Oneida County
Historic Preservation Plan

Idaho’s Heritage: Preparing Historic Preservation Plans
American Planning Association, Idaho Chapter
2021 Conference
Oneida County Historic Preservation Plan

• Oneida County adopted a Historic Preservation Code in March 2019
• Assembled a Historic Preservation Committee
  • Chair, Jean Thomas
  • County Commissioner Bill Lewis is member/liaison
• Obtained a CLG grant from the Idaho SHPO

Main and Bannock Streets, Malad City, 1915
Oneida County Historic Preservation Plan

- Where is Oneida County?

- Malad City Population: 2,081 (2019)
Oneida County Historic Preservation Plan

FUNDING

• CLG Grant from Idaho SHPO
  • $12,000
• Local Funds
  • $1,000 from Oneida County Relic Preservation and Historical Society

TOTAL $13,000

• Additional Local Contribution
  • $5,000 from Oneida County Historic Preservation Committee in volunteer time

Samaria, Oneida County, Listed on the NRHP in 1979
Oneida County Historic Preservation Plan

TIMELINE

• February – Hired consultant
• March – Initial meeting
• April-June – Public input/OCHPC discussions
• July-August – Research/drafting
• Sept. 30 – Project deadline
• Oct. 12 – County Commission meeting

Oneida County Courthouse, constructed 1939; WPA project; Architect: Sundberg & Sundberg, Idaho Falls; NRHP 1987
Oneida County Historic Preservation Plan

SCOPE AND BROAD FOCUS

• Identify priorities and where to start
• Identify a common vision for Oneida County’s history
• Pave the way to future grants
• Get public input
  • Surveys had 41% response rate
• Raise public awareness

John “Sawdust” Williams Barns near Malad City
Oneida County Historic Preservation Plan

VISION

• Historic places bring people back in time to learn what life was like in the past.

• History is personal.

• Places should be preserved for the next generation.

• Oneida County history is rooted most firmly in pioneer and Welsh stories although everyone’s history is important and will be preserved.

• History connects people to their ancestors and to others who lived in the past and influenced the present.

Main Street in Malad, 1930 ca.
Oneida County Historic Preservation Plan

PLAN GOALS

• Start with a geographically-focused area
  • Malad City CBD

• Survey and Designate
  • NRHP includes 6 individual sites, 1 historic district

• Provide Information to the Public
  • Historic markers

• Allow the Ordinance to Lead
  • Potential to collect demolition information
  • Work on sites in public ownership

Evans Co-op and J.N. Ireland & Co. Bank, 1893/1907; NRHP 1979
KEY TAKEAWAYS

• Pioneer history needs to be a consistent focus
• Keeping the small town character is essential
• It’s not too late
• There’s a good foundation and community support to build upon

Attendees of the Malad Valley Welsh Festival tour historic cabins in Samaria.
Thank you! Final plan available at https://bit.ly/3AUuFoA