

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

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE IN ~~IDAHO~~ ^{TR})

SITE NAME: St. Paul's Rectory and Sisters' ^{House} ~~Residence~~ ↓ SITE NUMBER: 110

LOCATION: 810 ^{15th} ~~Fifteenth~~ Avenue South, Nampa, Canyon County (027), ~~Idaho~~

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Roman Catholic Diocese of Boise
420 West Idaho Street
Boise, ID 83702

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the St. Paul's Rectory and Sisters' Residence on block 29, Waterhouse's addition to Nampa, and the property on which it stands with a clearance from the public right-of-way and a 10-foot margin on each side of the St. Paul's Rectory and Sister's Residence. Legal description on file at the Canyon County Courthouse, Caldwell, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,35,330/48,24,100

DATE OR PERIOD: 1923

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: excellent altered original site

DESCRIPTION:

St. Paul's Rectory and Sisters' Residence, now called Benedictine House, is the least conspicuously altered element of the Catholic service complex of which it is a part. The structure was originally a simple thirty-three-by-forty-five-foot rectangle, two stories tall, with stucco surface, front-facing gable, and double-level bungalow pitch and proportions. A rectangular addition in matching material has been made on the right side, and there is a connector from the left rear to St. Paul's Church a few paces to the north. Otherwise--with the exception of wrought-iron rails on the steps--the rectory is virtually unaltered on the exterior and the front elevation is in pristine condition.

The facade, under its front-facing gable with keystone and end-notched bargeboards, is three narrow bays wide. The flanking bays contain a single double-hung sash window, six-over-one-light, at each level. The central bay contains the entrance. It is approached up a flight of steps with raked concrete parapets. The outset gabled porch has bargeboard treatment matching that of the main gable and solid walls penetrated by large opening with a stylized Tudor arch. The entrance

itself is the original multi-pane door with coffered base and sidelights. Above the porch is a small, square nine-light window. Above that, beneath the apex of the gable, is a round-arched, segmented, keystone attic light.

Broad kitchen porches, with sleeping porch and balcony above, are outset at rear.

SIGNIFICANCE:

St. Paul's Rectory and Sisters' Residence is architecturally significant as a tactful and handsome example of the reviving mission style and as the element surviving in best condition from an extensive and stylistically very interesting Catholic institutional cluster.

As discussed in the significance statement for the Welch house (site 81), a small burst of missionsque work has appeared in commissions around 1910, with, among other buildings, the design of St. Paul's in Nampa. A larger number of buildings were designed in this mode in the 1920s, but few appear in the Thematic Group: the Fletcher Oil shop in Emmett and F. C. Hummel's bungalow in Boise are the only other such 1920s sites represented, besides St. Paul's rectory.

With its classicizing attic light and bungaloid gables, the rectory is a pleasing contrast with the red brick, baroque-gabled St. Paul's church and school, which it stands between, and the similarly developed Sisters of Mercy Hospital nearby. All of the other buildings were designed by Tourtellotte and Hummel as well but have experienced conspicuous exterior alterations.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 407E. Frederick Hummel retrospective file. Drawings signed Tourtellotte and Hummel.