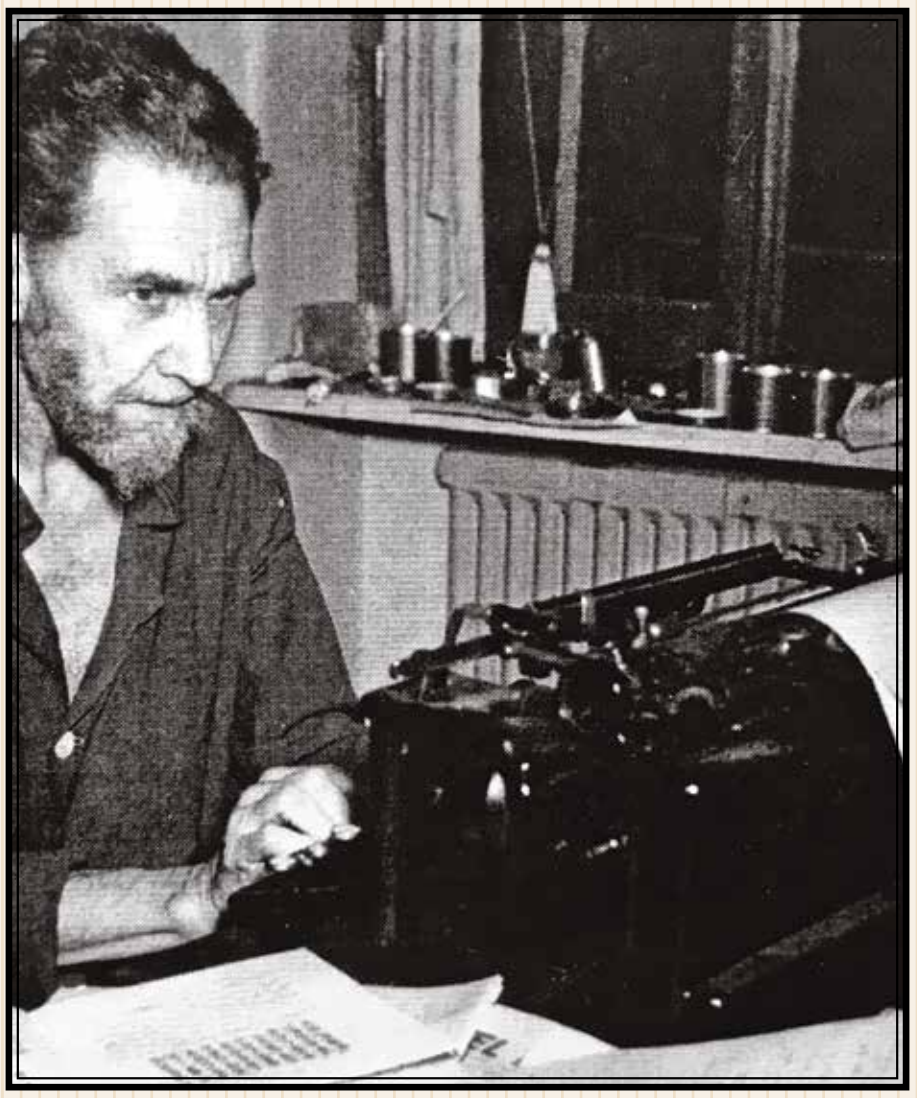
Ezra Pound has been referred to as the "father of modern literature", and influenced writers like James Joyce, T.S Elliot, and Amy Lowell, among many others. He helped Ernest Hemingway's first story collection get published. Pound studied literature and languages in college and left the US for Europe in 1908, where he published several successful books of poetry. While Pound achieved international acclaim as a literary giant, he was not without controversy.

During WWII, Pound's radio broadcasts from fascist Italy during World War II led to his being charged with 19 counts of treason in the U.S. and he was also accused of being anti-Semitic. In 1958, the charges of treason against Pound were dismissed on the basis that he had made his remarks while mentally unsound. After his release that year he returned to Italy, where he died in 1972 at age 87.

Over the years, many well-known writers have paid their respects to Pound with a visit the house. The poet Allen Ginsberg stopped by in 1993 and finagled an invitation inside. The novelist and poet Jim Harrison visited and helped raise money for the house's preservation. Others making the pilgrimage include Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Robert Creeley, W.S. Merwin, Billy Collins, Edward Hirsch, Philip Levine, and J.D. McClatchy.

The house changed owners a few times after the Pound family left Hailey, but its longest owner was Roberta McKercher, a beloved community activist, who wrote for the Wood River Journal and Hailey Times newspapers and knew everyone in town. She lived in the house for decades until her death in 1996. In her will, McKercher allowed the house to be purchased "as a memorial to Hailey's native poet", and in 1998 a local resident purchased the House for $240,000 and donated it to the newly created Ezra Pound Association.

In 2005, the struggling organization donated the house to the Sun Valley Center for the Arts, which now operates it as an arts and humanities facility year-round. The property also includes a freestanding, 1,200-square-foot classroom built in 2006. Together, the house and classroom allow The Center to offer exhibitions, classes, workshops, small lectures and performances.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

THE FOREST SERVICE BUILDINGS

308 South River Street

On March 3, 1891, Congress passed the Forest Reserve Act, the law that eventually allowed for the establishment of National Forests. In 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt set aside a number of new forest reserves including the enormous Sawtooth Forest Reserve, encompassing much of the present-day Challis, Sawtooth, Salmon and Boise National Forests. In 1907, reserves were redesignated National Forests. From 1908 to 1931, the Sawtooth National Forest went through several major additions and eliminations of total area but throughout those years over one million acres were managed from headquarters located in Hailey, Idaho. Subordinate staff were located in field offices called Ranger Districts scattered throughout the National Forest.

