

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

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE ~~IN IDAHO~~ TR),

✓ SITE NAME: Jackson, Orville, House ✓ SITE NUMBER: 123

✓ LOCATION: 127 ~~South~~ Eagle Road, Eagle, Ada County (001), ~~Idaho~~

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Orville Jackson  
P. O. Box 38  
Eagle, ID 83616

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Orville Jackson House and the property on which it stands, parcel 9700 of the SE 1/4 SE1/4, section 8, R1E, T4N. Legal description on file at the Ada County Courthouse, Boise, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,52,110/48,37,880

DATE OR PERIOD: 1932

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: State

CONDITION: excellent unaltered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The Orville Jackson House is a one-and-a-half-story Tudorsque residence in which a variety of decorative devices and textures enliven an already irregular profile and plan: patterned clinker brick walls, prominent stucco and half-timber gables, diamond-shaped leaded lights, and multi-light casements.

The irregular plan of the house can probably best be summarized as generally T-shaped, with the living room-dinette-kitchen group in the lateral block at left and a front bedroom, bathroom, and rear garage in the short cross-wing at right. The T-shape is also apparent in elevation, since the habitable second-story space--which consists of two bedrooms--is confined to the cross-wing with its big front-facing gable, at right. The ridgebeam of the lateral block is stepped down toward the south, where the living room space extends beyond that of a rear dinette, a small windowed space below a rear south-facing gable. The basement plan calls for a laundry, recreation room, and den.

The lower walls under the steeply pitched roof are finished in polychromatic brick with projecting clinkers. The broad, tall chimney and the fireplace wall, which rise midway along the front elevation of the lateral wing, are embellished with

overall large-scale diamond patterning in outset contrasting brick to within a few feet of the top; there, between two corbel bands, are outset vertical bands of brick which give something of the impression of chimneypots. Main downstairs windows are multi-light casements, except for a window bay roofed with a copper hood and outset at the south end of ;the living room and diamond-paned leaded lights in a narrow hall window to the right of the entrance, which penetrates the cross-block from the left. To the left of the entry, a tall living room window has stucco and half-timber framing. This material is used more prominently on the big, steep, front-facing gable at right. In a characteristic 1930s picturesque manner, the right side of the gable is very short, raking up from the equivalent of the second-story roofline; on the left, the roof is extended down to first-story level over the entry hall space, producing a very long, asymmetrical profile. The stucco is roughened; the fictive half-timber strips densely divide it; there are short curvilinear sweeps in the apex of the gable and at the base of teh diamond leded lights; and the gable culminates in a small angular drop finial at the roofline. The same motifs appear on the right or north elevation, where a small wall dormer breaks the roofline.

The house is virtually unaltered both on the exterior and in the interior, which has beamed ceilings and distinguished woodwork. The large lot is landscaped with terraced rock gardens, profuse plantings, and mature trees.

#### SIGNIFICANCE:

The Orville Jackson House in Eagle is architecturally significant as an exceptional example, the best in these architects' work and the only one represented in the Thematic Group, of the particularly picturesque English cottage mode of Tudoresque 1930s residential architecture. This cottage style is a clearly articulated manner of the very late 1920s and the 1930s. These architects did not do much in this style; the Dr. Stone house of 1930, in the Warm Springs Historic District (National Register, September 22, 1980) in Boise, is about the only other example to survive in good condition. In part at least this was because their work load was being cut by the Depression at the time the style was most popular. Mr. Jackson's recollection is that when his house was being built in 1932 there was hardly another one under way in the valley. By the time economic conditions revived, neo-colonial, proto-ranch stylehouses appear to have been more modish. This surviving example of the earlier type, however, is the very best of the half-dozen or so for which drawings have been found. It is beautifully built, with elaborate exterior brickwork, individually dipped shingles, leaded glass, inch-thick oak floors, hand-hewn ceiling beams, and hand wrought-iron banisters. The floor plan, with its radically reduced kitchen and dining room, demonstrates the new freedom and adjustment to revised patterns of living noted in the 1918 Neitzel house (site 95).

Particularly in its fine landscaped setting, designed by Meridian nurseryman David Petrie, this house ranks with any of its genre in the state.

#### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

(Boise) Idaho Statesman. May 23, 1965, p. 5-A; August 16, 1976, p. D-1.

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 302B. Collection book and "Volume-by-year" list references 1932. Drawings signed Tourtellotte and Hummel.