

“Preserving Moscow’s Unique Past for the Future”

PRESERVATION MOSCOW

JULY 2013

A Tale of Two Parks

Two of Moscow’s oldest parks are significant contributors to our city’s charm. Both East City Park and the University of Idaho Administration lawn, with their mature trees, verdant lawns, and memorable histories, are treasured as places to celebrate, exercise, hear music, picnic with friends and restore our souls.

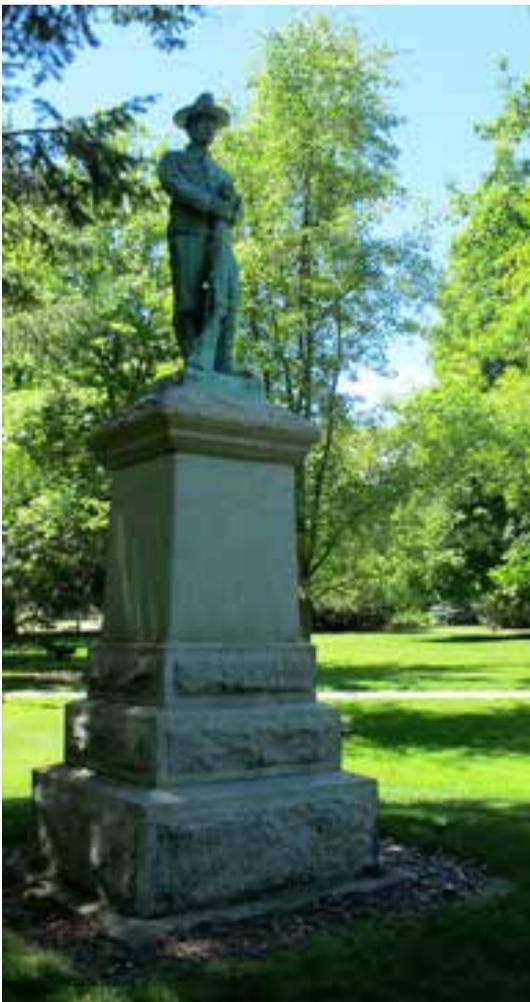
Both of these green places also provide memorials to the many students and citizens of our region who fought and lost their lives in our nation’s wars. Those who pause to read these memorials will remember the cost and how close-to-home has been each war. Also, the two parks reflect ways the university and town have enriched and supported each other through more than a century.

Sweat and generosity of Moscow’s residents gave us East City Park and its plants and amenities. Today, it is home to three annual festivals—Hempfest, Renaissance Fair and Rendezvous in the Park. Thursday nights each June and July from 6:30 to 7:30 P.M. air fills with sounds of concert music by local musicians. And from Moscow’s earliest Fourth of July events through 1970s war protests to today’s demonstrations and commemorations, the park is the natural landing spot for walks that originate at Main Street’s Friendship Square.

In 1882, just 11 years after the arrival of Moscow’s first permanent settlers, nine Moscow pioneers donated a total 7.4 acres for development of East City Park. Their names remain on a park plaque:

H.C. Baker, R.H. Barton, E.D. Boyer, Herbert Clark, C.A. Howard, Charles Moore, Frank W. and John G. Paine and William Simpson.

Nine years later, in 1891, came the trees. Farmer-entrepreneur F.E. Mix and his son William donated and supervised selection and planting of the park’s first trees. If you should ever want flowers, benches, paths, a bandshell, kiddie swings, etc. in your park, try to find a woman like Mrs. Samuel Curtis, 1910 chair of the Forestry and Civic Improvement Department in Moscow’s Women’s Historical Club. Aided by Mrs. M.E. Lewis and Mrs. Burton L. French, the



Spanish American monument on UI green.



