# Idaho Heritage Highlights

June 2012

#### Dear Kristi,

The mission of the Idaho Heritage Trust is to preserve our State's historic fabric for the generations of tomorrow. We believe our historic buildings, archaeological sites, artifacts, and collections embody the stories of Idahoans -- where we came from and why we are who we are today.



Preserving Idaho's Heritage for Tomorrow

I d a h o H e rita q e

The Trust supports historic preservation projects by providing bricks and mortar grants and free technical assistance throughout all counties of the state. The matching grants are provided to organizations working to restore historic buildings, artifacts, and collections. The technical assistance is provided at no cost and includes architectural, structural engineering, archaeological, photo and artifact conservation. In unique circumstances we will find the expert and bring them in to train and educate those working on the project.

A Film

As the Idaho landscape washes in summer color, our Historical Architect, Fred Walters and I will be traveling the state providing technical assistance to numerous organizations and projects. Our Travels will take us to Paris, Victor, Ashton, Nez Perce, Bovill, Rathdrum and many other towns along the way.

We invite you to join us on this adventure by following our journey on our Facebook site. The Trust will be assisting some exciting new historic preservation projects and we look forward to sharing the highlights of our travels throughout the summer.

Thanks to the many professional, volunteer, and local preservationists like you, the lamp of historic preservation continues to burn bright across Idaho.

Respectfully yours,

Katherine Kirk, Architect Executive Directo

## Windows on History

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Hailey By Florence K. Blanchard



When Daniel Sylvester Tuttle, an Episcopal Bishop, stepped off the stage in Hailey in the summer of 1881, he found a bustling mining town with twenty saloons

## In This Issue

Windows on History Lewiston's Beuk Aie

Temple

River Crossings - A Memorial to the Pioneers

History of Warm River

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2012 National Preservation Conference: Spokane October 31 November 3, 2012



Move beyond traditional boundaries at the <u>National</u> Preservation Conference in Spokane

"Come to Spokane to bridge chasms, break tradition, and explore



and no churches . . . After a flurry of fundraising activities, the first services in a small brick church in Hailey were conducted on Christmas Day of 1885.

Although the building was nearly completed, it presented a somewhat primitive appearance. Long bowers of evergreen hung from ceiling to floor and small evergreen trees lined the unplastered brick walls. Bleached muslin covered the spaces that would soon be filled with jewel-

like stained glass windows memorializing many prominent community members. They are windows on history: reflections of early-day Hailey, its founding citizens, and the silver mining boom that drove the valley's settlement in the 1880's. Today, experts consider the stained glass windows of Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Hailey to be among the most unique historical windows in the Pacific Northwest.

Grisaille, the technique of painting ornamental designs on background glass, was developed in the Middle Ages and became a European tradition, although it was featured exclusively on non-colored glass. "These windows are unique, in that the artisans incorporated this long-accepted European technique onto the emerging American use of strong-colored glass," said David Schlicker, a professor of stained glass preservation at the University of Oregon. "The overlapping styles create combinations of color and light that are always changing and alive to the viewer." Schlicker has repaired and replaced the three windows above the altar as part of a ten-year plan to return all of the windows to their original condition.

On a grey winter day, they cast a kaleidoscopic light across the solid oak pews. There are sixteen windows, one above the door, six along each wall and three above the altar. Wheat, doves, lambs, angels, lilies, and other common motifs appear in the paintings that are framed by the colorful stained glass designs. The slender pointed arches or lancets are in the transitional style that emerged in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries.

The windows were likely purchased from studios in Chicago, St. Louis, or Philadelphia and the artisans remain unknown.

This unusual stained glass art tells many fascinating stories in the history of a small frontier mining community. The Emmanuel Episcopal Church is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Excerpt from Idaho Magazine, March 2010, by Florence K. Blanchard

The Idaho Heritage Trust, in ongoing support of the restoration of the stained glass windows, awarded a \$10,000 grant in 2011 to the Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Hailey.

#### Lewiston's Beuk Aie Temple

The Center for Arts and History at Lewis-Clark State College

Following the 1860 discovery of Gold in the Pierce mining district, thousands of miners rushed to the area. Because food and supplies were brought by steamboat up the Snake to the Clearwater River, "the confluence of these rivers became a convenient place to unload", and within a year, Lewiston had become a growing hub for the mines. By 1870, a large number of Chinese miners and families were living in and around Lewiston. According to historian Priscilla Wegars, Lewiston has had a Chinese temple since as early as 1875. Fire destroyed the first one and



what going beyond boundaries can do to move preservation deeper into the consciousness of Americans of all ages, backgrounds, and outlooks."

## Join the Idaho Heritage

Trust in an opportunity to participate - so close to home - in a national preservation conference. Experts and enthusiasts for preservation, community redevelopment, historical societies, and museums will experience high-level education, training, and networking with preservationists from across the country.

Scholarships are available from <u>Preservation</u> Idaho.

We plan to see you there!

# History of Warm

**River, Idaho** By Tomas Howell, Idaho Heritage Trust Board of Trustee



Howell Barn, Warm River

The first written account of traveling through the Warm River area was published in the Deseret News in Salt Lake City in August of 1890...

"We found an old trappers trail leading from the Warm River, or "Mormon Mule River" as it is sometimes called. The trail is very dim, and leads up to near the vicinity of the Vioia Falls (Mesa Falls) on the Snake River. We were told these falls were worth spending a day to see; but it being a wild country, without roads, very few people ever visit them. We camped on the Warm River, after following its winding course half a day, and found it one of the best places for fishing in our experience."