By 1933, the Forest Service had outgrown their rented headquarters' office space. For $700 the government purchased an acre for a new Forest Supervisor's Office and other necessary buildings at this location, just south of the businesses on Main Street. An office, garage and warehouse were built. Construction was accomplished by workers employed through a variety of Depression-era federal programs including the Civilian Conservation Corp.

Forest Service administrative buildings were built according to standard plans so buildings in Hailey looked very similar to other buildings regionally. These buildings are typical of Depression-era Forest Service architecture in the Intermountain Region.

The facilities served as the Sawtooth National Forest headquarters until July 1, 1953, when the Sawtooth National Forest was combined with the Minidoka National Forest and the Supervisor's Office was relocated to Twin Falls, Idaho. These buildings then housed the Hailey Ranger District staff from 1953 until the Hailey Ranger District was absorbed into the Fairfield and Ketchum Ranger Districts in 1972. Thereafter, the Sawooth National Forest construction and maintenance personnel used the facilities. In the early 1980s, the Hailey Office was found possibly eligible for the National Register. In 1992, the Forest Service conveyed the site to a private party in a land exchange.



FOX-WORSWICK HOUSE

119 East Bullion Street

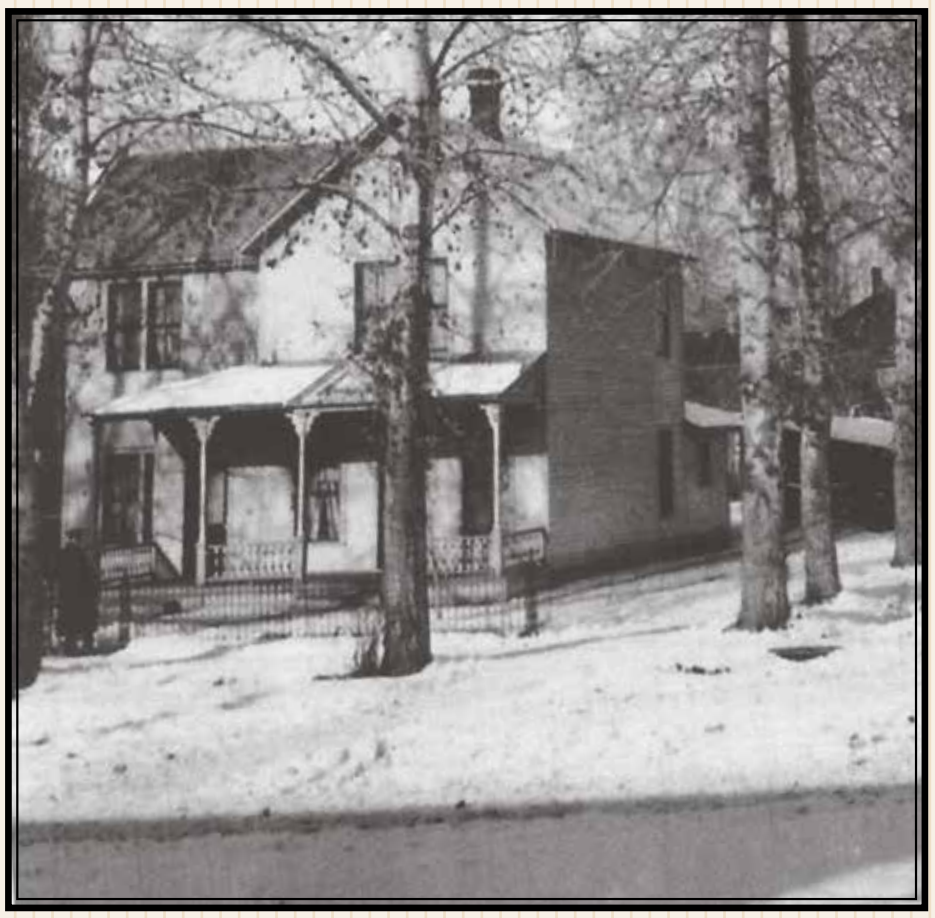
Located on the northwest corner of Bullion and N. 2nd Street, this home is one of the first structures built in Hailey. The original log structure, built in 1881, tells the story of the rush to settle in the rural west to take advantage of commerce funded by mining. The house also showcases the industrious beauty of turn-of-the-century architecture and exemplifies the boom and bust periods in Hailey's history. Though it has been remodeled, the property embraces its history with preserved floors, hardware, and the original log interior walls, still visible within the building. It is one of the most intact examples of affluent residences, housing the families of a Dry Goods Store Owner, Mining Investor, Doctor, and Druggist.

The lot for the original building was sold for $25.00 to Charles B. (C.B.) Fox by Hailey's founder John Hailey in 1881. A New York native and a Civil War Veteran, Fox erected the original log structure to house himself, his wife, Genevieve, and their infant child. He opened a dry goods store to the east of Main Street, between Croy and Bullion, to support the family. The endeavor quickly failed and the store was sold at a sheriff's sale in October 1881. Fox was elected Alturas County Auditor and Recorder in 1882 and the family remained in Hailey until 1885. During their ownership, the Fox's added a single-story wood frame addition and porches to the original structure, along with another lot to the property.

In 1885, the home was sold by Genevieve Fox to Dr. Newell J. Brown and his wife Celia for $1,500. By 1890, the Brown's expanded the home with two single-story additions and a second-floor addition.

In 1900, Dr. Brown ran for the office of County Coroner. Upon losing the election, Dr. Brown moved his family to California. The Brown's sold the home to Hailey Druggist, John Baugh, in 1900; for $1,500.