Doughboy located in East City Park

trio set their sights on major improvements. They declared a “Tag Day,” pinning red tags on Moscow residents who then were expected to contribute money for the park. “We want 200 people to give \$1 each, a few people to give more than \$1, [and] 500 people to give 50 cents, another 500 to give 25 cents and 500 school children to give us 10 cents,” said Mrs. Curtis.

People did. The City Council approved landscape plans. The university’s forestry department faculty examined existing trees and tagged diseased or misshapen ones for removal. Not yet done, Mrs. Curtis and friends asked for flower and shrub donations from town folks’ gardens. Plants arrived by wagon loads. A landscape artist earned \$80 to create flower and shrub beds throughout the park and design paths and other amenities. Finally, the club women declared it “the most beautiful small-town park in the country.”

Meanwhile, in 1889, less than a mile from East City Park, the University of Idaho’s campus was a mere 20-acre wheat field sold by James Deakin to university regents for \$4,000. “It was primitive enough to stagger the [university’s first] fledgling president,” according to author Rafe Gibbs in his *Beacon for Mountain and Plain, Story of the University of Idaho*.



Muddy field of the new University of Idaho campus, UISC 1-105-15

When Benjamin Gault, 41, left his job as superintendent of public schools in Tacoma and first stepped on campus, the field “had been freshly plowed, and was the muddiest place he had encountered east of Tacoma,” wrote Gibbs. Judge James H. Forney of Moscow, a member of the Board of Regents appointed by the state’s legislature, “had to nudge the president to get him started across the plowed field. Inside the west wing [of the first Administration Building], Gault stepped over piles of boards and gazed at still-unplastered walls. ‘His whole body seemed to wilt—all except his large jaw,’ Forney chuckled later.”

But within two decades, the campus had made strides. By 1908—two years after the first Administration Building burned—the University of Idaho campus received a conceptual plan from the Olmsted Brothers of Massachusetts. They were sons of Frederick Law Olmsted who co-designed New York’s Central Park. Even though the UI campus only followed some of Olmsted’s recommendations, the Olmsted influence no doubt helped our campus win its reputation as one of the most beautiful in the West.

Both the UI Admin. lawn and East City Park are linked in war memorials, too. Memorials may go unnoticed, but for visitors who do look, they’re a reminder how close to us wars are and how much blood our local people shed in far off lands during the 1898 Spanish-American War in Cuba and The Philippines, World War I (1914-18) and World War II (1939-45), Korea (1950–53) and Vietnam (1955–75).

A doughboy statue in East City Park memorializes Latah County men who died in four wars. You can read 150 names on World War I and II plaques, five names on the Korean plaque and six names from Vietnam.

The university campus is especially appropriate for memorials since President Abe Lincoln’s decree in signing the Morrill Act that created America’s Land Grant Universities. One of the duties prescribed was to prepare young men for military service. Until the U.S. draft ended in 1973, all entering male students engaged in some military training. Since the draft ended in 1973, ROTC remains a choice on campus.

The University of Idaho had only 248 students in 1898 when America joined the Spanish-American war; 39 men enlisted, the highest percentage of students (15.7%) from any U.S. campus. They were led by Lieutenant Chrisman, a charismatic UI professor. He later went on to fight in World War I, returned to the UI campus to teach, and had his ashes scattered on campus after he died of natural causes.

Two of Chrisman’s UI cadets didn’t live to come home. They were Paul Draper, Mesa, Wash., and Sergeant Ole Gabriel Hagberg of Christiana (now Oslo), Norway. Both Chrisman and Draper survived the storied Battle of San Juan Hill in Cuba, led by Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders. Draper died later in the Philippines while trying to rescue his men from drowning. In Manila, Hagberg died of typhoid fever in 1898.

In 1901, a life-size statue of a soldier memorialized Draper’s and Hagberg’s sacrifice. Rifle in hand, it still stands on the Admin. lawn. While the sculptor’s name is lost, the statue’s cost is recorded at \$500. A relative of Hagberg, who came to see the statue in 1954, said he thought its face looked rather like his relative, but that is not confirmed.