Read Complete Article Here

Technical Assistance in Southeastern Idaho periodic flooding threatened the second, but in 1890 a new temple was built on C Street where it remained until 1959.



"The Lewiston temple was known as the Beuk Aie Miuo (Miuo meaning temple), after Beuk Aie, the God of the North, who was the principal deity worshipped there", according to Wegars. "Beuk Aie, in his capacity as God of Water and Flood Control was an appropriate choice as the temple's chief protector."

In 1959, members of the Beuk Aie Temple Society sold the property anticipating a new temple would be constructed but was never realized. In 1991, the Temple Society transferred the remaining temple artifacts to the Lewis-Clark Center for Arts & History.

Today, the permanent Beuk Aie Temple exhibit, located in the Lewis-Clark Center for Arts & History, is one of the most well preserved Chinese Temples in the United States. According to Conservator Diana H. Dicus, it is unusual to have historical materials of this significance in the region of their original use".

The exhibit is displayed as the actual temple existed in the 1940's and 1950's. Although some of the temple's furnishings and objects disappeared in 1959, the Center for Arts and History at Lewis-Clark State College is working to preserve almost 1,000 Chinese artifacts, most of which were associated with the Temple.

"The exhibit exists to ensure that the achievements of Lewiston's Chinese and Chinese American pioneers are recognized and remembered for the benefit of future generations," stated Wegars.

Reference: Priscilla Wegars, Chinese at the Confluence, Lewiston's Beuk Aie Temple, 2000; Dr. James R. Hepworth, Center for Arts & History; Diana H. Dicus, Conservator

The Idaho Heritage Trust, in on-going support of the Beuk Aie Temple, awarded a \$2500 grant in 2011.

## **River Crossings - A Memorial to the Pioneers** Capitol Boulevard Memorial Bridge, Boise

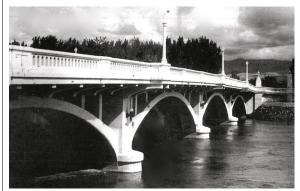


Photo Courtesy of Idaho State Historical Society

As you cross the Capitol Boulevard Memorial Bridge, take a moment to imagine the Pioneers traversing rivers in covered wagons with wood wheels or ferrying the current on a wooden ferry in raging water. And



(on the Oregon Trail)

In June, the Trust will visit and provide Technical Assistance on the following historical sites and buildings:

- Power County Historical Society,
- American Falls
  Odd Fellows Building, Soda
- Springs
   Bear Lake County Courthouse,
- Courthouse, Paris • Ruth House,
- Idaho Falls
- Idaho Museum, Idaho Falls
- Victor Train
- Depot • Bear Gulch
- Train Tunnel • Romance
- Romance Theater, Rexburg
  Historic Ranch
- Historic Ranch Homestead
- Historic Fort Hall Buildings

#### Technical Assistance in North Idaho



In June, the Trust will visit and provide Technical Assistance to the following historic buildings and sites:

- New Meadows
- DepotCraigmont
- Historical
- Society • 1895
- Homestead, Nez Perce • Lewiston Civic
- Lewiston Civi Theater

think about the craftsman who mixed and poured the concrete for this memorial bridge in wheelbarrows.

The State of Idaho and the City of Boise built this elegant bridge in honor of the Pioneers of the Oregon Trail who had previously crossed near this location on the McClennen Ferry.

Built in 1931 as part of the City of Boise's planning efforts to provide an axial alignment between the Union Pacific Depot and the Capitol Statchouse, its design captures the spirit of the Beautify Boise movement.

It follows the beaux arts principles of French neoclassical architecture; principles based on symmetry, balance, and splendor - as in the grand thoroughfare of the Champs-Elysees in Paris, an axis of grand vistas linking historic monuments.

Featuring geometric shapes in repetition and symmetry, graceful curves and elegance, and bronze metal sunburst detailing over the memorial artwork, the bridge is in the Art Deco style, typical of the 1920's - 1930's. The bridge originally included lighting on the piers reflecting off the Boise River which must have created a spectacular glow.

Considering that it was constructed of concrete by 100 men working 16hour days, 7 days per week for 200 days to beat the river's rising, the craftsmanship of the concrete detailing of the curves and reveals is extraordinary.

The City of Boise Arts & History Department, Planning & Development Services Department, and Public Works are working in collaboration with Ada County Highway District to repaint the bridge, care for the historic tiles and bronze plaques, and restore the historic lighting in time for the City of Boise's 150th Anniversary in 2013.

The bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

References: John Bertram & Elizabeth Egleston, National Register of Historic Places Registration; Terri Schorzman, City of Boise, Arts & History Department

Your License Plates at Work

The Idaho Heritage Trust provided Technical Advice for the project planning.

- Hurlbut Cutter Mansion, Lewiston
- Moscow
   Chamber of
- Chamber of Commerce
- McConnell Mansion,
- Moscow • Bovill Opera
- House
  Masonic Hall, St.
- Masonic Hall, St. Maries
   Historic Floating Homes, Heyburn
- State Park
- Indian Springs Schoolhouse
   Cataldo Mission
- Cataldo Mission
  & Parish House
  Homestead
- Cabin, Hayden • Post Falls
- Museum
   Corbin Gates
- Corbin Gates Ditch, Post Falls
- Pleasantview School, Post Falls
- Old Kootenai County Jail, Rathdrum
- Dover Baptist Church
- Victorian Mansion,
- SandpointPanida Theater,
- Sandpoint