The property changed ownership many times from 1900 to 1910. Most notably, it was owned by mining investor, Ernest Worswick, between 1904 and 1910. A second entry facing Bullion Street, was added along with a room to the north gable front. The property was sold four times between 1910 and 1943. During this time, previous additions were removed and new ones were erected. The longest owners of the property, R. Hunter and Zeo Nelson, resided in the home between 1943 and 2000. The Wood River Land Trust now owns the property and uses it for their offices. They remodeled the home between 2000 and 2002 to preserve the historical architecture and finishing, matching it to the photographic records of 1906.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

HAILEY COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

200 South Second Avenue

Originally, the Hailey Methodist Episcopal Church built a simple, quaint church structure on this Second Avenue and E. Croy Street site in 1886. The pioneers of the Wood River Valley, were welcomed to fill their spiritual needs at this house of worship. The original 28' x 50' facility housed a single sanctuary room with a bell tower above the main entrance.

The walls are clad in drop siding nailed flat to the wall and edge-matched with a shiplap joint. The upper surface of the siding is milled with a cove scallop on top. This siding extends from the baseboard 17 feet upwards to the eaves. This type of drop siding was in use as early as 1860 and reflects Hailey's 1883 railroad connection with outside markets. Above the double doors is a triple light transom, each pane of the transom is a square of stained glass depicting a Christian theme. Above the transom is a three-light window arranged in a Gothic arch.

In 1920, the original structure was expanded on the east end with the addition of rooms for Sunday school. In 1929, due to population shifts and declining membership, congregation leaders of the Baptist Church and the Methodist Churches came together. A property exchange was negotiated and the Methodists received a deed to a church in Fairfield and relocated there. The Hailey Times Newspaper then identified this building as the Hailey Community Baptist Church, while the original Baptist Church structure at 2nd Avenue and Silver Street was sold to a third party and became the Miner's Hall.

During the 1950's, the Baptist membership grew and two adjoining city lots were acquired. A new kitchen, modern restrooms, furnace, roof and furnace were added.

Schulmerich Carillions bells were donated and installed, funded by local businessman Joseph Fuld and his wife, Lulu. The interior of the sanctuary retains much of its original design. The wooden pews, with their sturdy design and simple construction, are historic. The detail on the ends of the pews echo the decorative rafter tails and purlins observed on the outside of the church and may be original furnishings.

An extensive restoration project has rejuvenated the facility. A drainage system was created with perforated pipes, and dry wells. Regraded areas all to pull water away from the structure. Windows, doors, pews and paint have been repaired as well as the bell tower restored. Bells ring daily and melodies now call the faithful to services and are enjoyed by the community at large.

The National Register of Historic Places listed this building in 2017.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

HARRIS BUILDING

100 North Main Street

Originally on this site was the Merchant's Hotel, which burned down in the fire of 1889.

Charles Edward Harris traveled from Delhi, Iowa in 1882 to work in the Wood River mining district. He and wife Josephine Doolittle established the Harris Furniture Company in 1891 on Croy St. They built a home at Galena and N. 2nd Ave. in 1892 where they raised three children, Adelaide, Ralph and Helen. In 1896, Charles became the registered embalmer and town mortician and in 1903 they moved the Harris Furniture Company to this Main Street site. Charles died in 1906.

Ralph and his mother Josephine took over the family business. The reconstructed front of the one-story, hip-roofed building was the furniture store with the mortuary in the back. Ralph D. married Lena Julia Gibson from Rupert, Idaho, in 1911. Their children, Opal Estelle, Charles Alfred and Ruth Helen, were born in Hailey.

During the 1917 North Star Mine avalanche, the Harris Furniture Company became the mortuary. Fifteen miners died on site, two died later, and three people died of an influenza epidemic in town that week.

Ralph passed away in 1925 and Lena became the registered mortician in 1928. In July of 1935; Harris Furniture and Mortuary burned to the ground. Charles Harris, his mother Lena, and local contractor, Jack Rutter, rebuilt adding a second story with six apartments and a display room for caskets.

Charles married Pilar Arriaga in 1937. Pilar's parents, Eusebio and Pia Unamuno de Arriaga, arrived in Hailey from the Basque provinces of northern Spain in 1907 as sheep ranchers. They established a Basque Boarding House with a pelota (Basque handball) court on River Street between Bullion and Croy. Charles and Pilar managed the Harris Furniture Store and Mortuary until 1946 when the mortuary was sold to Charles' great uncle, Ray McGoldrick, who married Ralph Harris' sister Adelaide. Charles and Pilar raised two sons, Ralph and Joseph, and ran the Harris Furniture Company until May of 1973 when the building was sold.

The Harris family has lived for four generations in Hailey. Local artist Ralph Harris, married to Jacqueline Blake, painted the mural on the Blaine County Historical Museum building in Hailey and has twenty-one paintings on permanent display in the Pentagon, the U. S. Air Force Academy, the U. S. Air Force Museum, and the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. In 1962, he designed the official seal for Idaho State University and has illustrated for Ski, and Skiing Magazine, Sun Valley-Ketchum Wagon Days, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