Over the years, vandals chipped off pieces and marred the statue with paint. Vietnam War protesters destroyed the soldier’s rifle and both hands in the 1960s. In 1985, Terry Armstrong, then an assistant to the UI president, located Bud Washburn, a Lewiston statue restorer who, ironically, had lost both of his hands in different accidents. Working with hooks as hands, Washburn beautifully restored the entire statue, rebuilding both hands and rifle. Washburn determined the statue was an original—not made from a cast.

While both parks help us remember the costs of war, they also bring us great pleasure. Thanks to all who came before us, making them possible.



Ole Hagberg, UISC 3-22C



In 1897, from left: Winslow Howland, Lt. Edward R. Chrisman, Gilbert Hogue, Charles Simpson, Paul Draper, UISC 1-208-5

From the National Preservation Conference

Members of Moscow's Historic Preservation Commission rubbed shoulders with the nation's most noted historic preservationists in Spokane last fall at the National Preservation Conference sponsored each year in a different location by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Here are their stories.

Life and Work in Spokane's Railroad Alley



Railroad Alley

Historic warehouse buildings along downtown Spokane's Northern Pacific Railroad corridor (now BNSF) bustle with new life as residential lofts, condominiums and boutique businesses flower in downtown Spokane. We visited six lofts in six different buildings along the active rail corridor.



Inside the Kolva condominium

The loft revolution began in the 1950s when many artists and residents decided to convert vacant industrial and warehouse buildings in Manhattan's SoHo district into spacious live-work spaces. Exposed ceilings, multistory windows, open floor plans, cast-iron framing and cement floors are perfect settings for studios, galleries and avant-guard homes. It wasn't long before this SoHo lifestyle caught the public's imagination, and loft living became a worldwide phenomenon.

Two examples to visit: **Barrister Winery**, 1213 West Railroad Avenue, Spokane. Do not be confused with Railroad Alley, which is on the north side of the railroad overpass. If lost, call (509)-465-3591. **Trackside Studio & Kolva Sullivan Gallery**, 115 South Adams Street. Housed in a great industrial warehouse space, the Kolva Sullivan features monthly revolving shows by regional artists, often with a ceramics emphasis. The adjoining studio shows ceramics produced on site by two potters.

—D. Nels Reese

Historic Preservation and Sustainability

Traditionally, historic preservation has been considered separately from the concept of sustainability, yet one seminar I attended focused on the very natural pairing of the two.

It is inherently an act of sustainability to preserve an historic structure because it already has embodied energy and resources built into it. By not preserving an existing structure, we waste materials and energy that went into it when it was originally constructed. Retrofitting an existing structure allows it to not only become energy efficient,

but also to continue contributing to its usefulness and our culture, thanks to its historical context. The best method for recognizing "where we've been" is through the examination and preservation of our most visible historic artifacts—the buildings where we live, work, socialize and worship. Making them sustainable for the future without further damage to the environment only makes sense and saves the best of the past for future generations.

— Pamela Overholzer

Can a Green Building Include Preservation?

Several seminars explored relationships between historic preservation and "green" building projects. In "Is it Easy to be Green?", presenters suggested that preservation can also be green, but only if indicators for success are rethought. Potential roadblocks are created where performance is only evaluated using metrics designed by purists from either camp.

For example, die-hard preservationists may focus solely on aesthetic concerns by seeking to freeze a building in time. Efforts to enhance energy performance may be construed as overly intrusive and therefore

unacceptable. Architects and engineers seeking to maximize energy performance may focus solely on meeting per-square-foot energy budgets.

Potential conflicts might intensify in cases where districts hope to encourage both investment in historic buildings through the National Park Service's historic investment tax credit program (HITC) and greener building and neighborhoods by meeting standards set by the US Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and the Environment (LEED) program.

