

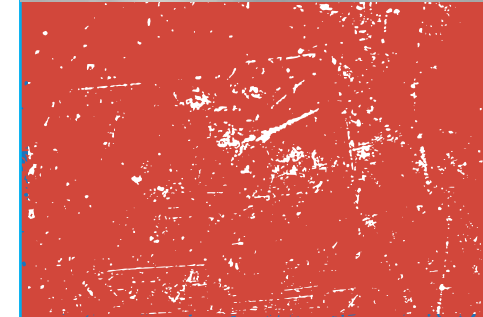
create | engage | connect

“Art is not what you see,
but what you make others see.”

– Edgar Degas



www.boiseartsandhistory.org

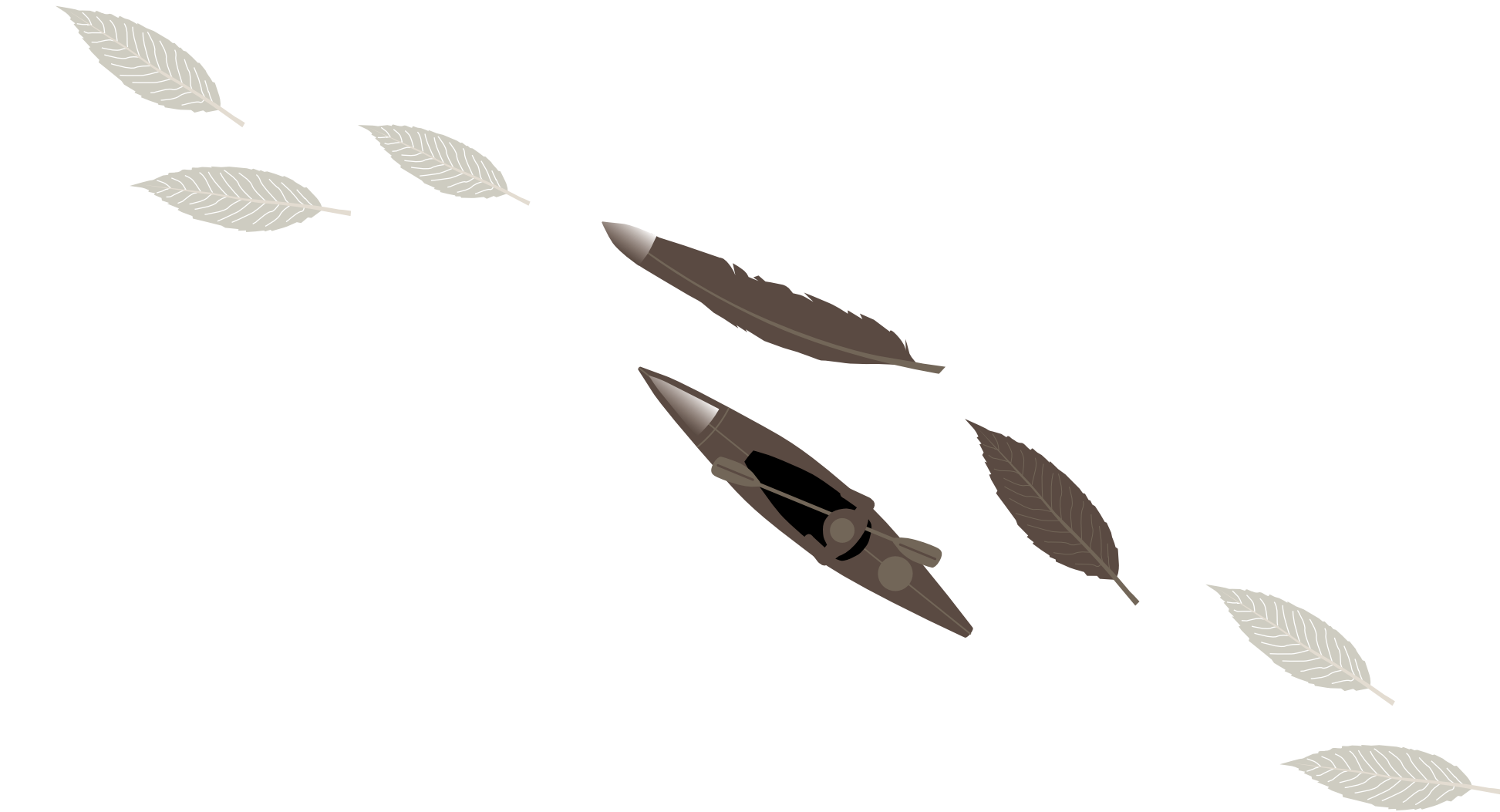


VISIONS
FOR ARTISTIC
ENGAGEMENT

A Cultural Arts Plan

for Boise's 30th Street Neighborhood





A Cultural Arts Plan for Boise's 30th Street Neighborhood by Stephanie Inman, A BOISE CITY PERCENT-FOR-ART PROJECT, November 2012.

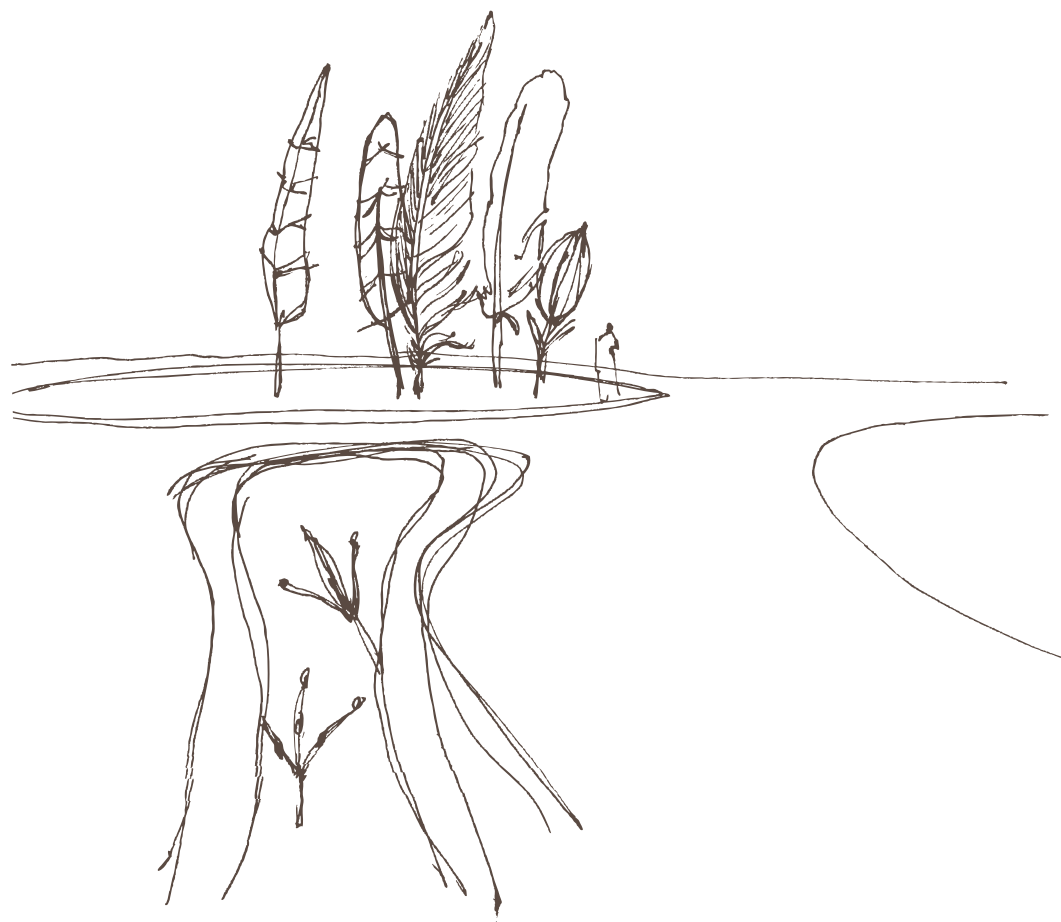
SPECIAL THANKS to two people who were immensely helpful with this document. **Karen Bubb**, thank you for your creative mind, knowledge about public art, and your vision. You can take any problem and turn it into an opportunity. And **Kathleen Lacey**, one of the most patient and positive people I've ever worked with, thank you for your wisdom, grace and respectful guidance. Boise City is so lucky to have you both on staff.

Thank you to the neighborhood committee members who provided feedback on surveys, attended meetings, and gave input on everything from street naming to brainstorming public art opportunities. Your passion for your neighborhood and its future is truly inspiring. Thank you.



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“ *The neighborhood is very involved in what they want to see in the future, and they are going to continue to shape the look, the feel, the types of development that occur in the neighborhood. I see it as enhancing what’s already there.* ”

— Kathleen Lacey, Boise City planner



THE INTENTION OF THIS CULTURAL ARTS PLAN FOR THE 30TH STREET NEIGHBORHOOD is to identify the potential for art in the area and reveal the neighborhood’s unique character.

Putting this document together has been a dream job for me. Talking to residents and organizations, gathering imagery, brainstorming ways to engage the neighborhood, and putting together a wish list of art projects – it was messy and time consuming, and I loved every minute of it.

I feel so fortunate to live in a city that values public art and invests in its identity and future. I am grateful to play a part in it.

There is a diversity and creative energy in the 30th Street neighborhood, alive with history and possibilities and on the cusp of great change. Whitewater Park Boulevard will be completed in 2014, the first phase of the Boise River Park has been constructed, and Boise’s largest park, Esther Simplot Park, is scheduled for development in 2013. The neighborhood has historically housed an eclectic mix of architecture and residents, which is now becoming even more culturally diverse with an influx of varied refugee populations.

The residents I worked with volunteered hours of their time and truly inspired me with their passion and involvement. I believe their grassroots efforts will help shape and connect their community. The neighborhood subcommittee (made of neighborhood representatives and city staff) came up with image branding (see page 6) that distinguishes this neighborhood as one ready to celebrate its own unique diversity within the city of Boise. Strong working class images with a simple and unpolished – yet bold – graphic style, inspired by WPA posters from the 30s and 40s, define the neighborhood voice. This work served as the base for expanding the document.

Inside you’ll find 8 different thematic principals identified for artists to respond to, ending with a “dream list” of 15 public art projects designed to connect and celebrate the 30th Street Area.

It is my goal that this document serves as a source book and road map for artists, and anyone involved in the future of this eclectic, diverse, and energetic neighborhood.

Stephanie

Stephanie Inman
November 2012



Jordan Street Gardens
Facebook page photo

"Semurg" Bird of Happiness
in Bronze by Yakov Shapiro
Tashkent Park, Seattle



BOISE'S FIRST

Neighborhood Cultural Arts Plan

This Neighborhood Cultural Arts Plan for the 30th Street Area identifies specific opportunities for public art to contribute to the vibrant character of the area.

The changes occurring in the 30th Street Neighborhood will have a transforming impact, creating new patterns of activity and opportunities for community reinvestment. Whitewater Park Boulevard (or "The 30th Street Extension") itself will be a new public space – for cyclists, pedestrians and vehicles and as a gateway to Esther Simplot Park.

Public Art contributes to Boise's unique sense of place and engages residents in the design of our built environment. This document imagines the ways public art can be incorporated into the thread of this urban neighborhood poised for growth.

The goal of this document is to identify the potential for art in the area and reveal the unique character of the neighborhood.

What is Public Art?

Public art describes artworks placed in public spaces and places where people go as part of their daily life.

Benefits of Public Art

Exposure to the arts helps expand our thinking and encourages dialogue and creativity. Beyond its enriching personal benefits, **public art helps define a community's identity and reveal the unique character of neighborhoods.** Public art helps green spaces flourish, enhances roadsides, pedestrian corridors, gateways, and community parks. A beautiful way to put it: a city with public art is a city that thinks, feels and grows.

Who is this plan for and who will use it?