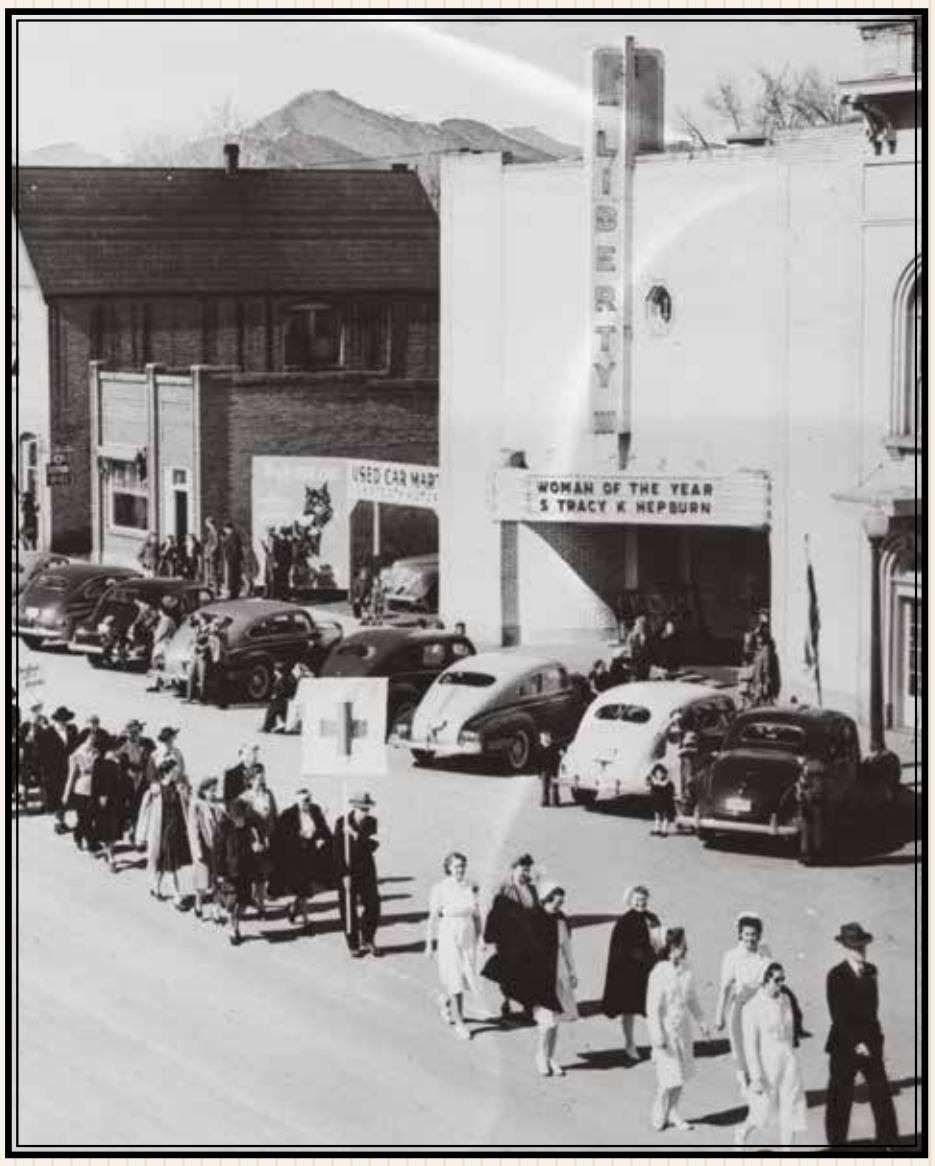
LIBERTY THEATRE

110 North Main Street

The Liberty Theatre is a fully restored, art deco icon on Hailey's Main Street. The original Liberty Theatre was built in the early 1900's and was located directly across Main Street from its present location. The owner of the building, Sam Brooks, brought silent films to Hailey in 1917, and one could often find him giving out free candy to the eager children attending the films. Sam Brooks also owned other Hailey businesses, including Brooks Tavern (The Mint) and the Brooks Hotel (Marinello Salon).

The present-day Liberty Theatre was built in 1938 on the site of an outdoor ice-skating rink. Jack Rutter, a local contractor known for his exceptional craftsmanship, envisioned a modern building to hold community events and screen "talking movies". Cinder bricks from Burley, Idaho, were used to form the walls of the building, and glazed tiles enhanced the façade. Scaffolding built in the form of a spiral allowed workers to transport the finished materials up to the ceiling in a wheelbarrow.

The Liberty was sold in 1973 and then again in 1994 to Bruce Willis and Demi Moore, who worked to restore the historic theatre—along with several other buildings in downtown Hailey—to its original glory. In 1996, the theatre became home to Company of Fools after the Richmond, Virginia - based theater group relocated to Hailey at Willis and Moore's urging. Company of Fools operated as an independent theatre company until 2013 when they merged with the Sun Valley Center for the Arts. In 2017, Moore and Willis donated the building to the Sun Valley Center for the Arts, ensuring the Liberty Theatre's status as a beautiful and iconic performance venue will remain well into the future.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

RILEY CORNER & HAILEY MASONIC LODGE

Bullion Street & South Second Avenue

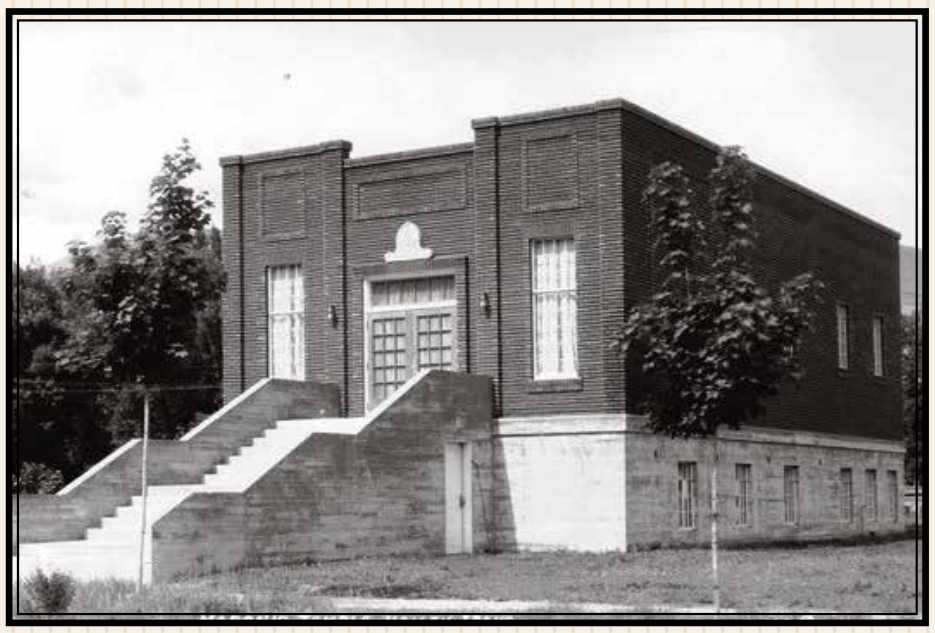
In the very early days of Hailey, this corner property was known as “Riley Corner”, so named for William and Francis Riley. William Riley was a friend and business partner of John Hailey and helped Hailey lay out the original 72 block Hailey town site. Riley built one of the first homes in Hailey on this property in 1885. The home burned to the ground in 1916, and the property remained vacant for the next 20 years.