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Orchid Awards 2012

The **Moscow Historic Preservation Commission** once each year presents Orchid Awards to recognize outstanding examples of historic preservation in the community. The following awards were presented on July 29, 2012 at the annual Latah County Historical Society's Ice Cream Social. Awards for 2013 will be announced at this year's Ice Cream social at the McDonnell Mansion on July 28. If you have a home 50 years or older and have restored the exterior to preservation standards, please let us know as we would like to honor you with an orchid award, too.



Heart of the Arts, Inc., for stewardship of the 1912 Center and public outreach to make further renovation possible. Heart of the Arts has managed the facility since 2007 under contract with the City of Moscow. The city owns the building,

which was originally Moscow High School and in 2012 celebrated its centennial year. Heart of the Arts, a nonprofit corporation, schedules the varied events that take place, promotes the center to an ever-widening audience in the greater Moscow area and coordinates fund raising and grant applications in pursuit of renovating the remaining two floors of the building as a multipurpose community center.

Ken Pedersen and the Moscow Cemetery District for historically sensitive restoration of a small, deteriorating building for use as a chapel by cemetery visitors. During the past several months, a group of volunteers has renovated a wood-frame building at the Moscow Cemetery now to be used as a simple chapel. The building had previously been an office and storage shed. It may have been a chapel originally, but the pertinent documents were lost in a fire at City Hall in the early 1900s. Ken Pedersen assembled a remarkable collection of in-kind donors and volunteers who sanded the floor, repainted the interior walls, replaced windows and salvaged pews from a church in Juliaetta. Work on the exterior is continuing this summer.



Andriette Pieron for historically sensitive adaptive reuse of her residence at 115 North Polk Street. Ms. Pieron employed Wasankari Construction to elevate the structure of this wood frame residence and add a basement. She finished the space quite elegantly as a guest house called Andriette's Bed, Book & Bicycle. The home was built in 1915 in what is now the Fort Russell Historic District. By lifting the structure in place, she was able to increase the floor space without enlarging the footprint or disturbing the exterior walls and roofline.

Larry and Laurel Branen for historically sensitive additions to their residence at 417 South Hayes Street. The Branens recently purchased this attractive home and added a bedroom on the rear and a small roof over the front porch. These additions were done so well and so harmoniously with the existing architecture that most passers-by would not even notice the changes. They also remodeled the stand-alone garage in a way that is also in harmony with the home and the surrounding neighborhood.



Magyar, Rauch & Thie, PLLC, a law firm, for historically sensitive adaptive reuse of the former residence at 326 East Sixth Street. Robert Magyar, Gregory Rauch, and Brian Thie bought a building that had been converted to apartments and renovated it for a law office. It sits on a prominent position at the top of Sixth Street hill, across Adams Street from the Latah County Courthouse. The building had visibly deteriorated during its years as an apartment house. The renovation involved extensive upgrades or replacements of the plumbing, wiring, heating systems, windows, foundation and structural elements.



Moscow Parks and Recreation Department for collecting and preserving historical information about Moscow's public parks and buildings. Since 2006, University of Idaho interns working for the Moscow Parks and Recreation Department under Director Dwight Curtis have been researching the historical origins and uses of the many parks and buildings the City of Moscow owns and operates. The Department has now put this information together in a 116-page book. *Moscow Parks & Recreation Department Parks, Lands, and Facilities Historical Guide* includes 20 parks, three trails, 10 buildings and 18 other pieces of property owned by the city. This information will be added to the city's website as staff time permits—www.ci.moscow.id.us/. The award honors the department for helping to find and preserve this historic information that might otherwise become lost or inaccessible.

Where is it?

Last Year's Winners are Tessa and Cole Brusven.

