

INVENTORY SHEET FOR GROUP NOMINATIONS: IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOISE, IDAHO

NOMINATION: Historic Resources of Paris (Partial Inventory: Architecture)

SITE NAME: Grunder cabin and outbuildings (Paris, Idaho) SITE # 4

LOCATION: East First North, Paris, Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Multiple ownership. See continuation sheet.

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Paris, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: two acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The nomination includes the former Grunder cabin and outbuildings and the property on which they stand: lots one and two of block five in the Paris Original Townsite.

UTM(S): 12/4, 67, 650/46, 75, 90

DATE OR PERIOD: ca. 1880s EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: State

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

DESCRIPTION: Deteriorated condition altered original site

The former Grunder house is a small house resembling closely in its exterior profile and fenestration the Southern mountain cabins observed by Henry Glassie in the southern uplands.¹ The gabled front section of the house measures about sixteen by twelve feet, well within Southern mountain cabin proportions. A one-story rear lean-to is about twelve by six feet. The facade, a panel door flanked by two double-hung sash windows, is along the side wall. Both gable walls are blank, with the addition of a small off-center opening in the east gable and a one-story lean-to snowmobile shed on the east wall (a later addition). An interior brick chimney is centered in this gable.

The unmistakable square cabin profile derives chiefly from its steep roof of about forty-five degrees, which allows enough head room for a loft. On the Grunder cabin this steep roof is shingled. The cabin walls, which are balloon frame, have what appears to have no insulation of any kind between their lumber studs. Over this frame, shiplap siding is nailed with very little overlap. This modest house is unadorned even in comparison to the hall-and-parlor houses of Paris. It does have corner boards on the lean-to section and bedboards outlining the gables.

Behind the Grunder house are a cluster of three outbuildings, including a log barn, a granary, and the ruins of a log outbuilding with square notching. The Grunder barn also has square notching. Its partitioned rectangular plan with a half loft is similar to that found in other Paris log barns: the west half is open to the gables, and the east half has a loft supported by log joists framed into the barn's lateral walls. Both east and west gables are frame with horizontal siding, and both have openings for hoisting hay. Neither opening is protected by a hay door or hood. In the north wall is a second story window; the southern exposure has a door into the eastern section of the barn. Wooden pegs secure the notching of both log buildings.

The Grunder granary is also of a typical size, shape, and construction. Measuring about ten feet square, it is balloon frame with a shingled gable roof. The gables are sided with horizontal sheathing, but the lower walls have exposed studs and horizontal sheathing on the interior.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4

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Grunder cabin and outbuildings

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Grunder house has been chosen as a significant example of the square cabin as it appears in Paris because it is our purest expression of the form, having only a rear lean-to extension. The house is connected in oral history sources to a watchmaker named Grunder; Bear Lake County deed books record no transactions with the property before 1973. With the Keller and Michel houses (sites #3 and #5) the Grunder house's existence in Paris suggests that a simple house type recorded in the upland South has made its way through the Midwest and Utah to Idaho. These sites deserve special recognition as examples of a rare, previously undocumented house type in Idaho.

OWNER'S LIST:

Thomas Medley
1020 Patsy Drive
Pocatello, ID 83201

Lot 1, block 5, Paris Original Townsite

Jackie Lynn Passey
Paris, ID 83261

Lot 2, block 5, Paris Original Townsite