In September1884, a petition was initiated and signed by a group of 55 Master Masons from across the United States to establish a Masonic Lodge in the City of Hailey. A year later, on September 10, 1885 a full charter was issued and formal recognition of the 16th Masonic Lodge in Idaho was established.

Little is known about the activities or of the membership of the Lodge in those early days as fires swept through the downtown area in 1889 and again in 1927, destroying the lodge meeting halls and with them many of the lodge records. In March of 1927, following this last fire, the Masons purchased the Riley Corner property and construction of a dedicated lodge building on the site was completed in 1937.

In July, 1942, Hailey Lodge #16 began what was called the Bald Mountain Meeting and for a number of years to follow, once a year, Masons gathered on top of Bald Mountain to confer the Third Degree on a candidate. Only Master Masons were allowed to participate and those who were qualified were transported to the summit by the Sun Valley ski lifts.

While membership in the Fraternity has gone through cycles of ups and downs, the Hailey Masonic Lodge has been able to keep its doors continuously open to all those interested in the craft and coming well recommended. In September of 2008, this Hailey Masonic Lodge Building was entered into the National Register of Historic Places. On September14, 2010, Hailey Lodge #16 AF & AM of Idaho celebrated its 125th anniversary.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO CATHOLIC CHURCH

315 South First Avenue

The Wood River Valley has lured mankind before recorded history. Native Americans came in search of a subsistence way of life before Europeans 'discovered' the American West. In the 1800's, fur trappers came and left but soon miners, ranchers, farmers, clergy, merchants, builders, entrepreneurs, railroad workers, skiers and developers migrated to settle in the Valley.

Father Louis Verhaag, a Catholic priest, arrived in 1880 and held the valley's first Mass in Bullion, a mining town of 700 residences west of Hailey. Father Emanuel Nattini, of Genoa, Italy, an adherent of the Catholic Church, came in 1881 following the path from Boise to Silver City to Hailey.

Father Nattini began his quest to build places of worship in the Wood River Valley. He secured five lots in Hailey, six in Bellevue, one in Ketchum and three lots in Shoshone. He was a visionary, who walked from Hailey to Shoshone, sleeping amidst the sagebrush and lava rocks.

The construction of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church began on June 17, 1883. The modest church was named after St. Charles Borromeo, a 16th-century cardinal who established the Catholic Church's first seminary and tended to the poor during the bubonic plague. The small frame building was located where Atkinsons' Market is today at 1st Ave and Bullion Street. This was the first denomination in Wood River Valley and the first Catholic Church to be builteast of Boise in Idaho.

On June 15, 1884, Father Nattini blessed two bells, one for St. Francis Zavier Church in Bellevue and one for St. Charles Borromeo. The St. Charles bell is inscribed with the initials D.O.M., an abbreviation for Deo Optimo Maximo, *To God, the Best, the Greatest.* The church building was moved to its present location in 1888. The bell tower still stands as part of the original church and houses the original bell cast by the Henry, McShane and Co., Baltimore, MD. The circular window from the original church can be seen in the Reinheimer Barn on Highway 75, south of Ketchum.

In 1913, parishioners raised $7,200 from suppers, dances and lawn socials for a new brick building, designed by architects Tourtellotte & Hummel in the Gothic Revival style, to be built by Nicholas F. Wirtzberger on this site. A railroad car served as a temporary church during construction. The new structure measured 64' x 34' with an 18' apse, and a corner campanile, and is one of the most remarkable examples in the state of Idaho of the use of architectural decorative metal sheathing of the steeple. An addition was constructed in 1985 to accommodate the growing congregation. St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

INCHAUSTI HOME

19 West Bullion Street

David Inchausti worked at a sheep ranch in Mackay, Idaho, but traveled back to Spain to marry his wife, Epifania “Epi” Inchausti in 1925. They soon settled in Hailey and opened a Basque Boarding House, which housed sheepherders and Basques who worked in the Triumph Mine.

In 1936, Epi and David Inchausti opened the Gem Bar & Boarding House, which was located directly across the street from Palmer’s Brothel. Built by Peggy Palmer, the original house was only as wide as the front porch. It had a tiny front room with French doors that opened up into Peggy bedroom. Next to that was a lavender bathroom. The dance hall portion of the building faced River Street, which was the Red Light District.

The Palmer House was put up for sale and the Inchausti’s bought it in the early 1940s for $2,000 to accommodate their growing family. There was room upstairs for their family and a large dining room where Epi served up to 20 diners each night. Epi’s Basque cooking of red bean soup, behi-hizkuntza (beef tongue), arkume erregosia (Lamb stew), txerriki urrun (pork loin), arroz esne and flana for dessert brought customers from Sun Valley. Bing Crosby, Gary Cooper, Ernest Hemingway, Janet Lee, Colonel Sanders and many other notable people frequented her table. Sooner or later someone started playing the spoons and someone else a concertina. Everyone would shove the tables and chairs up against the walls and the Basques would party. Basque recipes are still a traditional part of the annual Trailing of the Sheep Festival in Roberta McKercher Park.