Quiz answers from last year were:

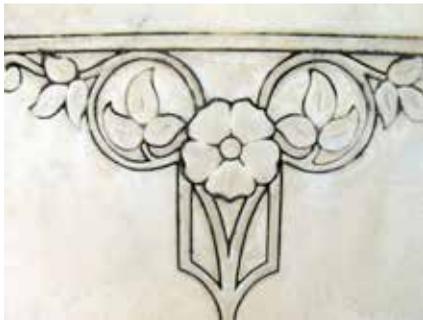
1. 1912 Center;
2. 104/106 S. Adams;
3. Methodist Church;
4. Moscow Public Library;
5. Unitarian Church;
6. Moscow City Hall;
7. East City Park;
8. 104/106 S. Adams;
9. Moscow City Hall.

To identify mystery headstones, located in blocks four, five, seven and eight, copy the family name and date of death corresponding with photo number. (See map on Chapel if you need help.) Then submit your list by Nov. 1 to the front desk of the Paul Mann Building, located at Jefferson and Second Street. Include your name and phone number so we have contact information. Please be respectful of the cemetery and headstones as they are fragile.

Good luck.



#1



#2



#3



#4



#5



#6



#7



#8



#9

This year's Architectural Features Contest again offers area schools and families a walking tour to locate unique architectural details found in the Moscow Cemetery. A prize made by Pam Overholtzer will be awarded to the winning contestant.



Main Street as Art

Bill Lambert, Pam Overholtzer, and Wayne Krauss are proudly displaying shadow boxes featuring three of Moscow's historic buildings. Pam Overholtzer is the preservationist and creator of these shadow box renditions of the David's Building (now Champion's), the original Kenworthy Theater and the Nuart Theater. City Councilman Krauss was awarded his shadow box for service with the Moscow Preservation Commission. Bill Lambert bought his shadow box at a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity. Pam is showing off the shadow box of the original Kenworthy Theater that will be the prize for this year's quiz winner. If you would like to commission Pam to make an art piece of a special building of your choice, she can be contacted at poverholtzer@alumni.uidaho.edu.



Renewal for Troy's Theater

by Barbara Coyner

When it comes to historic restoration, David Egolf gets his hands dirty. The vice-chair of the Latah County Historic Preservation Commission (LCHPC) is restoring Troy's historic movie theater, and he lives in a historic storefront that once housed Virginia's Café. Rumor has it that Bing Crosby ate at Virginia's and even defended the proprietress from an obnoxious drunk on one memorable occasion.

Egolf is retiring after 19 years as an electrical engineering professor at the University of Idaho. That means a stepped-up effort to finish the theater, which he bought in 2000, envisioning it as a venue for area performers. "We hauled 17 pickup loads of junk out of here," he says of the initial cleanup. Since then, he's replaced paneling, painted the exterior, and done several infrastructure modifications. Soonest it could open is in 2014.



Dave Egolf and Molly pose in their home, Troy's former Virginia Café.

Both buildings are in the Troy Downtown National Historic District, established in 2010. The district includes 18 one- and two-story commercial buildings built between 1898 and 1953 in this town of 800 residents. The district is on the west side of Main Street (also State Highway 8), between Fourth and Sixth Avenues.

A Casper, Wyoming native, Egolf attended the University of Wyoming, sometimes partying at the remote Snowy Range Lodge. The 10,000-square-foot log building fell into neglect and faced demolition when David bought it for \$400. Restoration was grueling, taking 18 10-hour days and three workers just to complete the foundation work. Because the lodge was at 9,500-foot elevation—often buried in 20-foot snowdrifts—the restoration took nine years. The place eventually became a venue for weddings and parties, and it remains on the National Register of Historic Places. While Egolf taught electrical engineering at the University of Wyoming, he also restored three other historic buildings in Laramie.

He credits his Army stint in Vietnam with giving him the courage to take on big projects. "I learned that there is really nothing to jacking up buildings," he says. Given his accomplishments, Egolf seems just the right person to restore Troy's old movie house for the community's enjoyment.



The exterior's new face already brightens Main Street.