Artists
Developers
Community groups
Park planners
Capital City Development Corp.
Boise City Dept. of Arts & History

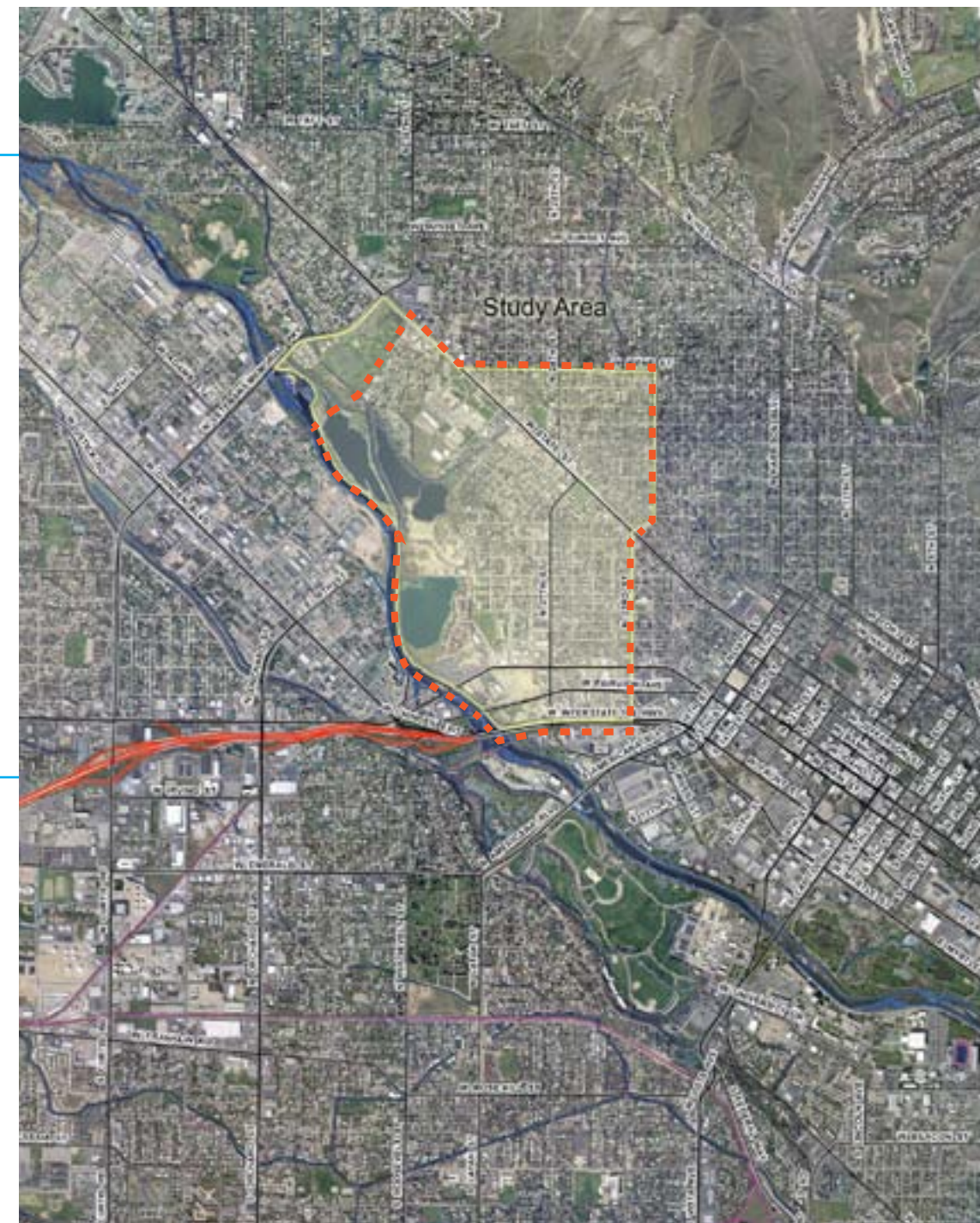


Where is the 30th Street Neighborhood in Boise?

The 30th Street Neighborhood is defined by the new 30th Street Extension programmed for construction in January of 2013. This roadway will be a major gateway from State Street to Fairview Avenue. This Cultural Arts Plan considers the surrounding neighborhood as shown within the orange dotted line (at right). The new road will be named Whitewater Park Boulevard with 4 lanes and median landscaping, a 2-lane roundabout, and bike lanes both directions. The boulevard will relieve 27th Street, which was not designed to handle the traffic load it carries currently. 27th Street will be striped as a 2-lane roadway with bike lanes and a center turn lane, creating a more close-knit neighborhood feel.

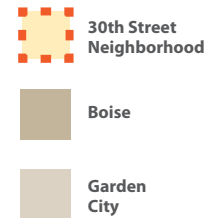
currently referred to as
"the 30th Street Neighborhood,"
there is an opportunity to distinctly
identify a new name, grown
organically by the residents.

The 30th Street
Neighborhood
is defined in this
aerial view of Boise





Key:



The 30th Street Neighborhood is defined by physical features – Whitewater Park Boulevard, the Boise River, the greenbelt and surrounding parks, Esther Simplot Park and the Boise River Park.

Locator Map

The 30th Street Neighborhood



UNIQUE & ECLECTIC IN BOISE:

The 30th Street Neighborhood

Culturally diverse and distinctive, the 30th Street Neighborhood embraces a variety of people, architecture, and worship centers like no other neighborhood in Boise.

MULTICULTURAL The 30th Street Area may appear “undefined”; yet when looking into this area in depth, it is incredibly distinctive. Culturally diverse, the area is unique to Boise’s generally homogenous neighborhoods with a variety of people, architecture, and worship centers. The area is home to varied refugee populations, supports a bilingual program at Whittier Elementary while Jewish, Islamic, Russian, Greek, Christian, Catholic, Basque, and Spanish influences differentiate the area. It is a true multi-cultural area in Boise.

LOCATION & CHANGE Its location is unique as well, next to the river and close to downtown. This location south of the North End has some referring to it as the “SONO neighborhood”. Two parks are in development: Esther Simplot Park and phase two of Boise River Park. The area will be an important gateway/connection to downtown with Whitewater Park Boulevard, these parks, potential commercial areas, and affordable housing.

HISTORY Historian Tully Gerlach has raised historical interest in the area with his writings and popularized the term “West End”. West End is a historical term that defines the area in relation to the North End which was developed at the same time in the early 20th century. The West End is distinct from the North End – old advertisements claimed less regulation in the West End and larger building lots, plus a more affordable area in general. This led to an “architectural mash-up” of eclectic architecture and residents. It still maintains that unpolished, no frills, individualistic air. The area is historically diverse commercially as well. It was previously home to a gravel quarry and lumber mill and was farmed by settling families like Hester & Frank Davis. Fairview Park was the original site for the county fair. A streetcar transported residents downtown and to other sections of Boise.

Find out more about the area’s history on page 16.

Excerpts from the Neighborhood Residents Survey

What do you feel is unique about the area surrounding the present 30th Street? What are you most proud of?

“The neighborhood has easy access to downtown and the foothills, immediate access to the river, and, unlike other neighborhoods with similar characteristics, it’s extremely diverse. There is a very strong international presence, which is pretty unique in Boise. There is also a strong element of economic diversity.”

“The undeveloped “cement ponds” are the most unique aspect of the area because it is a wetlands area, where you can find eagle, beaver, several types of fish in ponds (perch, trout, bass, bluegills, etc), turtles, wild turkeys, and even though people are supposed to have their dogs on leash, the space is still wild enough to allow dogs to run and play.”

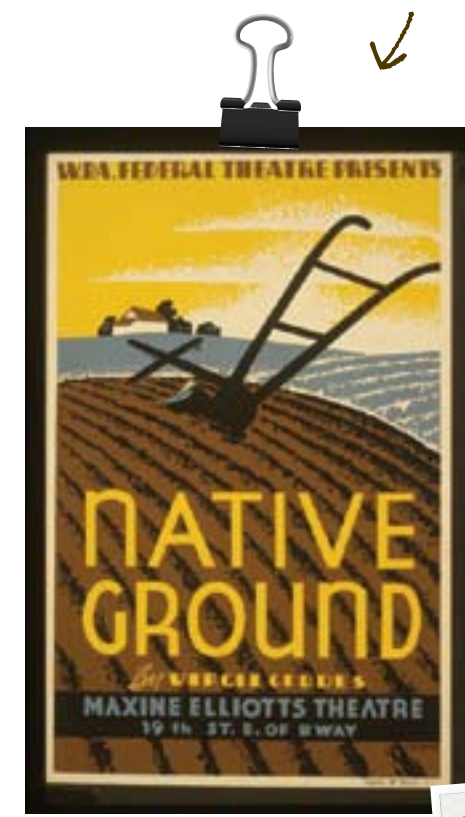
“I am most proud of our ability to connect to diverse neighbors.”

“It is a very vibrant working class area. Kids from different cultures mingle together and play, so it has this very lively, active feel to it.”

WPA posters from the 30s/40s are a big inspiration.

a handcrafted touch

nature-inspired



a mix of unpolished metals

WPA poster

COMMUNITY BRANDING:

The Voice of the Neighborhood

“Our neighborhood has a very diverse population, mixed income, race, and education. It identifies with the working class.” – 30TH STREET RESIDENT

The 30th Street Neighborhood’s brand tone (voice) is the personality expressed through visual art, as shown in the image board at left.

Tone + Typography

- The voice should convey:
Honesty & simplicity
Individualism
Diverse and eclectic style
A non-‘developer-type cookie cutter’ approach
Utilitarian appeal that is still beautiful
No frills, not fancy but more rooted / authentic
Purposefully unpolished

- The area has a more “working class flavor” than the “white collar” North End nearby.

Suggested Imagery:

- Strong images of the WPA posters from the 1930/40s
- Working class images with a strong, graphic style
- Clean graphics that are slightly imperfect
- An emphasis on solid, strong craftsmanship showing a handcrafted touch
- Graphic elements and public art using recycled elements, a variety of materials, and local resources would be favored
- Look for inspiration from the sans serif typefaces of the 1930/40s

Excerpts from the Neighborhood Residents Survey

How is this neighborhood different from Boise’s North End?

“I bought in the area because I appreciate the uniqueness it offers. Veteran’s Park is more affordable, less pretentious, and more diverse.”

“One Word – DIVERSITY”

“Our area is more working class, with more lower income people, for one thing. The North and East Ends are less affordable and more gentrified. However, the 30th Street area is more diverse, and it does have the river and parklands nearby, which are its key feature.”

After the park and parkway are finished, how would you like people to describe this neighborhood?

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| • Active | • Connected |
| • Friendly | • Diverse |
| • Bicycle Friendly | • Safer |
| • Vibrant | • Socially Aware |
| • Refreshing | • Healthy |
| • Individualistic | |

“The cool, diverse neighborhood on the river and greenbelt.”

Identified Principles:

1 **Healthy Lifestyle**

2 **Water**

3 **Multicultural**

4 **Nature**

5 **Historical**

6 **Community Connections**

7 **Sustainability**

8 **Parks**

These 8 principles have been identified to assist artists and designers in finding inspiration when creating public art for the area. Mix and match, swirl and combine these themes to your heart's content.



TOOLS FOR ARTISTS:

Thematic Principles for Public Art

Artwork for the 30th Street Area can respond to a variety of different thematic principles, or any combination of them.

EIGHT THEMATIC PRINCIPLES IDENTIFIED IN COLLABORATION WITH A NEIGHBORHOOD SUBCOMMITTEE ARE EXPANDED UPON IN THIS DOCUMENT.

Public artists should consider a variety of materials to celebrate the diversity of residents, and insist on sensitivity to various cultures and people. Public art projects in the 30th Street Neighborhood should grow thoughtfully and organically and involve input from local residents. In addition, an artist should consider a variety of points:

BE MINDFUL OF PARTICIPATION AND SCALE IN ARTWORK

- Who is the intended audience? How do pedestrian, bike and vehicle experiences differ when traveling from the park, greenbelt, or downtown?
- Will the artwork be viewed from a distance, up close, climbed on by children, and viewed from different angles and directions?

CELEBRATE DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES

- Sometimes art is best experienced as a shock to the system, and other times as a more subtle hint at what's to come.
- Artists should consider texture variation, color, scent, vibration, sound, lighting, plantings, graphics, streetscapes, interactive experiences, and optical illusions in their design.