Epi and David’s daughter, Rose Inchausti Mallory, was instrumental in cataloging the 1,500-original glass-plate negatives and 2,500 photographs in the 30-year documentation of central Idaho by Martyn Mallory and donating the Mallory Collection to the Hailey Public Library in 1995.

This home is one of very few remaining remnants of the time when half a dozen brothels lined this street.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

GOLDEN RULE BUILDING

103 South Main Street

Located on the southwest corner of Bullion and Main Street, the Golden Rule Building has played an important role in the city's history of retail and service. This multi-unit building sits adjacent to the Historic Werthheimer Building at the north wall. The building has housed businesses serving the community since the early 1900's, through years of expansive growth in the later 20th Century. Tenants have included restaurants, saloons, grocers, and retail stores.

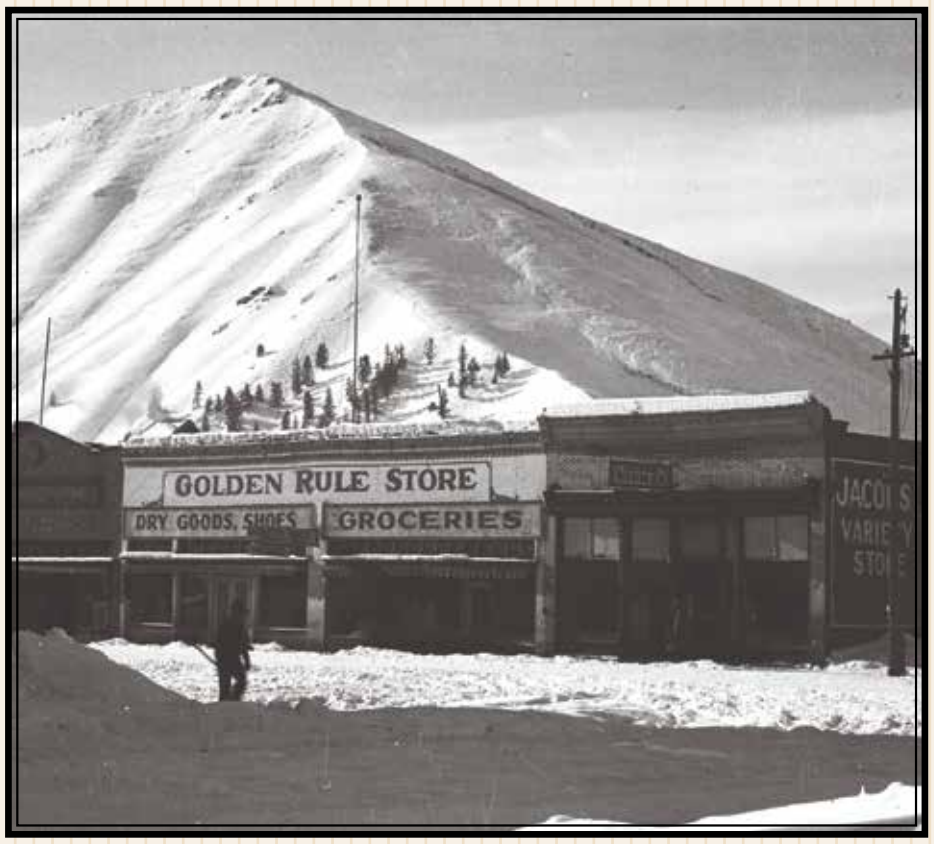
Construction of the building took place in response to tragedy, when an 1889 fire destroyed all the buildings on the block. The Golden Rule Building project was part of a joint venture to rebuild the 32nd city block, referred to as the Bullion Block, by prominent early Hailey merchants Leopold Werthheimer and J.C. Fox. In accordance to the original Old Town plat, the long, narrow building lots allowed public access on the Main Street side, with rear access from the alley behind. Once complete, the project included four units: the single-unit building furthest south on lot 4, the double-unit Golden Rule Building in the middle on lots 2 and 3, and the single-unit Werthheimer Building furthest north on lot 1.

Upon its completion around 1907, the two center units (eventually to be known as the Golden Rule Building) were occupied by J.C. Fox's retail clothing store. Fox was one of the founding businessmen in Hailey, arriving in May of 1881. The Fox family started grocery and boarding businesses in Hailey in the late 1800's, eventually changing retail offerings to women's clothing, accessories, and dry goods.

In the 1920's, both center units combined were used to house the structure's namesake, with a grocery, shoes, and dry goods store named the Golden Rule Store. As is common for early Idaho communities, documentation of historic buildings and businesses were scarce during periods of growth in the 1930's and beyond. This has affected much of what is currently known about the structure from these years.

In the 1940's and 1950's, Hailey resident, Ole Glenn, and his family ran the store under the name Golden Rule Store. It was purchased by Leo Stavros in January 1965. The name was changed to Triple S Market and it operated under that name until 1974, when it was purchased by Jack Holms.

More recently, from the end of the 20th Century through the second decade of the 2000's, the units of the Golden Rule Building have been used separately, as mostly as restaurants and bars.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

BULLION BLOCK SITE
WERTHEIMER BUILDING

101 South Main Street

The original building on this site, called the Bullion Block, was constructed in 1882. It was at this time that Hailey became the county seat of Alturas County after a bitterly fought election with Bellevue, and the existing county seat, Rocky Bar. The building was rented by the county from owners L. H. Woodin and Texas Angel to be used as the first County Courthouse, for $425 per month. The jail was located in the basement. The building served as the County Courthouse for 16 months until the present Courthouse on South 1st Avenue was completed in 1884.