(Below)

Troy Theater's progress gets a look from Latah County Historic Preservation Commissioners, from left, Sharon Harris, Bob Callison, Dorothy Anderson and Karen Owsley.

Latah County Historic Preservation Commission members

Karen Owsley, Chair, Moscow

David Egolf, Vice-Chair, Troy

Haley Lengasher, Secretary, Deary

Dorothy Anderson, Troy

Bob Callison, Kendrick

Barbara Coyner, Princeton

Dan Crandall, Moscow

Roger Falen, Genesee

Sharon Harris, Kendrick

Becky Kellom, Bovill

C. Elizabeth Lind, University of Idaho Liaison, Moscow

Mauri Knott, Latah County Planning, Moscow



Calendar of Events

**Save the date:
September 25 to 27**

**Idaho Heritage Conference
Celebrating Idaho's Territorial
Sesquicentennial "Building Our Story,
Expanding Our Reach"**

Whether you are a professional historian, archeologist, teacher, student, community leader, museum volunteer, amateur preservationist, or simply a local history buff, we invite you to attend this three-day historical event aimed at remembering Idaho's past and shaping its future.

Hear speakers from across the state and country discuss preserving history, economic development, tourism and more. Attendees can select one of four field sessions and attend more than 30 courses and cultural events covering Idaho's history. The field sessions are:

Archaeology of the Overseas Chinese: Hop Lee's Placer Claim. Learn about early Idaho's mining and the Hop Lee Tong story and how it relates to Chinese immigration in the American West.

State Archives and Storage Facility. A guided tour of the Idaho State Archives and the Idaho State Historical Museum Storage Facility.

Idaho 150 Sites. Visit sites near Boise dating from the Territorial Era. Though most sites will be seen from the bus, one or two will include visits.

Nampa Main Street. A downtown district tour of Idaho's second-largest city with the opportunity to visit historical locations and learn about the Nampa Development Corporation.

Making connections between people, knowledge and powerful ideas will build our story of Idaho's diverse heritage and expand our reach together. To learn more or to register today please visit www.preservationidaho.org/heritageconference.

Year-round

1886 McConnell Mansion, Moscow, open Tues–Sat, 1 to 4 P.M. This architectural and historic landmark in the Fort Russell Historic District is at 110 S. Adams Street. Free tours available.

Centennial Annex, Moscow, open Tues–Sat, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. at 327 E. Second Street. It's the best place for research on local history topics. See more about the Latah County Historical Society at www.latahcountyhistoricalsociety.org/.

2013

July 28, 1 to 4 P.M., Moscow

Ice Cream Social at McConnell Mansion includes historic clothing for children to model, music, displays and horse-drawn rides around the block. 2013 Orchid awards will be awarded during the activities.

September 12–15, Moscow

Latah County Fair: See historic photos at the Latah County Historical Society booth; sign up for membership.

September 22, 2 to 4 P.M., Moscow

Mary Reed's **tour of the oldest part of Moscow's cemetery**. Meet at the Sexton's Chapel.

September 25–27, Boise

Idaho's Heritage Conference at Idaho State Capitol. Registration begins June 1. Participating sponsors include Idaho State Historical Society, Idaho Archaeological Society, Idaho Heritage Trust, Idaho Humanities Council, and Preservation Idaho.

October 6, Boise

Heritage Homes Tour. Go to www.preservationidaho.org/calendar.

October 23, 7–9 P.M., Moscow, City Council Chambers

"Do's And Don'ts For Treatment of Historic Buildings," an overview of how to update historic buildings for today's needs while keeping them historically accurate. Sponsored by Latah County Historical Commission and Lewiston Historic Preservation Commission.

November 10, 11:30 to 2:30 P.M., Moscow

Latah County Historical Society **Harvest Dinner** at Moscow Middle School, 1410 East D. Street. Call 882-1004 for ticket information or buy at the door.

December 14, 1 to 4 P.M., Moscow

Victorian Christmas at McConnell Mansion includes treats, crafts for children, caroling.