INCORPORATE FUNCTIONAL ART

- Seating, resting areas, bike racks, way-finding and signage, artwork integrated in picnic areas, kayak racks, sundial applications, recycling stations, mileage markers, drinking fountains – these are all examples of functional public art.

NEIGHBORHOOD VOICE

- Public spaces, community centers, and other artwork inside the parks and neighborhood all have opportunities to reflect the voice of the neighborhood (private donor recognition pieces in the Boise River Park and educational historical signage, for example).



Street Art
New York, NY



Example of Jewish
paper-cutting
tradition



Street Art
New York, NY

Decorative bike racks by Lane
Community College art instructor
Lee Imonen's students
Eugene, Oregon

Mural combining cycling imagery
and national railroad history
Vancouver, B.C.

Early resting point along
Boise River greenbelt

Tweedsmuir Elementary
School outdoor mural
New Westminster, B.C.

Fish Skeleton Bike Rack
Reno, Nevada



THEMATIC PRINCIPLE:

1 Healthy, Active Lifestyle

connect Strengthen neighborhood connections by encouraging movement.

WELL BEING We know of the significant benefits from physical activity. In addition to controlling weight and high blood pressure, physical exercise can also elevate the mood and reduce symptoms of depression and anxiety. Outdoor experiences like fishing, paddling, and walking affect our physical and emotional well-being.

Today's youth are not playing outdoors the way their parents once did. A recent survey found that young people between the ages of 8-18 spend more than 7½ hours a day on smart phones, computers, and watching television. That's 53 hours a week!

How can we get kids outside? How can we encourage movement?

WALKING TRAILS Nature trails and the greenbelt provide a place for people to experience a sense of community and create stronger neighborhood ties.

Little 'moments' along a path, be it a whimsical fish-shaped bench, an outdoor chess table, or a bike obstacle course make an everyday walk or bike ride a little more special, and a trip you'd want to repeat. Perhaps it's a scavenger hunt for art where kids have to find 8 bronze insects hidden around the neighborhood.

DESIGN FOR PEOPLE, NOT CARS Heightened experience through art is one way to foster an active, healthy lifestyle. Maybe it's an interactive musical sculpture that is triggered by bike movement or an activity led by Boise Fish & Game Department volunteers doing "kick samples" in the river to discover what aquatic insects live there. Projects with the arts community could focus on sustainability efforts while being active. These are just a few ideas to encourage healthy transportation, healthy people and a healthy planet.

NOT JUST A BOULEVARD Whitewater Park Boulevard should not be viewed as just a transportation corridor, but as a way to link people and places with art encouraging an active lifestyle.



AREA ACTIVITIES:

- Running
- Walking
- Biking / Commuting
- Rafting
- Paddling / Paddle Boarding
- Kayaking
- Swimming
- Fishing
- Bird Watching
- Dog Walking

THEMATIC PRINCIPLE:

2 Water

educate What we do on land affects the water quality for all communities living downstream from us.

THE BOISE RIVER The Boise River is a 102 mile tributary of the Snake River that originates in the Sawtooth Wilderness area. It provides agricultural irrigation, hydroelectricity, drinking water, wildlife habitat, and recreation opportunities to Boise and the Treasure Valley.

DUMPING GROUND TURNED BLUEWAY From Boise's founding until late in the 20th century, the Boise River was viewed and used as an industrial waste and sewage removal system. By 1912, two slaughterhouses operated on the riverbank in the 30th Street area, and until the late 1980s, gravel quarries and later a cement plant – with the resulting noise, pollution and traffic – operated near present day Quinn's pond. Goodman Oil also had many storage tanks along the river.

In the mid 1960s, efforts formed supporting the Boise River Greenbelt. With a comprehensive plan for the Boise Greenbelt along with community grassroot efforts and passage of the Clean Water Act in 1972, the Boise River was cleaned up

to become the civic and environmental amenity we celebrate today. This "ribbon of green" has helped prevent building within 75 feet of the river, provided a public gathering place for outdoor recreation and wildlife viewing in an urban setting, and improved water quality.

Today, naturally reproducing trout populations and over 100,000 summer floats occur in the urban section of the river. **Yet major challenges remain for both water quality and use as the result of urban growth and agricultural activities.**

WATER QUALITY Water quality has been affected by population growth and development by wastewater and stormwater discharges. Rural areas can also contribute to water quality problems. Agricultural operations generate

sediment, pesticides, bacteria and nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) that have polluted ground and surface waters. These excess nutrients degrade ground and surface water quality in the watershed and in downstream waters.

Unfortunately, our everyday actions pollute the Boise River and groundwater through stormwater runoff. Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow that does not immediately soak into the ground. Instead, stormwater flows across hard surfaces such as parking lots, streets, lawns and roofs and picks up pesticides, fertilizers, sediment, pet waste, cigarette butts, litter, oil and other pollutants. Many people believe that these pollutants are cleaned at a water treatment plant. In fact, they are not. The stormwater that flows into our storm drains goes directly to the Boise River, untreated or into our ground water. These materials can damage water quality and affect fish, wildlife, and recreational opportunities.

Top Pollutants

The top 4 pollutants that limit the quality of water in the **Lower Boise Watershed** are:

- Nutrients
- Bacteria
- Sediment
- Temperature

Waterfowl waste and pet waste are two sources for bacteria in the Boise River. Erosion contributes to high levels of turbidity and excess phosphorus causes algae growth that robs the water of oxygen during its decay. Additional pollutants found in the Boise River are called 'emerging contaminants' (like pharmaceuticals and personal care products) that don't break down, and treatment facilities can't get rid of entirely.

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE Designers of the area's local parks are working to make water quality a priority in their design. Landscape

architects for Esther Simplot Park are planning pond depths to limit algae growth and suggesting plantings along the ponds that deter geese. They are also designing bioswales at the park edge to filter water before it reaches the recreational ponds. Riverbanks at the Boise River Park, formerly littered with blocks of concrete and rebar, have been cleaned up. This has successfully revitalized an area that has been neglected in recent years.

Water Usage

We are putting great stress on the natural water resources. Through public art there is an opportunity to educate the public about water use and water issues using the themes of sustainability, conservation, and water management in the high desert environment.

Conserving Water

The average household uses about 150,000 gallons of water per year. Boiseans' water use quadruples during the summer months. Decreasing use at home can help protect river health, which depends on adequate flows, especially during the winter and spring seasons.

CULTURAL VALUES OF WATER Water is a resource many take for granted. If you asked people from different cultures around the world, "What does water mean to you?" answers would be highly varied.

Water sustains us physically and, for many, spiritually and culturally as well. It has been used as a wellspring for healing, spiritual practices, religious rituals, cleansing, and gathering.

Of all our needs, water is the single most important. It is a life essential resource.

Water is an intricate part of the landscape that holds vast social, cultural, and economic importance; its value is intangible.

This colorful and informative work shows the past and current flows of the Mississippi. Mississippi Meander Belt by Harold N. Fisk, 1944.



The braided shape path was once common to the Boise River, channelized in the mid 1900s.



Artistic doggy waste bag dispenser, Salt Lake City, Utah



Largest green wall in North America at public library, outside Vancouver, BC



Salmon Waves by Paul Sorey, Hiram Chittenden Locks, Seattle



RIVER CARE TIPS:

- Use water-wise landscaping – don't plant water-needy seed like bluegrass, and consider incorporating gravel, benches, and rocks in your landscaping.
- Shorten your shower.
- Fix your leaky faucet.
- Pick up after your dog and properly dispose of the waste in the trash.
- Limit pesticide and fertilizer use.
- Don't pour old pesticides or fertilizers down the drain – take them to a household hazardous waste collection site.
- Compost yard waste.
- Don't litter – it accounts for the majority of debris in our storm drain (which drains to the river).
- Wash your car on the lawn or at a car wash to prevent dirt & oil from entering the storm drain (car washes dispose of soapy water in a sanitary sewer).

Check out ways water has inspired public art at
THE BOISE WATERSHED
BoiseEnvironmentalEducation.org

Aqueduct – Pipe or conduit made to convey water from a source

Bed Material – Sediment mixture of which a streambed, lake, pond, reservoir, or estuary bottom is composed

Bioswale – Landscape elements (gently sloped sides filled with vegetation, compost and/or riprap) designed to remove silt and pollution from surface runoff water

Channelization – Process of changing and straightening the natural path of a waterway

Diversion – Transfer of water from a stream, lake, aquifer, or other source of water by canal, pipe, well, or other conduit to another watercourse or to the land (as in the case of an irrigation system)

Diversion Dam – A fixed dam built to divert water from a waterway or stream into a different watercourse

Erosion – Wearing away of rock or soil by the gradual detachment of soil or rock fragments by water, wind, ice, and other mechanical, chemical, or biological forces

Floodplain – Land that gets covered with water as a result of the flooding of a nearby stream, or level lowland bordering a stream or river onto which the flow spreads at flood stage

Floodplain (100 year) – Area adjacent to a stream that is, on average, inundated once a century

Flow – The amount of water passing a particular point in a stream or river, usually expressed in cubic-feet per second (cfs)

Gray Water – Wastewater from a household or small commercial establishment that specifically

excludes water containing human waste, which can be recycled on-site for uses such as landscaping

Groundwater – Subsurface water and underground streams that can be collected with wells, or flow naturally to the earth's surface through springs

Pollutant – (1) Something that pollutes, especially a waste material that contaminates air, soil, or water. (2) Any solute or cause of change in physical properties that renders water unfit for a given use

Restoration – The renewing or repairing of a natural system so that its functions and qualities are comparable to its original, unaltered state

Riparian Zone – Transitional areas between wetland and upland

Storm Water – Water from rain or melting snow that does not immediately soak into the ground

Turbid – Having sediment or foreign particles stirred up or suspended; muddy

Watershed – An area of land that drains all the streams and rainfall to a common outlet such as the outflow of a reservoir, mouth of a bay, or any point along a stream channel

Wetland – Land area that is saturated with water, either permanently or seasonally, such that it takes on characteristics that distinguish it as a distinct ecosystem

Weir – Barrier across a river designed to alter the flow characteristics (In Esther Simplot Park, weirs are planned to take the form of a barrier, not unlike a dam, but allow water to flow over the top)

The Boise River was the second most polluted waterbody in Idaho when the Clean Water Act passed in 1972. The Clean Water Act required permits for municipal and industrial discharges.

Entry mural at Boise's Whittier Elementary School

Bosnian Wood Sculpture

Nek Chand's Rock Garden Chandigarh, India

Russian Food Festival, St. Seraphim of Sarov Orthodox Church 827 N. 29th Street, Boise

Ethnic food preparation (This example is several Ethiopian dishes over Injera, a spongy and very tasty flatbread made with the grain teff). Photo courtesy of Guy Hand



THEMATIC PRINCIPLE:

3 Multicultural Area

“At any one time, there can be thirteen to thirty-three different languages spoken at our school.”

— Derek Gardner, principal
Whittier Elementary School

Celebrate this diverse, eclectic neighborhood character.

celebrate Unique to Boise's generally homogenous population, this neighborhood is diverse with an eclectic variety of architecture, people, and worship centers.

