

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

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

SITE NAME: Bishop West barn (Paris P.F.B.) SITE # 17

LOCATION: West Second Street South, Paris, Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Clifford Sizemore, Paris, Idaho 83261

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Paris, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The nomination includes the Bishop West barn in T-4393, west 1/2 of lot 17, block 19, Paris Original Townsite, and the property on which it stands, with a margin of one foot around the Bishop West barn.

UTM(S): 12/4, 66, 685/46, 74, 325

DATE OR PERIOD: 1880's EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture, agriculture

DESCRIPTION:                      Good condition                      altered                      original site

The Bishop West barn is a large rendition of the Paris barn type built in log. The two-level structure has a large hay loft supported on log joists under the gable roof and a lower area for stalls with a board floor, added after the original construction. A batten door in the east gable wall leads to this lower level. The hewn log walls rest on a foundation of log sills and are joined at the corners with half-dovetail notching. On the interior, boards are nailed over the interstices between the logs; on the exterior, split poles and daub fill these spaces. Full-length board shingles cover the roof, which is braced with log rafters and long diagonal logs stretching from peak to roofedge.

The gables are frame with vertical sheathing, some of which is missing. The west gable has a large pentagonal opening under the roof peak for hay storage. Above this opening is the braced pulley system formerly used for hoisting hay.

A one-story frame and log lean-to adjoins the barn along its southern wall.

SIGNIFICANCE:

This barn, estimated by the present owner as about one hundred years old, is significant for its association in folk memory with a Bishop West, who came to Paris to serve as bishop of the Paris First Ward in 1883. Appropriate to West's position in the Paris community, his barn is a large example of the Paris barn type in a variant with one side lean-to. Log construction details common to Paris appear in this barn: hewn log timbers joined with half-dovetail notching and chinked with split poles and daub.