

Historic Preservation Commission
City of Wallace
703 Cedar Street
Wallace, ID 83873

Final Report of the Wallace Historic Preservation Commission

SUBJECT: City of Wallace Historic District Designation

To: The Mayor and City Council of the city of Wallace:

Under Wallace City Code, Title 12-3-1, any area within the City of Wallace may be designated as a historic district by the City if it meets those requirements outlined in Title 12-3-1. Pursuant to the authority of the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) which is outlined in Title 12-4-1, the HPC has taken action to propose an area within the city that should be designated as part of the local historic district.

While the city and its inhabitants have historically relied upon the National designation of the Wallace Historic District as set forth by the National Register of Historic Places, and this designation has never been contested, it would likely be beneficial for the city and its inhabitants to make a formal adoption of this designated area at the local level to ensure consistency with local ordinances.

In compliance with Title 12-4 and 13-8-5 of the Wallace City Code, the HPC has undertaken an investigation into the historical, architectural, archeological, and cultural significance of the buildings, structures, features, sites, or surroundings within the city of Wallace. A similar investigation was also completed previously as part of the 1979 application for the Wallace Historic District through the National Register of Historic Places, as well as the 1983 and 2000 expansions of that Historic District. After a review of the findings made therein, the Wallace HPC has determined that the investigative methods used and conclusions made are sound in as much as they accurately analyze the criteria used for designation under Title 12-3-1 of the Wallace City Code. Therefore, it is the formal recommendation of the Wallace HPC that the city of Wallace adopt that geographical area, including the boundaries and resource status (contributory, compatible, non-contributory) established in the 1979 Wallace Historic District under the National Register of Historic Places nomination, inclusive of the 1983 and 2000 boundary increases and resource status designations, and further inclusive of any future boundary increases or resource status designations as may be made to the Wallace Historic District under the National Register of Historic Places.

It is the investigative conclusion of the Wallace HPC that the quality of significance in American, Idaho, or Wallace history, architecture, archaeology, or culture is present in the sites, buildings, structures, and objects that constitute such district, and that they possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

1. Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of such history; or,
2. That they embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or that they represent a significant and distinguishable area whose components may lack individual distinction.

It is further the recommendation of the Wallace HPC that, should any particular buildings, structures, features, sites, or surroundings be deemed to lack individual distinction or historic integrity, that the City find the proposed historic district as a whole conveys an overall sense of the time and place of the period of which the elements of the district gained historic significance and therefore, the historic district should have significance as a whole.

While the historic district boundary may be subject to change over time based upon further designations by the National Register of Historic Places, it is the recommendation of the Wallace HPC that a map which outlines those buildings, structures, features, sites, and surroundings within the district, as well as the designation of those properties as "contributing, non-contributing, and compatible," should be kept at the Wallace City Hall and made available to citizens upon request. A map which may be used for this purpose has been attached and is identified as "Map 6", along with maps labeled Map 7-12 which demonstrate enlarged views of what is depicted in Map 6.

It is further recommended by the Wallace HPC that a formal legal description of the area encompassed in Map 6 should also be kept at the Wallace City Hall and made available to citizens upon request. A legal description using parcel references based on parcel data from the county of Shoshone has been prepared and is attached, consistently labeled, "Historic District Boundary Legal Description."

Pursuant to the requirements of the Wallace City Code and Idaho Code §67-4607, a proposed Historic District Designation Ordinance has been drafted for your consideration. This ordinance has been labeled "ORDINANCE NO. 2020-04" and should encompass all of the necessary findings of fact and conclusions of law needed to designate the historic district proposed by the Wallace HPC.

This Final Report of the Wallace Historic Preservation Commission regarding the formal designation of a historic district within the city of Wallace has been approved by the Commission, after a public hearing held in compliance with all applicable laws, with proper notice being duly given to the owners of all properties to be included in such district, on this 7th day of October, 2020.



David Sherman, HPC Chairman