

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

NOMINATION: Historic Resources of Paris (Partial Inventory: Architecture)SITE NAME: Landon Rich house *Paris, N.H.A.* SITE # 21LOCATION: ~~West end West First~~ ^{1st} SouthOWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Ezra S. Stucki et. al., 243 South First East, Rexburg, Idaho,QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Paris, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: 83440VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Nomination includes the former Landon Rich house and barn and the ground on which they stand in NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 10, immediately westUTM(S): 12/4, 66, 470/46, 74, 640DATE OR PERIOD: 1887 EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: LocalAREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, AgricultureDESCRIPTION: Good condition altered original site

The former Landon Rich residence is a two-story stone and frame structure just beyond the crest of the ridge which runs along the western edge of Paris Townsite. It faces south and its porches command a sweeping view of Bear Lake Valley. The plan is a tee, with a gabled two-story lateral block and a rear ell with an east-facing intersection porch. There is also a squarish frame cabin unit at left front. The stone first story of the house is set bank-barn fashion into the hill which rises to the north and west; the rear ell, with its shed-roofed porch, extends from the frame second story much less than a full flight above ground level.

The house is simply but richly ornamented. The ruddy stone of the lower story is uncoursed. The siding of the frame upper story is weathered shiplap offset with applied wooden "quoins." The facade, behind the two-story cross-facade porch, is symmetrical, and the disposition of openings is identical on both stories: central door flanked by two-over-two sash windows. Downstairs openings have brick segmental relieving arches. Upstairs openings have molded heads, and the central door is transomed. The porches contain a fine display of ornamental millwork: squared posts with "capitals", spindlework balustrade, and boldly patterned brackets. In the east-facing endwall, which is most conspicuous from the drive approaching the house, the windows are doubled on both levels, with paired relieving arches below and a broad, ornately bracketed peaked window head above. The rear porch has the same decoration — spindles, posts, and brackets, — as do the big porches on the front. The quoins and oval transoms are also employed on the rear section. The cabin at the left front corner is contiguous to the main house, but the spaces do not communicate; it is entered through a door on its east wall, which opens onto the downstairs porch.

Still in use, the Landon Rich barn is an example of the tall, narrow, rectangular-plan barns of Paris built in a combination of materials. The lower level and half of the upper level of this barn are constructed of round logs joined with square corner-notching. Interstices between these logs are filled with thin poles. The barn's upper story is frame with vertical lumber siding. In the east gable the door to the hay loft is surmounted by a braced ridgepole and pulley system for raising hay to the loft. The roof, pitched at about forty-five degrees, is shingled. Access to the lower level of the barn is through a batten door in the east gable end. This door leads to a corral and loading chute built of an eclectic assortment of lumber.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Verbal Boundary Description (continued)

of Paris Townsite; plus a margin around each of these significant structures, established by tracing a straight line out twenty-five feet on the perpendicular from a point midway along each elevation, then tracing a straight line perpendicular to the first straight line, in both directions, until they intersect perpendicular lines established from the other elevations; plus the intervening farmyard between these two structures, as defined by tracing a straight line from the southeast corner of the figure establishing the margin around the house and the northeast corner of the figure establishing the margin around the barn, and similarly by a straight line from the southwest corner of the house figure to the northwest corner of the barn figure.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Landon Rich house is architecturally significant as another example of the impulse to create in wood the permanent appearance of masonry construction but, unlike the William Rich house (site #20) is quite a home in its raised rural setting. Landon Rich, a son of Emeline Rich, a self-taught obstetrician and general physician, managed his mother's ranch before obtaining this rangeside site in the 1880's. The house went up in 1887 while Landon was still a bachelor. It reflects, in several ways, his orientation to the land, as this house is built into it, not just atop it. The broad open verandas and the repeating balusters emphasize the breadth rather than the height of this virtually two-story house. These elements, with the rough character of the stone base, are reminiscent of a French Colonial plantation house. On the Landon Rich house, the upper level may very well have been the main floor, with the primary entrance the rear ell as highlighted by the opulently-capped double window facing the road.

The Landon Rich barn is offered in nomination as a significant example of the Paris type barn in a "pure" form exhibiting a combination of frequently encountered details. These include the barn shape, loft, hay door, and pulley, roof pitch, absence of hay hood, square notching, pole chinking, and eclectic corral fence.