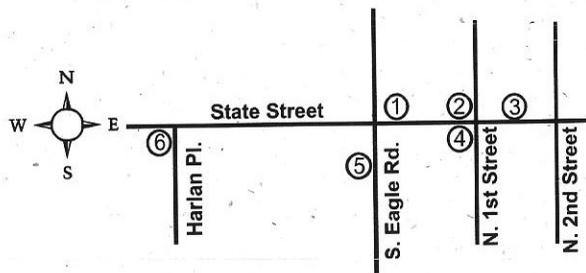


Eagle History

The area's first settlers came to Eagle in the late 1800s hoping to make a go at farming. This venture proved a success, and the small farming community of Eagle was born. The village of Eagle, named after the numerous eagles found along the Boise River, started its humble beginnings in 1904 with the purchase of two parcels. When the city was first incorporated in 1971, it was still only 1.5 square miles and boasted a population of only 359. This small town has seen incredible growth over the years and today spans an area of 9.3 square miles and 20,550 people call Eagle home. If the original founders were still with us today, they undoubtedly would be very pleased with Eagle's living reflection of their efforts.

Walking Tour Map



Please take advantage of the free city parking lot located between 1st and 2nd streets, right across from Ruby Lou's. While you are enjoying downtown Eagle, feel free to stop by one of the historic buildings for dinner, lunch, or some quick shopping.

We hope you enjoy the walking tour and we welcome you to the City of Eagle.

This tour has been presented with the cooperation of the Eagle Historical Museum. The museum is dedicated to preserving the heritage of the City of Eagle and its past. If you would like to visit the museum, it is located at:

67 E. State Street

(across from the Eagle Drug Store)

208.939.2669

Museum Coordinator-Alana Dunn

Eagle Historic Preservation Commission

Shawn Nickel
Rita Stafford
Pam Kelch
Diane Scott
Mike Culton

*"We shape our buildings;
thereafter, our buildings shape us"*

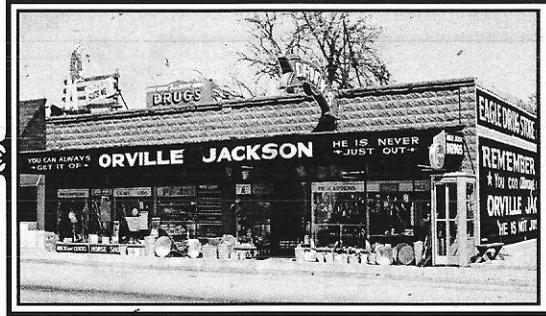
— Winston Churchill

Historic Eagle Walking Tour

Presented
by the
Eagle Historic
Preservation Commission

The walking tour will take you past some of the town's earliest businesses and residential structures. We recommend you begin your tour downtown with the original site of the Eagle Drug store. You can continue east down State Street until you reach the city's first bank, and further on to the old I.O.O.F Hall, of which only the top floor now remains. Once you cross State Street, make your way to the Eagle Hotel. It was constructed from locally quarried stone and built in 1910. Continue walking west down State Street and turn south on Eagle Road to view the Orville Jackson House, Eagle's most prominent residence. Walk back up to State Street and head west again to end your tour at the Bushnell-Fisher House, one of only six structures in Eagle that has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

(1) THE EAGLE DRUG STORE
(ORVILLE JACKSON ₤)



50 E. State Street, Eagle, Idaho

The original Eagle Drug Store was opened in 1906 by a young pharmacist named L. B. Harris in a small white frame building that stood near where the current building stands today. In August 1922, Harris sold the drug store to Orville Jackson, an Idaho native who turned it into a landmark. Seeing his role as both that of a pharmacist and a purveyor of locally needed supplies, Orville made a point of keeping track of what his customers wanted so that he might be able to keep those items in stock. Catering to a wide population, his folksy advertisements targeted the entire Boise Valley. After 52 years of service to his community, Orville sold his business in May 1974, to Wayne and Jane Crosby. Worthy successors, the Crosby's continued to maintain the legacy of a store overflowing with a wide variety of merchandise and a commitment to service until they, too, retired in 2006.

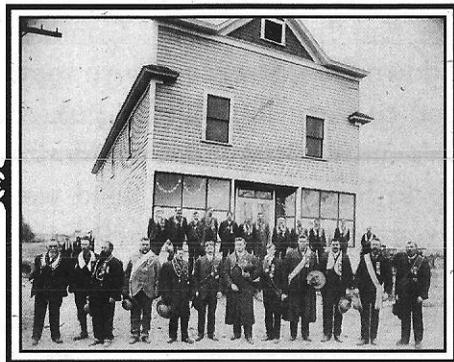
(2) THE BANK OF EAGLE



190 E. State Street, Eagle, Idaho

Eagle's first bank was organized in 1907 by F.M. Gardner of Middleton and it initially operated out of the Eagle Drug Store. Shortly after its organization, William Goodall became the bank's president and Gardner served as its cashier. It was so successful that, by the end of its first year of operations, deposits amounted to nearly \$30,000. In 1910 the Bank of Eagle moved into this building and thrived for many years. Despite its solid footing in the community, however, it could not stand up against the Great Depression. Eagle's first bank closed its door in August, 1932, with its depositors receiving every dollar they had entrusted to it. As with many small town banks that closed during that era, the empty building became a local watering hole after the repeal of Prohibition in 1933. Dubbed the Bank Club, it served as a popular gathering place for over fifty years.