2014

January 26, 1 to 4 P.M., Moscow

Latah County Historical Society **annual meeting** and potluck lunch in the Great Room 1912 Center, 412 E. Third Street.

Example: A downtown Providence, RI, case study demonstrates how to better marry policies guiding the HITC and LEED programs. The National Park Service prohibits application of exterior shading devices on prominent building facades. Among its criteria for certification, LEED requires reduction of fossil fuel consumption in existing buildings using the application of shading devices. Given that Providence's historic downtown is pedestrian-oriented, could an argument be made that investment in historic buildings located in such a walkable neighborhood would

actually reduce overall fossil fuel consumption above and beyond whatever savings would result from adding shading devices? To foster a culture of stewardship for both historic and natural resources, holistic approaches are needed that involve out-of-the-box thinking. Can communities, design professionals and regulating agencies come together to employ metrics that address multiple goals simultaneously? After all, adaptive use can be the ultimate recycling program.

— Wendy McClure

Trouble on Hallowed Ground

Stepping onto the damp grass on a sunny morning with rain-shimmering autumn leaves above, I was about to experience a beautiful Spokane cemetery journey like few have been fortunate to share. Author John Caskey led conference attendees to look at the underside of a forlorn corner of preservation.

I learned:

- A type of lichen appears only in cemeteries in the U.S.
- Grass was introduced, changing cemetery tradition and causing ground markers to be covered up and lost to history
- Watering the grass causes upright markers to tilt and fall in softened ground

These are only some of the issues discussed on our five-hour tour of four of Spokane's 60 cemeteries. Caskey has written a guide

book, *Spokane's Historic Cemeteries*, which makes a fine companion to a Spokane summer or fall experience.

After learning about the sad care many cemeteries experience, we in Moscow should feel fortunate to have a dedicated staff for our cemetery who care for and maintain it better than average. The little chapel now has a just-completed toilet room to illustrate this point. Give them a kudo and maybe a few dollars to help keep our cherished Moscow story on-going.

Tour the oldest part of the cemetery with Mary Reed September 22, 2 to 4 P.M. Our city cemetery contains remains of Moscow residents from 1870. Buried there are distinguished residents including Gov. McConnell and a paupers' row. Reed, for years the director of the Latah County Historical Society, brings to life Moscow's history and sense of community dating to the city's origins.

— Joyce Reese



City of Moscow
PO Box 9203
Moscow ID 83843

The Moscow Historic Preservation

Commission is appointed by the Mayor of Moscow to address Moscow's historic preservation issues. The Commission works within the community to identify, preserve and celebrate Moscow's unique heritage, encouraging residents to take an active interest in historic preservation projects.

Commission meetings are conducted on the fourth Thursday of each month at 4:30 P.M. at Moscow City Hall. Contact Mike Ray at (208) 883-7008 for further information.

Commission Members:

D. Nels Reese, *Chair*

Wendy McClure	Pam Overholtzer	Jack Porter
Joyce Reese	Cheryl Zmina	Emilie Edde

Mike Ray, *Liaison to City Planning*

Dan Carscallen, *Liaison to Moscow City Council*

The Commission has two positions vacant. If you are interested in historic preservation in the community and would be interested in joining the Commission, please contact Mike Ray (883-7008).

PRESERVATION MOSCOW is published yearly by the Moscow Historic Preservation Commission to keep residents updated on historic preservation and restoration efforts in the community.

Mary Ann Reese, *Editor*
Joyce Reese, *Graphic Designer*

Special thanks to Curator Ann Catt (retired) and the Latah County Historical Society; Dwight Curtis, Director of Moscow Parks and Recreation; Julie Monroe, Special Collections and Archive, University of Idaho Library; Barbara Coyner; Nels and Joyce Reese; Wendy McClure; Pam Overholtzer; Mary Reed; and Jack Porter for providing photos, stories, research and content feedback.