

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

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE ~~IN IDAHO~~ 7R)

✓ SITE NAME: Gakey, J. H., House SITE NUMBER: 66

✓ LOCATION: 1402 Franklin Street, Boise, Ada County (001), Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

John Magel
1402 Franklin Street
Boise, ID 83702

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Boise South, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the J. H. Gakey House and the property on which it stands, lot 6, block 132, Boise City Original Townsite. Legal description on file at the Ada County Courthouse, Boise, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,64/130/48,30,225

DATE OR PERIOD: 1910

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: good unaltered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The J. H. Gakey House is a two-story brick veneer house, with the massing of a boxy colonial style house and gives it a vertical aspect despite the heavy hipped roof on exposed rafters and the shallow-gabled overdoor (both apparent references to the bungalow mode).

The roof is hipped, with a front-to-back ridgebeam; the attic dormers on front and right-side roof slopes are also hip-and-ridge. The exterior fabric on both stories is buff-colored brick. Stonework is much in evidence: the foundation-basement wall is high--though now obscured, as is much of the house, by plantings--and laid up in heavily rusticated random-coursed rock-faced material. Rough cut stone is used for all lintels and window sills in the brick walls and for the shoulder trim of the exterior chimney on the east side. There is a curved stone sill on the bowed dining room bay window, on the right side; a left-side hall bay window is polygonal with beveled glass. The use of wood is also distinctive: blocky posts with geometric ornament, something like squared and inverted "W's," dropped below the plain capitals; a low-pitched gable, supported on figure-four brackets, breaking the lateral eave at the entrance to the porch; a small outset side porch using the

same forms on the rear left wall; and exposed rafters emerging from the eaves of porch roofs, bay roofs, main roof, and dormers. Their rafters are extended beyond the eave line and have scroll-sawn upper edges.

The house is virtually unaltered from its original appearance, except for the removal of the exposed rafter ends on the left side and the remodeling of the front steps with wrought-iron side rails.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Gakey house is architecturally significant as a building that combines the squarish and rather vertical massing of some colonial style houses with the bungalow mode, which appears in the pitch of the roof and overdoor gables and in the pronounced sticklike treatment of the exposed rafters. The treatment of the porch, particularly the stylized dropped capitals of the posts, shows also the geometrical ornamentation that was beginning to appear just as classicism reached full and formal flower in such monuments as the Daly house (site 64). This geometric stylization is apparent on a number of contemporary buildings, both within and without the Thematic Group: for example, the Bond house in the Harrison Boulevard Historic District (National Register, February 29, 1980), the Parker house (site 73), the Zurzer Apartments (site 74), and the Sidenfaden house (site 77). It would become more and more common, and more completely displace the more or less pure or academic classical revival prototypes, as the 1910s wore on.

The house was designed and built, in the brick veneer construction technique widely used by these architects, for livestock man J. H. Gakey. The cost projected on the building permit was \$6,000. Gakey never lived in the house. His wife died while it was under construction, and in the spring of 1911 he sold it for \$10,000 to Frank Blackinger, proprietor of the Overland Buffet.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

(Boise) Idaho Daily Statesman, August 21, 1910, p. 8, c. 1; August 28, 1910, p. 8, c. 1; May 2, 1911, p. 3, c. 3.

Polk and Company. Boise City Directory. 1910.

Boise, Idaho. Boise City building permit, September 8, 1910.

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 409G. Collection book and drawing loan book references, 1910 and 1911. Tracings signed Tourtellotte and Hummel.