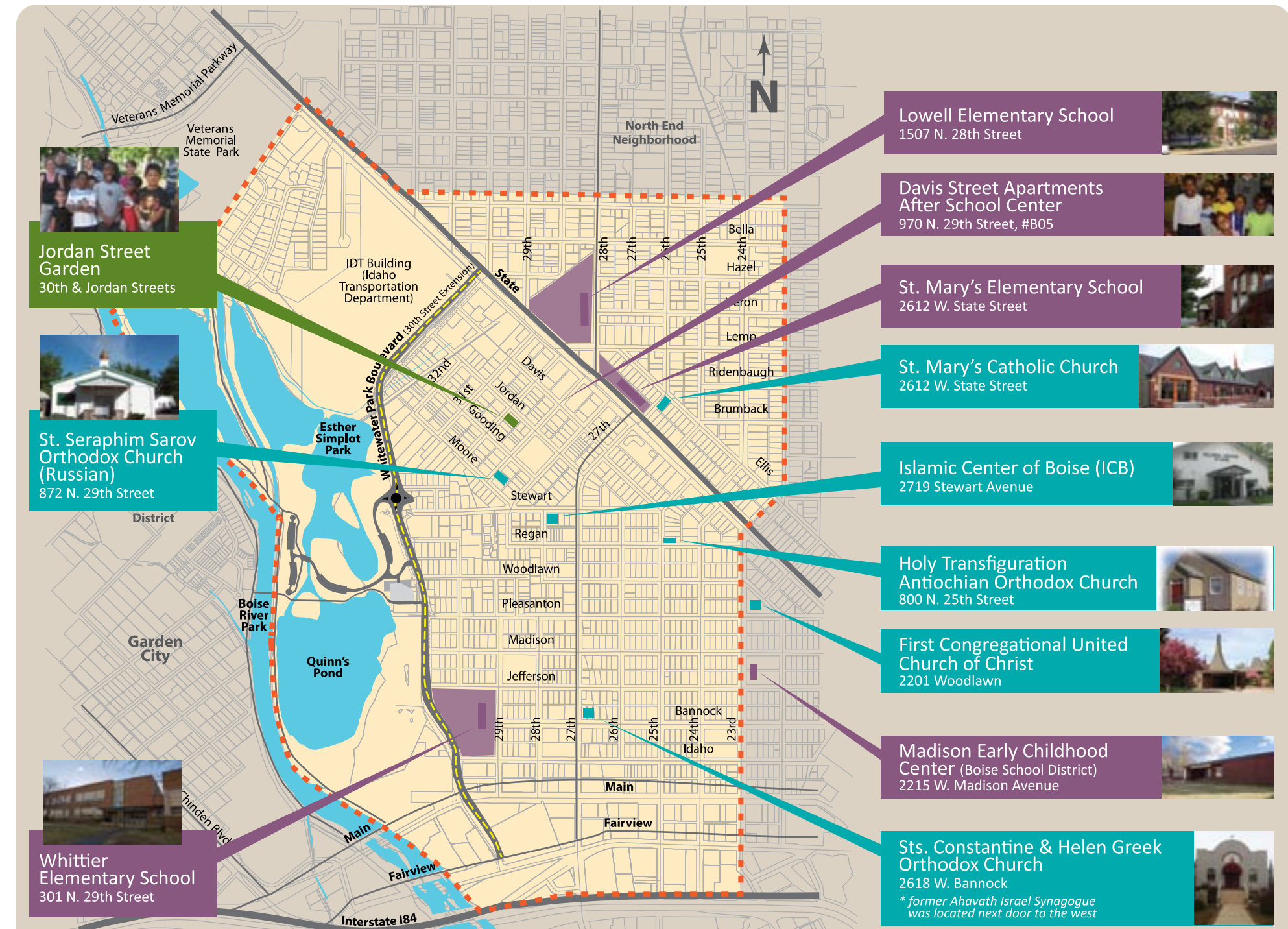
ARCHITECTURE You'll find architectural variety in the area. The Greek and Byzantine architecture of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, the 50's style of the First Congregational United Church of Christ, and the Bungalow residential style of the Pleasanton Addition exemplify the different architectural styles in the area. Less restrained than the typically architecturally-designed homes of the North End, some buildings in the 30th Street Area present a variety of styles in one building, or an "architectural mash-up".

WORSHIP CENTERS The area used to be home to a Jewish synagogue, and Christian, Islamic, and Catholic religious influences are still strong in the area. Many worship centers host annual local festivals, like the Greek Food Festival. There are beautiful paintings of holy-icons at St. Seraphim of Sarov Orthodox Church by Deacon Matthew D. Garrett of Boise. Inside St. Mary's Catholic

Church there are several commissioned art pieces (note the triptic behind the pulpit – The Adoration of the Christ Child by Tom Browning – and the carved grand entrance doors).

ETHNICITY Russian, Greek, Basque, Mexican and Spanish influences differentiate the area. The neighborhood is also home to varied refugee populations from Africa, East Asia, and Central Europe. The Davis Street Apartments house several refugee families and the "Catch Them While They're Young" program, which provides supervised after school activities for children in kindergarten through 6th grade living there. The Jordan Street Garden is an urban refugee community garden. Find out more in "Community Connections" on page 18.

EDUCATION One of Boise's two bilingual programs is located at Whittier Elementary. The school's playground borders Whitewater Park Boulevard.



Cultural Organizations Locator Map

Schools, religious institutions, and cultural gathering places in the the 30th Street Neighborhood

Stone Totem Fountain
by Louis Pomerantz,
Massachusetts



Metal fish by
Steve Shelby, Indiana



Detail wing illustration
of the Green Lacewing



Shattered Sphere by
Brent Comber
Vancouver B.C.



Dumbarton Oaks Garden
by Beatrix Ferrand
Washington D.C.



Bluegill illustration,
U.S. Forest Service



“ Boy, Gramp! Nature’s so much
bigger in person than it is on TV. ”

— HANK KETCUM, Dennis the Menace



reconnect So many children rely on indoor activities such as video games, television and the internet for their entertainment. By stimulating children’s and adults’ sense of outdoor adventure with public art, there is an opportunity to create awareness and encourage reconnection with the natural world. One way to do this is to celebrate the flora and fauna of the area. A brief list of selected examples is below.*

MAMMALS, REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS, OH MY Various species gather near water. You might find mammals like beaver, mule deer, mink, coyote, red fox, raccoon, striped skunk, mountain cottontail, northern pocket gopher, ground squirrel, muskrat, deer mouse, porcupine, montane vole, water shrew. Native bats include hoary bat, little brown bat & big brown bat, Yuma myotis and pallid bat.

Native reptiles lurk nearby – the common garter snake, gopher snake, western rattlesnake, western skink, sagebrush lizard, and painted turtle. Native amphibians include the Boreal chorus frog, Pacific chorus frog, western toad, Woodhouse’s toad, and longtoed salamander, among others.

INSECTS A variety of aquatic insects call the area home; mayflies, dragonflies, caddisflies, stoneflies, backswimmers, mosquitos, and midges.

Area terrestrial insects include various dragonflies patrolling the landscape, stink bugs, grasshoppers, katydids, crickets, wasps, honeybees, ants, ground beetles, skippers, and white & sulphur butterflies.

You’ll also see ladybird beetles, preying mantids, green lacewings, and earwigs.

BIRDS The area is great for bird watching. Look for the Canada goose, wood duck, mallard, spotted sandpiper, osprey, bald eagle, great horned owl, American kestrel, American robin, western tanager, yellow warbler, Bullock’s oriole, black-chinned hummingbird, northern flicker, downy woodpecker, belted kingfisher, American crow, house wren, white-crowned sparrow, dark-eyed junco, Lazuli bunting – the list goes on and on.*

FISH In the Boise River you’ll find native fish like mountain whitefish, sculpin, redband trout, chiselmouth (and sucker fish and introduced fish like brown trout and stocked fish like steelhead). Look for perch, bass, and bluegills in warm water like Quinn’s Pond and in the future ponds at Esther Simplot Park.

PLANTS Native trees and shrubs to the area include mountain alder, water birch, red-osier dogwood, rubber rabbitbrush, juniper, black cottonwood, and willow. American sycamore, box-

elder, silver maple, catalpa, green ash and Oregon grape are examples of introduced trees and shrubs.

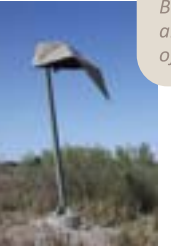
Grasses include native needlegrass, squirreltail, and common rush. Introduced examples are stinkgrass, cheatgrass, Kentucky bluegrasses and cereal rye.

Forbs (flowering plants) in the area are common yarrow, dogbane, wild tarragon, autumn willowherb, scouringrush horsetail, curlycup gumweed, common sunflower, goldenrod and broadleaf cattail and various introduced forbs like Russian thistle, tall tumbled mustard, common dandelion and common mullein. You could also find the wild cucumber vine.

*A detailed list of native & introduced mammals, birds, plants, fishes and aquatic insects (graciously compiled by Lynn Kinter of Idaho Fish & Game) is on file with the author and at the Boise Department of Arts & History, along with a list of common insects of Boise courtesy of Dr. Ian Robertson of BSU.

Consider celebrating
BAT HABITAT

Bats gobble up mosquitos
and are valued residents
of wetland areas.



HaBATaT, a steel bat
sculpture modeled after
origami with a multi-
chambered bat roost by
Mark Baltes, Boise

nature-
inspired →



EDUCATIONAL ART

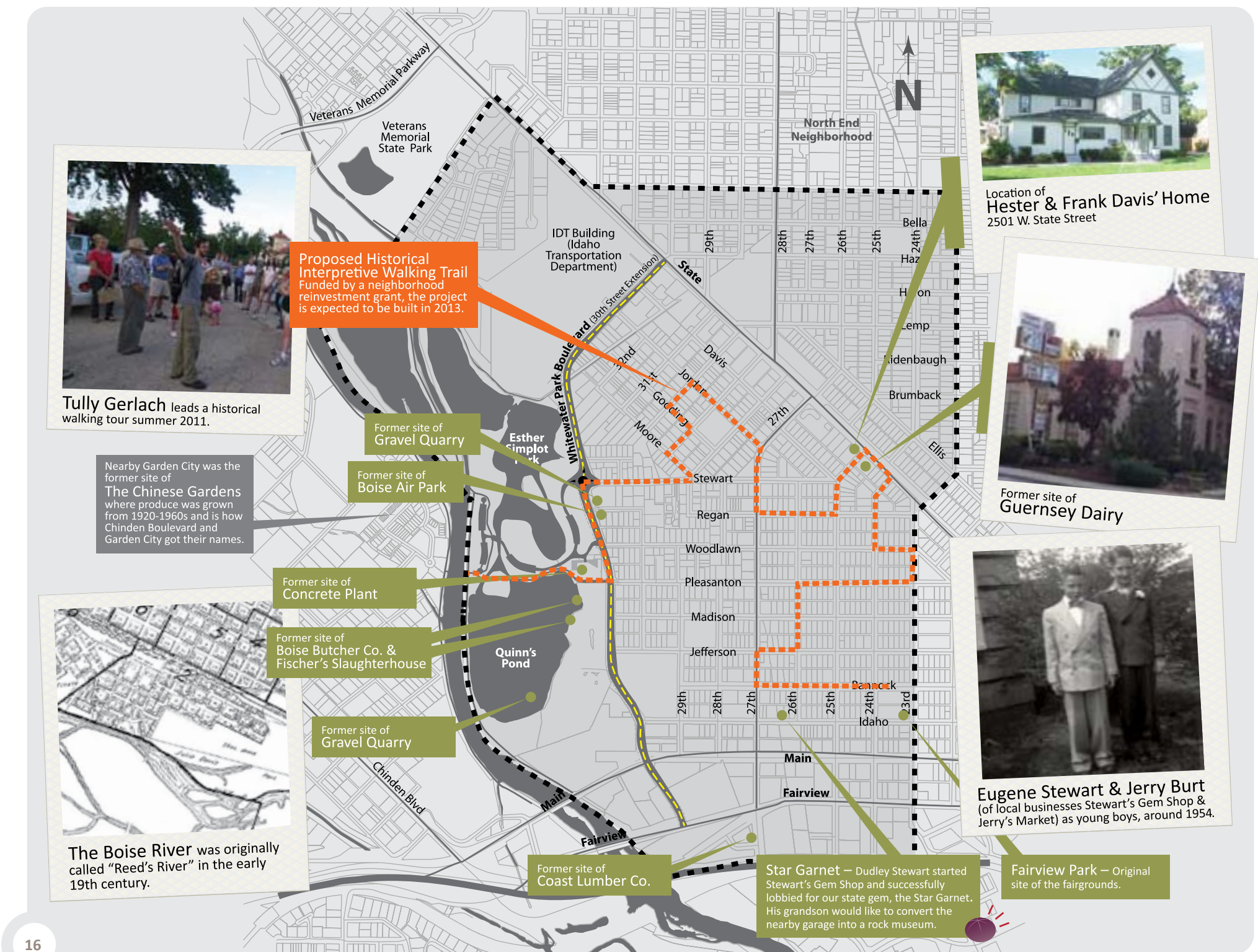
Be it artwork in the ground or incorporated into a bench or signage, demonstrating the stages of a mayfly could be an interesting way to tie in educational art in the area. Unlike butterflies that have four stages (egg, larva, pupa, adult), mayflies go through three stages (egg, nymph, adult) known as incomplete metamorphosis. Fly fishermen think of mayfly with four life cycles – nymph, emerger, dun, and spinner. Successful fly fisherman study what trout eat, and when.