Leopold Werthheimer, a German born clothing merchant, came to Hailey in 1884 with a stock of goods and opened a men's clothing and furnishings store in the Bullion Block. His business was successful, and in 1887 he was able to buy the building that housed his store. On July 2, 1889, a year and a day before Idaho was admitted to statehood, a disastrous fire destroyed virtually the entire business district of Hailey, including the Werthheimer's Bullion Block. The fire started under suspicious circumstances in a room above the Nevada Chop House located on Main Street. The rebuilding of the town began almost immediately. Werthheimer joined with local merchant, J. C. Fox and the First National Bank to construct a block of four attached commercial buildings. Werthheimer located on the former site of the Bullion Block. He reopened his business three months after the fire and continued to operate at this location until his death in 1913.

The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has housed Mallory Clothing, Jacobs Variety Store, Vancil Grocery, The Sage Shop and North and Company.





HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

J.C. FOX BUILDING

115 South Main Street

J.C. Fox, the original owner of the building and one of Hailey's founders, had this building erected in 1920 after operating a general store three doors up the street for almost 40 years. He served as mayor for two years and was vice president of Hailey National Bank. J.C. owned the property for 16 years before replacing its frame buildings with the brick Fox Building. The building was originally heated from water piped in from the hot springs west of Hailey. The first floor housed a saloon known as the Senate Pool Hall, the First National Bank of Hailey, and a jewelry store. The second floor housed the 10-room Hailey Hospital, operated by J.C.'s son, Dr. Earl Wellman Fox, which continued in use into the 1960's. Many townspeople were born under the skylight, which was replicated twice more when the building was renovated in 1984.

Doctor Fox was born in 1887 and raised in Hailey. He received his education at Barnes Medical School at the University of St. Louis and did post graduate study at Mayo Clinic. Dr. Fox gave 41 years of medical service to the community. He was quite benevolent to many patients who could not afford to pay for his services in cash, often accepting a chicken, pig, cow or garden produce as payment. For his long-distance house calls in winter he used the forerunner of the snow of the snowmobile, powered by an airplane engine.

Although the building has maintained its original façade, the interior now houses part of the Hailey Public Library on the first floor and Hailey City offices on the second floor.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

J.J. TRACY BUILDING

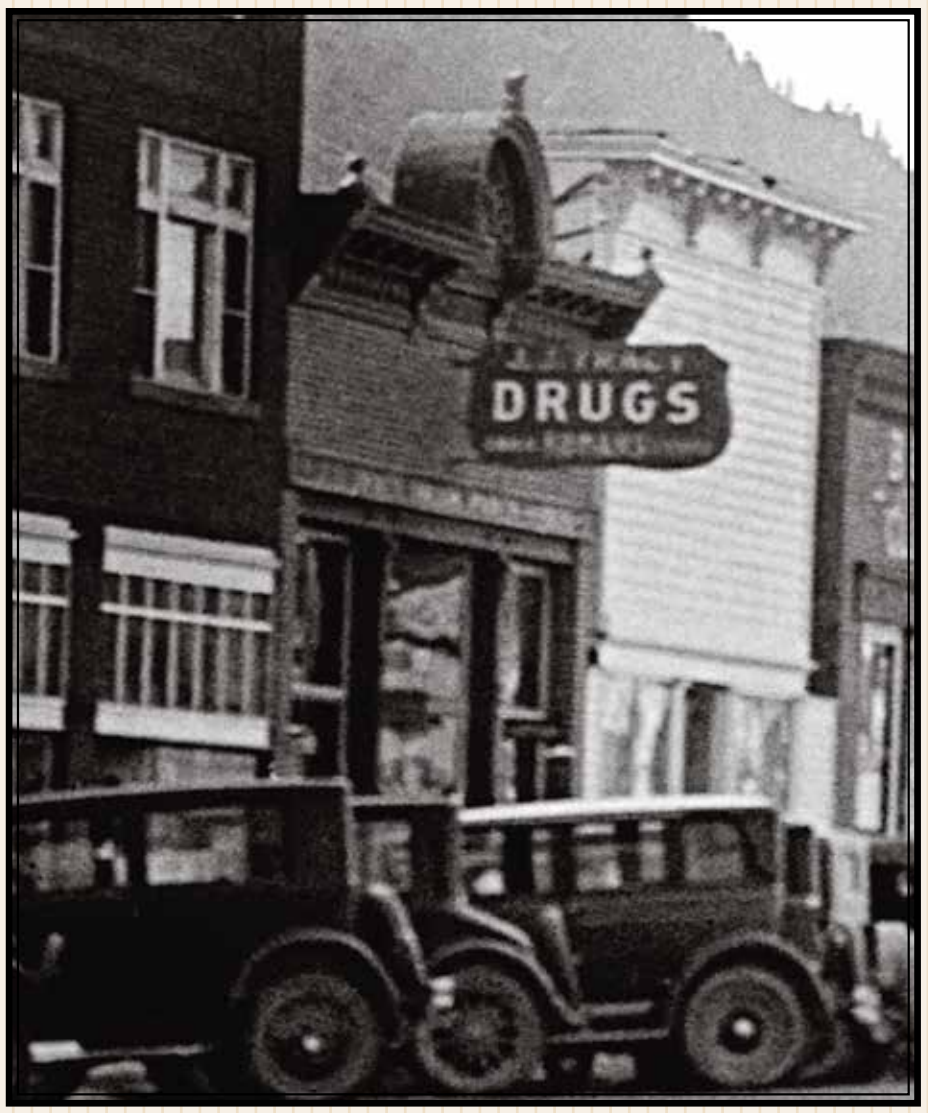
111 South Main Street

The J. J. Tracy Building was built as a Drug Store in 1906 by John J. Tracy. Already a pharmacist at the age of 22, Tracy migrated to the west, spending three months in Kelton, Utah, where he met William Rile, an entrepreneur and early partner of John Hailey. Arriving in the Wood River Valley in the late 1880's, Tracy and Riley set up the first drug store in Bellevue.