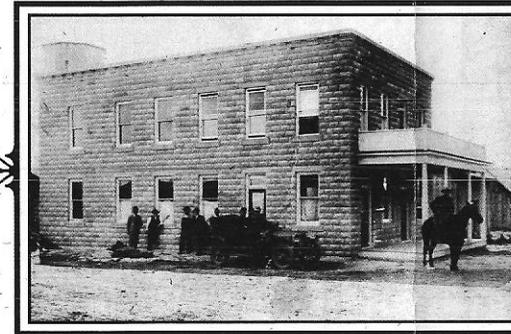
(3) THE I.O.O.F. HALL
(RUBY LOU ₤)



164 E. State Street, Eagle, Idaho

In 1902 local stage pioneer John Carpenter deeded Valley Lodge No. 100 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) an altruistic and benevolent fraternal organization, the northeast parcel of land between the intersection of Eagle and Valley roads. There the lodge members built themselves a two-story Hall and meetings were held on the top floor while the bottom floor was used as a recreation room. Shortly after the Hall's construction, the organization turned over the top floor to several local families who did not want their children traveling all the way to Boise to attend school and were looking for a way to create a "community-operated" high school. For many years, the Eagle Mercantile occupied the lower floor of the hall until, in 1964, that floor was demolished and the upper story was moved two blocks east, placed on a new foundation, and made ready for other occupancies.

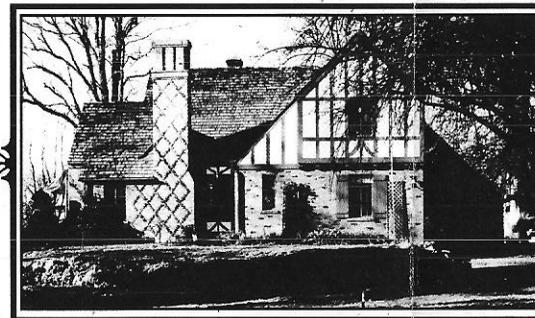
(4) THE EAGLE HOTEL



99 E. State St., Eagle, Idaho

The Eagle Hotel was constructed in 1909/1910 by Eagle founder, Thomas Aikens. It primarily served as a long term quarters for the workers on the Eagle Bridge, the Odd Fellows Hall, and InterUrban Trolley. It also housed teachers from the Enterprise School District. During this time the hotel was known as "Uncle Tom's Cabin". It was constructed out of cement block made by Frank Mehaffey and had sixteen rooms. The front room of the hotel also housed the first real estate office in Eagle. Today the hotel houses several business offices and a candy shop. It is significant as a representative of early concrete block construction in Boise Valley.

(5) THE JACKSON HOUSE



127 E. State St., Eagle, Idaho

The house is a one-and-a-half story Tudoresque residence with a variety of decorative devices and textures and an irregular profile and plan: patterned clinker brick walls, prominent stucco and half-timbered gables, diamond-shaped leaded lights and multi-light casement windows. The house has had limited alterations to interior and exterior since it was built in the 1930's. The house is historically significant because it was commissioned and owned by one of Eagle's most prominent businessmen, Orville Jackson, who owned the Eagle Drug Store. It is still owned and occupied by a member of the family.

(6) THE BUSHNELL-FISHER HOUSE



349 W. State St., Eagle, Idaho

George and Ella Fisher emigrated from Iowa to Idaho in 1887 with the five surviving children of their original seven. They made their first home a small house on Upper Dry Creek and then settled in Eagle. Once in Idaho, they had eight more children. This home was purchased from the Bushnell family in 1917. Earl Fisher, the youngest of George & Ella's 15 children purchased it and lived in it with his wife, Margaret Records, for 51 years. Their three children inherited the property at their deaths and today, Edith Fisher Cohen and husband, Bill live in the home which they purchased title to in 1992. The house has now been owned and occupied by members of the Fisher family for over 80 years. The house is a turn-of-the-century design with limited Colonial details. It has a cross-gable plan; fishscale shingles in gable ends, 1/1 double-hung windows, historic screened-in front porch wraps around north & west elevations with round wood support pillars. The other buildings: guest cottage (ca 1910), garage and three other outbuildings were added (ca 1930).