THEMATIC PRINCIPLE:

4 Nature

Home to a variety of wildlife and native plants, the Boise River, and the ponds of Veterans Memorial Park and Bernadine Quinn Park, there are many reasons to respond to nature with public art in this neighborhood.

Responding to nature can be thought of at different scales – from the Boise River in relation to its mountain source, to a more individual encounter during a quiet moment along the river.



THEMATIC PRINCIPLE:

5 History

engage Fertile farmland, sold at affordable prices, led to a diverse & eclectic neighborhood bordered by industry.

BOISE OVERVIEW Founded in 1863, Boise is located on the edge of a northern sagebrush desert and surrounded by foothills. The Boise River and several creeks give the city the feeling of an oasis. Early development followed a typical 19th century “walking city” until the streetcar system of 1891 allowed for residential development further from the center.

DEVELOPMENT Just after the turn of the century, Boise’s “West End” – a term historians use for the area south of State Street and north of Fairview that includes 21st through 32nd Streets – began to take shape. The westward development we see between Boise, Meridian and beyond began here. Affordable and efficient transit both drove and served growth. Farmland was turned into residential lots platted at 50’ widths and sold at comparable prices to the 25’ wide lots in Boise’s North and East Ends. This opened a new opportunity for people of “small means” to live on large lots in a suburban neighborhood. Affordability and less regulation in general led to architectural diversity.

INDUSTRY Unlike today, back in the early 1900s the lands near the Boise River were valued for their industrial uses more than for their natural beauty. Early residential area development was not at risk for regular flooding (despite being in the Broadway Terrace floodplain), and had fertile soil from natural gravel deposits. Yet despite the rural aspect and this easily developed land, the presence of industry undermined the suburban character. The Boise River and the main

railroad spur line to its south were two major transportation routes that suited commercial development. In 1906 the Coast Lumber Co. established a finished carpentry mill east of the riverbank, which in 1926 served as a storage site for the Idaho Transportation Department. Until the 1960s, the riverbanks were outside the city limits, freeing them from the few industrial restrictions in place. The Boise River was used as an industrial waste and sewage-removal system. Slaughterhouses and later oil tank farms and a concrete plant used the river as a dumping ground. By the 1930s, the Quinn-Robbins company closed the slaughterhouses and excavated the rich gravel sources for decades.

FARM FAMILIES Early settlers Frank and Hester Davis (brother and sister-in-law to Tom Davis and his wife Julia, for whom the town park was named) kept a large farm where they planted fruit orchards, cultivated hay and raised sheep. Hester Davis called her house, and possibly the surrounding farm, “Pleasanton”. The home still stands today, located at 25th and State Streets. In 1908 Hester (then widowed) subdivided her land into the Pleasanton Addition.

The Davis family’s neighbors to the northwest were Norman S. and Elizabeth Hummel, also successful farmers who grew apples, prunes, wheat and alfalfa. Later widowed, Elizabeth Hummel sold the property in 1910. Today the Idaho Transportation Department campus occupies almost the entire “Hubbell Home Addition”.

“*Rural Peace with Urban Access.*”

– Phrase coined by local historian Tully Gerlach

PROGRESSIVE NEIGHBORHOODS

Residents took pride in their neighborhoods, forming neighborhood associations for beautification and upkeep. In 1912, the citizens of the Pleasanton Addition voted to annex themselves from the city and willingly paid the tax assessments necessary to lay sidewalks, water lines and sewer systems in their neighborhood. This epitomized the progressive spirit of the rising and civically engaged middle class of the early 20th century.

VPNA The Veterans Park Neighborhood Association encompasses a large area from Wylie/State/Taft east to State/19th/Idaho Streets. The original plan for Veterans Memorial Park encompasses its current location southwest to Main Street, along the riverbank. This plan named all of the adjacent neighborhoods (including the 30th Street Area) the Veterans Park Neighborhood. Although Veterans Memorial Park ended up being smaller than originally planned, the name for the surrounding neighborhoods stuck, and the neighborhood association (VPNA) was officially incorporated in 1991. Though many residents passionately identify their area as the Veterans Park Neighborhood, the name is actually based on an unfulfilled plan and is not accurate geographically or historically.

There is an opportunity to distinctly identify the 30th Street area whether it be the historical term, “The West End”, or another name that grows organically from the residents.



Consider places as **MEMORY THEATERS** that trigger internal emotions and narratives.

Community Gardens photo courtesy of Guy Hand



Produce from The Jordan Street Gardens

COMMUNITY FOCUS:

Jordan Street Garden

www.facebook.com/jordanstreetgarden

The Jordan Street Garden was founded in 2009 by members of the VPNA where a privately-owned, vacant lot was converted into a community garden.

It's located at 30th and Jordan, near the Davis Park apartments where many refugees live. The garden serves 15 families including African, Eastern European, Bhutanese, and Syrian families, and has a children's garden, too. This garden serves many moms and kids, who are able to walk to the garden from home.

The garden serves as a gathering place in the neighborhood and a community asset. The Jordan Street Garden is a Global Garden, a program of the Idaho Office for Refugees. There are eight Global Gardens in Boise, Eagle, and Star which provide garden or farm space for around 100 refugee families as well as training in horticultural production and marketing.

There are many opportunities for artistic involvement with this community garden:

- Artistic topped rain barrels
- Map mural on the shed wall (perhaps of where people that work in the garden originate)
- Canopy for shade, spot to rest
- CSA pickup
- Picnic table / bench
- Visual markers
- Bike rack
- Piece to prevent people from driving into the garden (an artistic heavy bollard for example)
- Arts & education opportunities for children that are on-going



TEMPORARY ART

This outdoor interactive installation by Maurizio Bolognini (Genoa, 2005) can be modified by anyone using a cell phone.



THEMATIC PRINCIPLE:

Community Connections

cooperate Encourage residents to connect with each other through the community garden, art along trails, volunteering, and cooperative temporary art.

POROUS PARKWAY Think of Whitewater Park Boulevard as a porous ribbon, not a barrier. Try to connect people and place with art on either side of the boulevard. Integrating art from the 30th Street neighborhood to the new parks, river and beyond is a great way to strengthen and connect the community.

COMMUNITY CENTER The Davis Park Apartments After School Center (located at 970 N. 29th St, #B05) started in September 1994. It hosts the "Catch Them While They're Young" program, providing supervised after school activities for children in kindergarten through 6th grade who live in Davis Park Apartments. Boise Parks & Recreation staff members focus on social skills, life skills, arts and crafts, and self esteem. Positive reinforcement is emphasized with all activities. Homework and tutoring are always a priority. The goal of the afterschool program is to provide children with activities and positive role models so that healthy behavior becomes a habit.

TRAILS AS CONNECTIONS Gathering places, viewing places, resting places, plazas, quiet gardens, references to Garden City's Chinese Gardens beyond the river, and places to purchase produce from the Jordan Street Garden – there are many opportunities to create a stronger sense of connection throughout the neighborhood. **The Historical Interpretive Walking Trail** is one great example in the works.

VPNA The Veterans Park Neighborhood Association (VPNA) is an active organization formed to preserve and enhance the quality of life in the Veterans Park area. Find out more at vpna Boise.org.

.....

There are opportunities to establish new relationships between different parts of the neighborhood and create new patterns of activity and spots for community reinvestment.

Dandelions by Roadsworth parking lot
Montreal, Quebec, Canada



Tap Root, a reclaimed object sculpture by Benjamin Lavender.
Photo by James Halfacre reprinted with permission



Tiny Deer Room the Streets in Alex Callender's Public Exhibit, New York City



Wind-Powered LED Flower Light, Halton, United Kingdom. As wind blows at speeds above 5 miles an hour, three wind turbines attached to the flower's stem collect energy and power LEDs beneath the petals.



THEMATIC PRINCIPLE:



Environmental Education & Sustainability

protect An awareness of the environment through art can help conserve and protect our resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Artwork that respects the environment is not just an object plopped down in the landscape. Art can connect people to the landscape and engage them in something bigger than themselves.

AWARENESS & SENSITIVITY

Consider our regional ecology, "high desert meets foothills," and what ways we can celebrate and protect our environment.

A few topics for inspiration:

- Watershed education
- Protecting drinking water
- Native plants

- Clean air
- Climate change
- Pests and pesticides
- Recycling and reuse
- Minimizing erosion and runoff
- Reducing water usage
- Capturing rainwater
- Waste
- Using materials recycled from the site
- Green building
- Porous pathways
- Sunshades
- Response to time, weather and movement
- Sundials
- Sense of place education
- Water quality
- Wildlife habitat
- Charting the Boise River

- Native plant gardens
- Education/sustainability
- Recycled materials from construction
- River cleanup
- Storm water drainage
- Wildlife education & conservation
- Wetlands
- Flood cycles
- Temperature in relation to flooding
- Monitoring water height
- Think local and contextualize (local artists, local materials)
- Healthy transportation (biking, carpooling, walking) means cleaner air, and lower demand for natural resources and energy

Engage residents and participants in the future of their environment.



Consider celebrating

FROGS

whose presence is a sign of a healthy ecosystem.

Esther Simplot Park

This 55 acre “water park” is devoted to a sense of adventure.

Esther Simplot Park is an undeveloped 55-acre park that will feature natural areas, expanded ponds, and a meandering stream. Natural and paved pathways weave through grassy areas, across bridges and around islands and picnic shelters. A water quality area along Whitewater Park Boulevard allows for sediments to settle and filters water before it reaches the ponds.

This park is unique in its design as a natural “water park” with 17 acres of ponds and 8.9 acres of riparian natural areas. It borders the Boise River Greenbelt and will connect to Bernardine Quinn pond via a wier despite a 3’ difference in elevation. The ponds will provide access for swimming, paddling and small boating. There will be docks, overlooks, viewing platforms, picnic groves, terraces, boardwalks, a beach area, shelters, nature trails and parking.

There will be limited amounts of lawn area and the newly formed ponds will be approximately 12’ deep. Plantings are planned close to the pond edges to enhance water quality, and to eliminate the pesky “geese problem” found in many parks. A natural adventure play area is planned for kids. The vision for the park is one of “surprise and delight”.

This project is scheduled to be completed in 2014.



LOTS TO DO In addition to all the water sports this park brings – swimming, paddling, kayaking, fishing, scuba diving training – there will also be nature trails, sites for festivals, and viewing platforms for triathlons and outdoor events. There will also be “moments” for birdwatching, resting points, picnicing groves and play areas for children.



PARK + PLAY
A “park and play” spot is a location easily accessible and attractive to paddlers due its hydraulic characteristics. Whether it is a “hole”(standing wave with recirculating water created by an underwater obstruction), a “haystack”(series of waves that are generally formed by two channels of water converging at high velocity) or other hydraulic features, park and play spots are popular for practicing rolls, self-rescue techniques, and perfecting other difficult moves such as aerial tricks.

Boise River Park

Over 12 years in the works, this park reclaims a former industrial area to create a vibrant and multi-use hub of activity.