As the mining rush began in earnest, they relocated to Hailey and erected a tent-roofed building on Main Street. Shortly after setting up their establishment, Mr. Tracy organized and held the first dance in Hailey. A few years later, Mr. Riley retired.

All was ruined in the Fire of 1889. Tracy was only able to save a clock and a canary, according to the Hailey Times. After another prosperous period of time, Mr. Tracy built this building in 1906, where he operated his drug store, becoming the longest, continuous-serving merchant in the Wood River Valley until he died in 1932.

His family members ran the drug store for several more years until the store was sold to Otto Broyles, whose family operated a pharmacy until 1980.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

RIALTO HOTEL

201 South Main Street

In 1934, Julio Astorquia and his wife, Maria Astorquia, invested their hard-saved money to buy two lots on Main Street in Hailey for construction of a hotel. Julio came from the Basque region of Spain to the United States in 1913. He worked as a sheep herder until after World War I when the sheep industry suffered heavy losses that continued through the Great Depression.

The Rialto Hotel was the first Basque-American owned business constructed on Main Street in Hailey and is significant as an example of important commercial development in Hailey during the Great Depression. Before the 1930's, Basque residents and businesses were located on Hailey's River Street, south of the "red-light district", or houses of prostitution. Local building contractor and later Hailey Mayor, John M. "Jack" Rutter arranged a mortgage of $11,900 with Mr. Astorquia. The mortgage covered the costs of the lots on Main Street and subsequent construction of buildings there. Rutter supervised the hotel's construction, which started in August and was completed on November 22, 1934. The Rialto Hotel thrived and did well enough that the Astorquia's had paid off their mortgage by 1938.

The Astorquia family owned the Rialto Hotel until 1973. It was the longest-operating Basque boardinghouse in Blaine County. The building was used as a bar and restaurant for several more years. It was renamed the Hailey Hotel in 1980, and returned to its original name, old Rialto Hotel in 2018.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

W.H. WATT BUILDING

120 North Main Street

The Watt Building is connected in local memory with W. H. Watt, who had the building erected as a bank. An 1889 fire that demolished the business district of Hailey left few buildings still standing. The rear portion of the building, which may date from as early as 1882, is the only known extant brick survivor of the fire.

The front portion of the building probably dates from just after the fire, when a major rebuilding effort began. Features representative of the period include the gable front, the use of pressed sheet iron, the symmetrical façade, double-hung sash windows that are smaller than the large display windows just becoming popular, vertical massing, and the use of brick.

Dr. Robert Wright acquired the building in 1911 or 1912 and practiced there until 1967. Born south of Bellevue in 1881, he received his degree from Medical School American College in St. Louis. He worked in the Minnie Moore Mine west of Bellevue to earn money for school and rode the sheep trains to St. Louis. He organized the rescue effort at the disastrous avalanche at the North Star Mine in 1917.

Sawtooth Tile Insurance Company had its office here in 1960. The two-story porch, with turned posts, was added to the building around 1968. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. Over the last 30 years, the building has been used as a café, a bookstore, offices for the County Recreation District, apartments upstairs and a jewelry store.



HAILEY ARTS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City of Hailey Established 1881

HAILEY ARTS & HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
September 9, 2026, at 3:30 PM
To be held at Historic District Site
3:30 PM Site Visit at 100 S. 2nd Ave

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.
https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/686570877
You can also dial in using your phone.
(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly).
United States: +1 (872) 240-3212
One-touch: Tel: +18722403212,686570877#
Access Code: 686-570-877

Present: Michele Johnson, Kristin Anderson, Frank Rowland, Joan Davies, Karen Bliss, Toni Whittington, and Carol Waller. **Staff:** Ashley Dyer, Community Development City Planner, and Robyn Davis, Community Development Director

Call to Order: 3:31 pm Chair Johnson called the meeting to order.

1. **New Business:**
   - Historic Marker: Commissioners and staff met at the location of the Historic Marker "Riley's Corner/boulder" and Rowland updated the Commission; The update included a discussion about the community resources and services that were donated for this project to include Lunceford Excavation, Rob Beck, Rocky Mountain Hardware and Road Works Ahead, and how important it is that the Commission and city recognize their support. The Commission are working on sending out cards to the companies and people that helped to donate their services to the project, as well as a write-up in October's City Newsletter. Brain Yaegar with the Public Works Department met with the Commissioners as requested to discuss potential improvements to the corner site and what that would entail. The discussion about the site included drainage, visibility and possible irrigation etc. The Commission discussed moving forward to create a plan to incorporate a landscaping terrace that would include the existing steps to create a solid landscaping retaining wall to better help protect the site as well as clean up the site. Public Works staff stated they would accept a plan that is comprehendible but does not need to be completed by a design professional, however he mentioned that it might benefit the project to create a cohesive plan that could potentially include several Fiscal Year's budgets in order to create the ideal project. Whittington and Waller said they would take some photos and generate some design ideas to bring some ideas back to the meeting in October.
   - The Commission discussed the remaining budget for FY26 and agreed that since there are more funds available it would be to their benefit to use $10,000 of the remaining budget to pay for Kika's mural at the SV Car Wash in full. At 4:13 P.M, Waller made a motion to use the existing FY26 budget of $10,000 to pay for the SV Car Wash Mural in full, Rowland seconded and all were in favor.

2. **Old Business, In-Progress & Status Reports**
   - 4:12 pm Adoption of the Meeting Minutes from August 19, 2026. Rowland made a motion to approve the Minutes from August 19, 2026, Whittington seconded, and all were in favor.
     4:15 pm Bliss made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Whittington seconded, and all were in favor.

3. Next Meeting Agenda + Topics (Wednesday, October 14, 2026)

Davis and Dyer will remind the Board about the upcoming meeting.