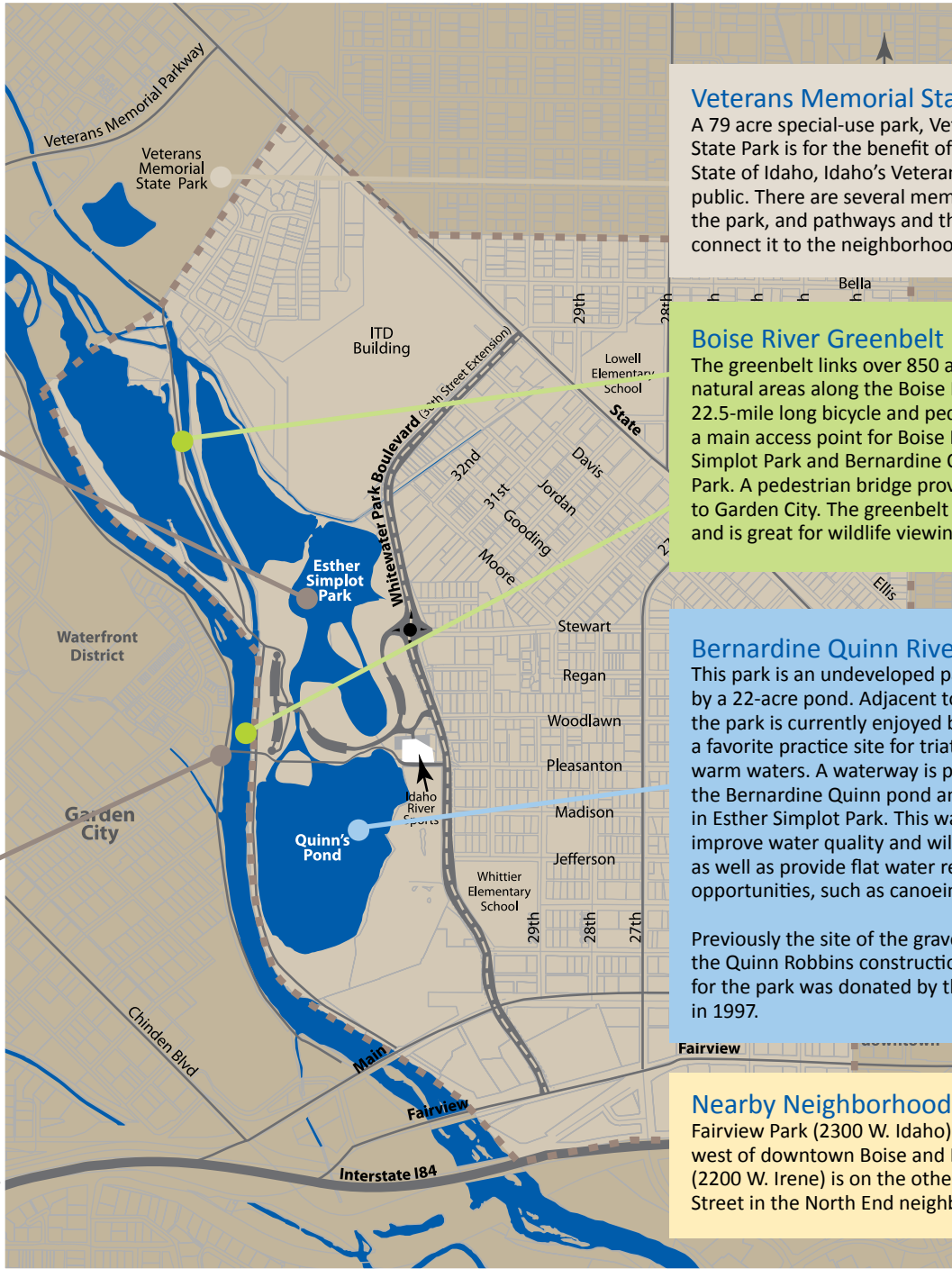


The closest whitewater used to be almost an hour’s drive from Boise. Now Boise has its own river recreation park to provide a high-quality “park and play” experience close to downtown, and spectators have vastly improved and safer vantage points.

The Boise River Park’s first phase was completed in 2012 and replaced the Thurman Mill diversion with a structure that includes wave shaper technology. This allows for modification of the size and shape of two separate waves to varying degrees in this section of the river. Improved safety and accessibility (as compared to that typically found in natural settings) offer the opportunity to make the sport more family friendly.

Similar parks in other cities have proven popular with spectators as well as paddlers. Boating events such as slalom races and “rodeos” could take place in the park near planned viewing areas.

Special attention has been made to provide protection of the existing banks from erosion and the integration of nature and park users with in-stream structures, access points and trails designed to mesh with the river and riparian zones around them. Stream enhancements will also attract fish to the area. Anglers can frequent the area both during the boating season and during the off season.



Park Locator Map
in the 30th Street Neighborhood

Veterans Memorial State Park
A 79 acre special-use park, Veterans Memorial State Park is for the benefit of the people of the State of Idaho, Idaho’s Veterans, and the general public. There are several memorials throughout the park, and pathways and the greenbelt connect it to the neighborhood.

Boise River Greenbelt
The greenbelt links over 850 acres of parks and natural areas along the Boise River, including a 22.5-mile long bicycle and pedestrian path. It is a main access point for Boise River Park, Esther Simplot Park and Bernardine Quinn Riverside Park. A pedestrian bridge provides easy access to Garden City. The greenbelt is open year-round and is great for wildlife viewing.

Bernardine Quinn Riverside Park
This park is an undeveloped park dominated by a 22-acre pond. Adjacent to the Greenbelt, the park is currently enjoyed by residents, and a favorite practice site for triathletes with its warm waters. A waterway is planned to connect the Bernardine Quinn pond and the two ponds in Esther Simplot Park. This waterway will improve water quality and wildlife habitat, as well as provide flat water recreation opportunities, such as canoeing and kayaking.

Previously the site of the gravel operation for the Quinn Robbins construction company, land for the park was donated by the Quinn family in 1997.

Nearby Neighborhood Parks
Fairview Park (2300 W. Idaho) is located just west of downtown Boise and Elm Grove Park (2200 W. Irene) is on the other side of State Street in the North End neighborhood.

“ There is certainly something in fishing that tends to produce a gentleness of spirit, a pure serenity of mind. ”
– Washington Irving

THEMATIC PRINCIPLE: Parks

unite Boise’s park system is often referred to as the ribbon of jewels. The Boise River Greenbelt provides the uniting ribbon that links these jewels honoring some of Boise’s patron ladies.

The 30th Street neighborhood is the lucky home of three parks including Boise River Park and Esther Simplot Park. Existing Bernardine Quinn Riverside Park is slated for improvements as well and will connect to Esther Simplot Park’s ponds with a waterway.

There are many opportunities for public art to connect the neighborhood through Boise’s parks with wayfinding, cultural events, temporary artwork, education, gateways and much more.

Specific Public Art Opportunities

➡ A list of 15 potential projects is a **starting point** meant to stimulate creativity and discussion for neighborhood public art.

ENGAGEMENT This document encourages a participatory process, not just placing objects in a landscape. Artists, park designers, and architects are encouraged to work with the neighborhood to reflect the cultural values, attitudes and beliefs of the residents.

Participation and collaboration with the residents could include artist selection, the gathering of materials, hands-on involvement creating murals and mosaics, and temporary projects in construction areas and in the parks that involve intense bursts of community creation.

REALIZATION The “dream list” of projects and the author’s sketches are to serve as starting points for discussion. The list is in no particular order and no funding has been specifically earmarked.

FUNDING These projects could be funded by Boise City, public and private contributions, and by community initiatives. Boise has a “Percent-for-Arts” ordinance, committing up to 1.4% of eligible municipal capital projects for public art.

CELEBRATE Reflect the neighborhood’s values and unique locations and let’s put the 30th Street Neighborhood “on the map” for public art!



Confluence by Amy Westover uses old pipes from the waste-water treatment plant junkyard, Boise Watershed.



Placemaking in Portland, OR by a group called City Repair.



Four lanterns react to the passage of people with rhythms of drums, bells, cymbals, and chimes in Patrick Zentz’s Homage to the Pedestrian, downtown Boise.

OPPORTUNITIES

There are opportunities to involve artists in the design of functional elements like seating, mileage markers, drinking fountains (for dogs too!), bike racks, kayak racks, signage, etc.



Specific Potential Art Locations
The 30th Street Neighborhood

Suggested Locations

- 1 – Roundabout
- 2 – Whittier Elementary Wall
- 3 – Artist in Residence
- 4 – Scavenger Hunt Art
- 5 – Marker at Pleasanton & 30th
- 6 – Bike Experience
- 7 – Park Wayfinding
- 8 – Community Gardens Identification
- 9 – Temporary Public Art
- 10 – Marker at 27th & Stewart
- 11 – Marker at 27th & Pleasanton
- 12 – Gateway at 30th & State
- 13 – Gateway at 30th & Fairview/Main
- 14 – Moments (along the greenbelt and in the neighborhood)
- 15 – Neighborhood Identity

★ This is a DREAM LIST of projects for the neighborhood



Roundabout Art Example:
Orb 1 by Brandon Zebold
Bend, Oregon



Roundabout Art Example:
Luminaria by Angel Rodríguez-Díaz
San Antonio, Texas

Roundabout Art
could set the tone
for public art in the
ENTIRE neighborhood.



Roundabout
concept sketch
by author

1

Roundabout

Boise's first Roundabout will be located at Stewart & 30th, the main entrance to Esther Simplot Park.

FOCAL POINT As the main entrance to Boise's largest city park, this is arguably the most important location to strongly represent the neighborhood 'voice' and set the tone for the park.

COMMUNITY This piece has a unique opportunity to set a precedent for future art in city roundabouts, and to create a bit of drama and a grander sense of entry to ESP.

SAFETY Art should be interesting enough for vehicles to slow down, but provide visibility for traffic in any direction. It should not be an inviting 'play structure' for children, or a distraction to drivers.

Budget Estimate: \$40,000 - \$100,000

IDEA: A sculptural interpretation of a variety of giant metal feathers of birds found in the area (quail, hawk, osprey, heron) slows down Roundabout traffic and speaks to the diversity of residents.



2

Whittier Wall

Whitewater Park Boulevard will run directly behind Whittier Elementary School.

SAFETY Worries over a busy 4 lane boulevard behind an elementary school could be turned into an opportunity to stimulate neighborhood creativity and connection.

COMMUNITY Artists should consider involving students and residents in the design and construction of this art wall to create a strong connection to the school in the neighborhood.

ENHANCEMENT Instead of a boring chain link fence, imagine looking past the playground to an exciting and colorful extension of the classroom. Constructing Whitewater Park Boulevard will involve removing several trees. Could wall construction and a tree planting ceremony coincide? The artist should ask what is important to the school, and to the greater community.

Budget Estimate: \$20,000+



Inspiration Example:
Lincoln Park Wall
Mural by artist Robin
Brailsford and architect
David Angelo
Los Angeles, CA

3

Artist in Residence

Textile art, dance & puppetry workshops are just a few ideas to inspire neighborhood interaction with local artists.

STIMULATE Engage local residents with possible workshop activities such as:

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| • Dance | • Poetry | • Sculpture |
| • Painting | • Cooking | • Ceramics |
| • Puppetry | • Mosaics | • Kite making |
| • Textiles | • Sketchbook | • Gem Study |
| • River Mapping | | |

COMMUNITY Possible site locations include local elementary schools, The First Congregational Church (on Pleasanton and 23rd), Whiz Kid Daycare & Preschool (2999 W. Moore Street) and sites throughout the parks and greenbelt. The Mobile Rec Van (run through the Boise Parks and Rec) could also be involved.

Budget Estimate: \$120 per day per artist



Inspiration Example:
Basque dancers in
downtown Boise,
photo courtesy
Greg Stahl



4

Scavenger Hunt

Connect the neighborhood with a fun educational component for all ages.

EDUCATE One idea: Find 10 ‘art insects’ throughout the parks and neighborhood. With one large piece of paper, make keepsake rubbings from each insect found. Learn what these insects eat, how they live, and where they can be found in the natural environment.

CONNECTION Placing artwork inside the parks and the surrounding areas ties the neighborhood to the park/greenbelt/river and brings activity and interest, sparking conversation about nature.

CHANGE IT UP Artists can vary materials (brass relief inset in a tree trunk, carved stone, glossy surface in concrete) and locations (sidewalks, trees, rocks, benches) and visibility (hidden under a bench, high in a tree you’d climb, in plain sight on pavement). Educational information about each insect could be found on site, or linked from the VPNA website.

Budget Estimate: \$5,000 - \$20,000

5

Marker at Pleasanton & 30th

Mark the main pedestrian entrance to the greenbelt, Esther Simplot Park & Boise River Park.

WAYFINDING This marker could hint at what is coming up along the greenbelt and further down the river – paddlers and kayakers. New to town? Locals could say, “Just walk past the giant red paddle”. Or giant frog. Or tie dye heron. Or giant purple turnip. Just kidding. Well, only sorta.

REFERENCE THE PAST Garden City’s Chinden Boulevard is just over the river. What if the marker referenced the beautiful Chinese Gardens from the 1920s that gave Chinden Boulevard its name?

SAFETY A traffic signal will be placed just for pedestrians, but artwork could highlight this pedestrian pathway in order to further slow traffic.

Budget Estimate: \$20,000



Inspiration Example:
Yakaya by Troy Pillow
Bend, Oregon



Inspiration Example:
Crosswalk art
by Cynthia Luna
Pasadena, CA

6

Bike Experience

Celebrate cycling with an experience just for those on their bikes.

MOMENTS Unique experiences while biking along the Whitewater Park Boulevard could include roadway texture changes, color changes, fragrant plantings, even a sound garden.

TREAD ON ME Roadway texture changes like subtle bumps mimicking fish bubbles, fossils in concrete, or fallen leaves scattered by nearby cottonwood trees are a few thoughts of inspiration.

ACTIVITY Enhancing the cycling experience is one way to encourage residents to be active and healthy and use the new bike lanes.

FUNCTION Tie in bike racks and resting areas to public art.

Budget Estimate: \$10,000 - \$30,000



“ A bike is an ideal compromise between walking and a car. A bike triples the speed of walking yet doesn’t zoom over the landscape, so that what is passed isn’t passed unseen. ”

– Steve Sherman

7

Park Wayfinding

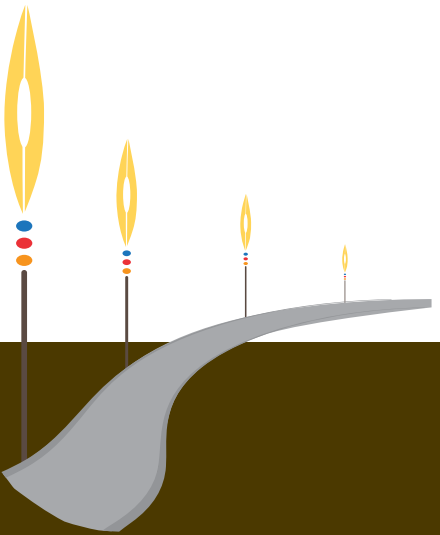
Connect the neighborhood to the parks and guide the pedestrian or kayaker to Boise River Park.

WAYFINDING From Whitewater Park Boulevard and Pleasanton, the Boise River Park is a walk down the greenbelt. Help people find their way with artful landmarks, bollards, or signage.

REPETITION Repeat color, forms and symbols in one direction of the greenbelt path (perhaps of a kayak on one side, and this same long shape becomes a leaf going the reverse direction) to create a rhythm of experience and a directional pull.

ECHO Consider a relationship from the Garden City pedestrian bridge over the Boise River to the pedestrian crosswalk on Whitewater Park Boulevard. How can art connect and bring about a conversation between the two?

Budget Estimate: \$20,000



author’s sketch for bronze trail markers to each park





Quick logo sketch by author

8

Identify Jordan Street Garden

Celebrate this urban refugee garden that bridges cultural barriers.

ASSET A strong visual marker could formally recognize the importance of this neighborhood asset. This could translate to a traditional logo on a sign, a painted mural on garden storage shed, a custom bench for resting, a temporary canopy for CSA pickup, artistic toppers for rain barrels or heavy bollards to stop vehicles from driving into the garden.

COMMUNITY From an abandoned lot of weeds and trash to a beautiful garden feeding people in need, this garden is also a gathering place. It is within walking distance to the Davis Park Apartment that house several gardening refugee families.

LANDMARK A visual element for each of Boise's 10 community gardens could start with the Jordan Street Garden.

Budget Estimate: \$3,000 - \$10,000

Of special note is that the Jordan Street Garden is a privately owned, temporary garden space. Visual markers should be sturdy and difficult to remove from the garden area, but also not permanent structures.



Inspiration Example: Environmental art from Arte Sella, Sella Valley, Italy.

9

Temporary Public Art Installation

Bring together the community to create something wonderful.

BEAUTIFY Construction of the extension will impact residents considerably. Consider ways to enliven the construction area with art on construction barriers and fences, and with temporary banners and colorful flags. Collective bursts of energy can turn a mundane eye sore into a visual asset.

Artists can also be involved in designing special events (such as ribbon cutting, ground breaking, races, festivals and exhibitions).

WORKSHOPS An artist in residence opportunity could be specifically to create playful temporary art installations in the parks – be it building giant twig forts near Quinn's Pond or miniature fairy villages with children along the diversion channel in Esther Simplot Park, or racing leaf boat on the river.

Budget Estimate: \$120 - \$3,000



Inspiration Example: Wooden public art installation by Arne Quinze Brussels, Belgium

10

Marker at 27th & Stewart

Signal entry to Esther Simplot Park beyond with a transition that builds the drama of passage.

POINT OF REFERENCE Maybe a rippled bronze triglyph wall treatment or a bold trout trying to find his way to the river – mark the connection to the river beyond.

COMMUNITY Hint at what's to come with playful elements like round bulging fish eyes in the sidewalk or tadpoles that emerge into frogs the closer you get to the parks.

ART ECHO This marker could echo the public art in the roundabout with material, scale and texture.

Budget Estimate: \$20,000+

★ Give a sense of arrival & welcome



11

Marker at 27th & Pleasanton

Continue the pedestrian emphasis of Pleasanton Street with an art celebration at eye level.

WALK THIS WAY A straight line to the greenbelt, Idaho River Sports, the parks and the river is a few blocks down Pleasanton Street from 27th Street.

REPEAT A series of repeating elements could begin here and appear again at Whitewater Park Boulevard and then again on the other side of the river in Garden City.

BEAUTY The rhythmic pattern could be informative and beautiful.

Budget Estimate: \$20,000+



How can drama & identity be added to the sense of passage?

12

Gateway at WPB & State Street

Visually prominent landmarks make memorable markers for the neighborhood.

HISTORY A unique opportunity for commemorating history in the neighborhood could start at State Street. One direction down Whitewater Park Boulevard could honor the past, the other direction could reference the future through its art treatment.

FUNCTION Consider incorporating a clock tower, sun dial or treatment that aligns with shadowlines from the sun's angles throughout the day.

Budget Estimate: \$20,000 - \$60,000

13

Gateway at WPB & Fairview / Main

Think of this gateway treatment as an invitation to the neighborhood.

ECHO The gateway at State Street should also speak to the gateway at Fairview/Main.

GLAD YOU'RE HERE Make it welcoming and friendly and set the tone for the neighborhood ahead.

Budget Estimate: \$20,000

14

Moments along the greenbelt & neighborhood

Moments along the way, changes in walking textures, kinetic structures or sound installations can add surprise and discovery.

TAKE A LOAD OFF Resting spots like seating, shade and water can be incorporated "moments".

SMALL SCALE A small and subtle surprise can carry impact. Perhaps a series of pieces start with an egg, nymph, mayfly – then that mayfly in a trout's belly.

BEAUTY Scattered leaves of nearby native cottonwood trees or other ways to celebrate little details all year long.

Budget Estimate: varies



Inspiration Example:
Bronze leaves embedded in stamped concrete.

15

Strengthen Local Area Identity

Once the neighborhood is named by its residents, signage and art can strengthen that placemaking.

COMMUNITY There is an opportunity to distinctly identify the 30th Street Area with its own name. It should grow organically from the residents.

DISTRICT The name might recognize the recreational uses nearby, honor the past or be something else entirely.

Some name considerations:
The West End
SONO (South of the North End)
Multicultural District
Whitewater District
River District

Budget Estimate: varies



Inspiration Example:
Sound Garden
by Lee Kelly
Bend, Oregon

Dear Friends,

Thanks for your interest in the cultural life of the 30th Street neighborhood. The ideas presented in this plan are just the beginning. To contribute to the evolution and realization of the community's vision for the future, the City of Boise needs you! Is there a particular aspect of the plan that interested you that you'd like to help organize around, raise money for, or advocate on behalf of? Here are ways to consider getting involved:

- To discover projects or events that need volunteers, contact the neighborhood association president or neighborhood planner assigned to your area.
- If you are an interested artist, apply for public art project opportunities as they are funded, or contact the Department of Arts & History public art manager about grant opportunities for which you could apply to initiate a public art project.
- If you are a teacher, look for ways to connect classroom curriculum to the principles identified in the plan or historical information about the neighborhood.
- As a parent, look for ways to explore the neighborhood using the principles outlined in the plan.
- Take a walking tour through the new parks to see how many kinds of plants and birds you can identify.
- If you want to contribute to funding a public artwork, arts experience, or other cultural investment, contact the Department of Arts and History and talk to staff about the legacy you'd like to provide for the next generation.
- As a home, property, or business owner consider ways to tie into the cultural infrastructure network such as sponsoring an artist residency in an unused space; installing your own public art in your front yard; or researching the history of your block and sharing with neighbors.

What other ways can you think of to get involved and make a difference in the vibrancy of the area?

Thank you to artist and planner Stephanie Inman for your labor of love, dedication to the project, and good humor. This plan is a great testament to what can come out of an engaged dialogue with community residents.

We look forward to seeing what comes of the next ten years!

Sincerely,

Karen Bubba
Public Arts Manager

Kathleen Marie Lacey
Comprehensive Planner

IMPORTANT CONTACTS FOR MORE INFORMATION

BOISE CITY Department of Arts & History

150 N. Capitol Blvd.
Boise City Hall, First Floor
www.boiseartsandhistory.org
(208) 433-5670
Karen Bubba, Public Arts Manager
(208) 433-5677
email: kbubba@cityofboise.org

BOISE CITY Planning and Development Services

150 N. Capitol Blvd.
Boise City Hall, Second Floor
(208) 384-3830
www.pds.cityofboise.org
Kathleen Lacey, Comprehensive Planner
(208) 384-3835
email: klacey@cityofboise.org

Stephanie Inman

Artist and author of this document
(208) 381-0230
www.stephanieinman.com
email: sinman@stephanieinman.com

VPNA

(Veterans Park Neighborhood Association)

www.vpnaboise.org
email: vpnaboise@gmail.com
*Board meetings are 3rd Monday of the month
6:30-8:00pm at Idaho River Sports*

Ada County Highway District (ACHD)

Dyan Bevins, Project Manager
(208) 387-6260
email: DBevins@achdidaho.org

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Updates to Whitewater Park Boulevard construction projects can be found at:
www.achdidaho.org/Projects

Updates for Esther Simplot Park and Boise River Park construction projects can be found at:
www.cityofboise.org/Departments/Parks



SELECTED SOURCES & AREA AGENCIES

Agency for New Americans

(208) 338-0033
www.anaidaho.org

Jeff Anderson, local resident

Wrote grant for historic walking path
email: jeffanddarcy@yahoo.com

Barbara Perry Bauer,

Historian / streetcar expert
(208) 338-1014
email: bpbauer@taghistory.com

Boise Architecture Project

Douglas P. StanWiens, Educator
(208) 869-8439
email: info@boisearchitecture.org
www.boisearchitecture.org

Boise Convention and Visitors Bureau

312 South 9th Street, Ste. 100
(208) 344-7777

Boise Parks Department

1104 Royal Boulevard
(208) 384-4240
Amy Stahl, Marketing & Communications Coordinator
(208) 608-7611
email: astahl@cityofboise.org
www.cityofboise.org/Departments/Parks

Better Boise Coalition

www.bbcboise.com

Boise Friends of the Park Board

(for Boise River Park)
Beth Markley
(208) 484-4424
email: beth@markley.com
Paul Collins, board member
email: collins04@cableone.net

Boise Housing & Community Development

James Birdsall, Director
(208) 384-4158, ext 102
email: jbirdsall@cityofboise.org

Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce

250 S 5th St # 300
(208) 472-5200
www.boisechamber.org

Boise WaterShed

www.BoiseEnvironmentalEducation.org
Cindy Busche, Environmental Education Coordinator
(208) 608-7300
email: cbusche@cityofboise.org

Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS)

800 South Industry Way, Ste. 100,
Meridian 83642
(208) 855-2558
www.compassidaho.org

CCDC

(Capital City Development Corporation)

121 North 9th Street, Ste. 501
Mike Hall, Planning & Development Director
(208) 384-4264
email: mhall@ccdcboise.com
www.ccdcboise.com

Department of Biological Sciences, BSU

Dr. Ian Robertson
Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in Biology
(208) 426-2394
email: iroberts@boisestate.edu

Downtown Business Association (DBA)

720 West Idaho Street
(208) 385-7300
www.downtownboise.org

Esther Simplot Park – Representatives

Maggie Soderberg
email: msoderberg@mindspring.com
Kathy O'Neill
email: ksilveroneill@msn.com
Mark Bowen
email: mbowen@heritagewifi.com

GARDEN CITY Planning and Zoning Services

City Hall
6015 Glenwood Street, Garden City
(208) 472-2921
www.gardencityidaho.govoffice.com

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

600 South Walnut
Lynn Kinter
(208) 287-2734
email: lynn.kinter@idfg.idaho.gov

Idaho Office for Refugees

Global Gardens
Katie Painter, Project Coordinator
Refugee Agricultural Partnership Program
(208) 336-4222 extension 3
email: kpainter@idahorefugees.org
www.idahorefugees.org

Idaho Native Plant Society

www.idahonativeplants.org

Idaho River Sports

Jo Cassin & Stan Kolby, owners
3100 W. Pleasanton Avenue
(208) 336-4844
www.idahoriversports.com

Jordan Street Garden

www.facebook.com/jordanstreetgarden
Shana Foster Moore (organizer)
(208) 850-7821

Lowell Elementary

Paula Bell, principal
(208) 854-5480

Mobile Rec Van

Rosanne Daily
(208) 869-1047

McAlvain Construction

*(construction contractor for
Boise River Park)*
Walter McBrier, project manager
(208) 362-2125
www.mcalvain.com

Mountain States Group

(208) 336-5533
www.mtnstatesgroup.org

Stewart's Gem Shop

Brent Stewart
(208) 342-1151
www.stewartsgemshopinc.com

Taft Elementary

Dr. Susan Williamson, principal
(208) 854-6180

Tully Gerlach, Historian

email: tgerlach@cityofboise.org
www.preservationidaho.org/blog/t-gerlach

Wenk Associates

*Landscape Architects
for Esther Simplot Park*
(303) 628-0003
William Wenk
email: bwenk@wenkla.com
Nicole Horst
email: nhorst@wenkla.com
www.wenkla.com

Whittier Elementary

Derek Gardner, principal
(208) 854-6630
Beth Sanders
Volunteer Art Coordinator

NOTED VENDORS

Mark Baltes

*(Sign maker for Historical Interpretive
Walking Trail & experienced public artist)*
(208) 794-0369
email: mark@landmark-impressions.com

Bryan Smith of All Natural Rock

(Stonework for Boise River Park)
email: bsmith@allnaturalrock.com
www.allnaturalrock.com

Cami Ruh Clemo

(Artist interested in microorganisms)
(208) 331-9539
email: cruhclemo@cableone.net
www.camiruhclemo.com

Toby Robin

Partner/Creative Director at
Neighborhood All-Stars
*(Signage design for Historical Interpretive
Walking Trail and local resident)*
(208) 830-4390
www.neighborhoodallstars.com

Whiz Kid Daycare and Preschool

*(available for weekend community
gatherings or workshops)*
2999 W. Moore Street
Boise, Idaho 83702
(208) 331-5661
contact: Erin Sorensen

SELECTED AREA CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

Alley Repertory Theater
3638 Osage Street, Garden City
(208) 388-4278
www.alleyrep.org

Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial
777 S. 8th Street
(208) 345-0304
www.idaho-humanrights.org

Art in the Park
670 Julia Davis Park
boiseartmuseum.org
AIP@boiseartmuseum.org

Ballet Idaho
501 S. 8th Street Ste A
208-343-0556
www.balletidaho.org

Basque Museum & Cultural Center
661 Grove Street
Phone: 343-2671
www.basquemuseum.com

Boise Art Museum (BAM)
670 S. Julia Davis Drive
(208) 345-8330
www.boiseartmuseum.org

Boise Contemporary Theater (BCT)
520 S. 9th Street
(208) 331-9224
www.bctheater.org

Boise State University – Visual Arts Center
1910 University Drive
Contact: Kristen Furlong, Gallery Director
Phone: 426-3994
Email: kfurlong@u.boisestate.edu

Discovery Center of Idaho
131 Myrtle Street
(208) 343-9895
www.scidaho.org

Idaho Botanical Garden
2355 N. Penitentiary Road
(208) 343-8649
www.idahobotanicalgarden.org

Idaho Shakespeare Festival
520 S. 9th Street
(208) 429-9908
www.idahoshakespeare.org

Idaho State Historical Society
450 N. 4th Street
(208) 334-3356

Idaho Theater for Youth
520 S. 9th Street
(208) 429-9908
www.idahoshakespeare.org

Boise Little Theater
100 E. Fort Street
(208) 342-5104
www.boiselittletheater.org

Boise Master Chorale
516 S. 9th Street
(208) 344-7901
www.boisemasterchorale.net

Boise Music Week
(208) 287-2155
www.boisemusicweek.org

Boise Open Studio Collective Organization
(208) 761-6798
www.boiseopenstudios.com
email: boiseopenstudios@gmail.com

Boise Philharmonic
516 S 9th St
(208) 344-7849
www.boisephilharmonic.org

Boise Public Library - Main
715 S Capitol Blvd
(208) 384-4076
boisepubliclibrary.org

Boise Rock School
3108 Bogus Basin Rd
(208) 830-2829
www.boiserockschool.com

Boise State Art Department
1910 University Drive
(208) 426-3873
www.boisestate.edu/art
email: artdept@boisestate.edu

Boise State Department of Music
1910 University Drive
(208) 426-1772
boisestate.edu/music

Boise WaterCooler
1401 West Idaho Street
(208) 368-0000
email: shelley@brixusa.com

The Cabin Literary Center
801 S Capitol Blvd
9208) 331-8000
www.thecabinidaho.org

Capital City Public Market
PO Box 2019
(208) 345-9287
www.capitalcitypublicmarket.com

Capital City Youth Ballet
West Hackamore Drive
(208) 378-9752
www.capitalcityballet.com

Celtic Festival
4501 W. Emerald
(208) 331-5675
www.idahoscots.org/festival

Esther Simplot Performing Arts
516 S. 9th Street
(208) 345-9116
www.espaa.org

Foothills Learning Center
3188 Sunset Peak Rd
(208) 514-3755
www.bee.cityofboise.org/Foothills

Fort Boise Community Center
700 Robbin Road
(208) 384-4486
www.cityofboise.org/Departments/Parks/Activities/FortBoiseCommunityCenter

Garden City Public Library
9115 Chinden Blvd., Garden City
(208) 472-2940
www.gardencity.lili.org

Gene Harris Jazz Festival
1910 University Dr.
(208) 426-3099
www.geneharris.org

Go Listen Boise
www.golistenboise.org

Hyde Park Street Fair
Camel's Back Park
(208) 884-7780
www.northend.org

Idaho Black History Museum
508 Julia Davis Drive
(208) 433-0017
www.ibhm.org

Idaho Botanical Garden
2355 N. Penitentiary Rd
(208) 343-8649
www.idahobotanicalgarden.org

Idaho Commission on the Arts
2410 Old Penitentiary Road
(208) 334-2119
www.arts.idaho.gov

Idaho Dance Theatre
405 S. 8th Street Ste 363
(208) 331-9592
www.idahodancetheatre.org

Idaho Humanities Council
217 W State Street
(208) 345-5346
www.idahohumanities.org

Idaho International Film Festival
P.O. Box 1595, Boise 83701
(208) 331-0909
www.idahofilmfestival.com

Idaho Metal Arts Guild
P.O. Box 5661, Boise 83705
(208) 336-3914
www.idahometalartsguild.org

Idaho Military History Museum
4748 Lindberg St. Bldg 924
(208) 272-4841
www.museum.mil.idaho.gov/GowenField.html

Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology
2455 Old Penitentiary Rd
(208) 368-9876
www.idahomuseum.org

Idaho Photographic Workshop
Mountain Cove Road
(208) 336-2128
www.idahophotographicworkshop.org

Idaho State Historical Museum
610 North Julia Davis Drive
(208) 334-2120
www.idahohistory.net/museum

Idaho State Historical Society
(208) 334-3847
www.history.idaho.gov

Idaho Watercolor Society
P.O. Box 9093
(208) 362-8503
www.makart.com/iws

Knock 'Em Dead Theater
415 E. Parkcenter Boulevard
(208) 385-0021
www.kedproductions.com

MK Nature Center
600 S. Walnut Street
(208) 334-2225
fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/education/mknc

Morrison Center for the Performing Arts
1910 University Dr.
(208) 426-1609
www.mc.boisestate.edu

New Heritage Theater Co.
P.O. Box 44269, Boise 83711
(208) 381-0958
www.newheritagetheater.org

Old Idaho Penitentiary
2445 Ole Penitentiary Road
(208) 381-0958
www.history.idaho.gov

Opera Idaho
513 S 8th Street
(208) 345-3531
www.operaidaho.org

Prairie Dog Productions
3820 Cassia
(208) 336-7383
www.pdplayhouse.com

Preservation Idaho
P.O. Box 1495, Boise 83701
(208) 424-5111
www.preservationidaho.org

Ridge to Rivers
(208) 514-3756
ridgetorivers.org

Stage Coach Theatre
5296 Overland Road
(208) 342-2000
www.stagecoachtheatre.com

St. Luke's Women's Fitness Celebration
608 W. Hays Street
(208) 381-2221
www.celebrateall.org

Trey McIntyre Project
775 Fulton Street
(877) 867-2320
www.treymcintyre.com

TrICA
1406 Eastman Street
(208) 344-2220
www.trica.org

Visual Arts Collective
3638 Osage Street, Garden City
(208) 424-8297
www.visualartscollective.com

Warhawk Museum
201 Municipal Drive, Nampa 83687
(208) 465-6446
www.warhawkairmuseum.org

Zoo Boise
355 Julia Davis Drive
(208) 384-4260
www.zooboise.org

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY & WEB RESOURCES

Boise WaterShed Arts Plan, 2009
Dwayne Carver

Boise's Water, The Private Side of Public Works
Robert T. Kent

Boise's West End, Western Suburban Development in the Progressive Era
Tully Gerlach

Currents & Eddies, City of San Antonio Art Master Plan (2006)
Lorna Jordan Studio

Life in Old Boise
Arthur A. Hart

Historic Boise
Arthur A. Hart

Idaho State Historical Society. Detail from "Map of Boise City Showing House Numbers, Street Railways, Additions and Precincts." (1912)
F.W. Almond

When The River Rises, Flood Control on the Boise River 1943-1985
Susan M. Stacy

"Thresholds and Gateways." Metropolitan Branch Trail Public Art / Civic Design Sketchbook. (2004)
MBT authors

www.artinpublicplaces.org/gallery

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www.boisewatershedexhibits.org/take-action/conservation-tips/

www.boisestate.edu/research/history/cityhistorian/atlas_river/1index_river.html

www.cityofboise.org/Departments/Parks

www.communitywalk.com

www.diggin4treasure.org/idaho-history/idaho-history-remembering-idahos-chinese-gardens

www.facebook.com/jordanstreetgarden

www.ga.water.usgs.gov/edu

www.idahorivers.org

www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/wpapos

www.lowerboisewatershedcouncil.org

www.mlpa.org/lincoln-park-wall-mural

www.partnersforcleanwater.org

www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/assets

www.streamnet.org/glossarystream.html

www.velo-city2012blog.com

www.voices.idahostatesman.com/2011/12/29/outdoors/river_park_update_wave_shapers_being_installed#storylink=cpy

www.vpnaboise.org

www.water.epa.gov/lawsregs/guidance/wetlands

www.wpamurals.com

