

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

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE IN ~~IDAHO~~ (re))

SITE NAME: Burnett, H. C., House SITE NUMBER: 112

LOCATION: 124 W. Bannock Street, Boise, Ada County (~~001~~), Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Oressa T. McCaslin
P. O. Box 1557
Boise, ID 83701

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the H. C. Burnett House and the property on which it stands, lot 1, block 60, Boise City Original Townsite. Legal description on file at the Ada County Courthouse, Boise, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,65,70/48,29,80

DATE OR PERIOD: 1924

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: excellent unaltered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The H. C. Burnett House is a frame classical cottage closely resembling the Dunbar house (site 109), though it differs in detail and its plan is considerably extended.

The house is one story in height on a concrete foundation, sided with wide clapboards. The front elevation is dominated by a small centered portico with a gable-roofed barrel vault supported on Tuscan columns and pilasters. The roofline is complex. The front elevation of the relatively deep plan shows short lateral ridgebeams culminating in side-facing gables, and between them a central hipped section, all over the front tier of rooms. From the hipped section a ridgebeam runs to the rear. At the rear of the house, an enclosed porch is covered by another side-facing gable on Second Street, and a gabled attic dormer emerges in back. All gables have eave returns, and the side ones have bisected attic lunettes.

Like the Dunbar house, the Burnett residence has tripled sash windows with six-over-one lights filling the walls on either side of the portico. Such sets of windows also penetrate the outset surfaces of the west walls of the dining room

and rear porch, which face Second Street separated by an inset kitchen wall. On the right side of the house, a corbeled brick chimney rises above the fireplace which fills the east wall of the living room. The front door is coffered and side-lighted. The parapeted concrete steps either were simplified from the original plan or have been rebuilt, for they show no sign of the brick which is called for in the drawings and which is extant on the Dunbar house. The wrought iron rails and screen door are presumably additions.

The plan included three bedrooms in an L-shaped arrangement around the right rear corner. The attic was left unfinished.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The H. C. Burnett House is a companion to the Dunbar house (site 109) in demonstrating the small-scale residential possibilities of the colonial revival style of the early 1920s. Its architectural and historical interest is increased by the fact that, despite very close decorative similarities between the two houses--despite, in fact, almost identical facades--the plan of the later house is not only extended but rearranged; plans were not recycled. In many cases, these architects varied the shell of a structure around a relatively standard plan in an effort to emphasize its custom design. Here they have done the reverse. There was at least one more of these little houses built in the immediate vicinity: a duplex at Fifth and Hays streets, designed by an unknown architect. Perhaps the client's desire for a popular exterior design outweighed any desire for conspicuous individuality.

Mrs. H. C. Burnett had this house built in 1924, perhaps for a son. The 1925 directory lists the occupant as Blaine Burnett of Burnett Shoe Company. J. O. Jordan was the contractor, and the projected price was \$6,000.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Boise, Idaho. Boise City Building Permit. April 18, 1924.

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 411C. Selected accounts book reference 1924. Frederick Hummel retrospective file. Tracings signed Tourtellotte and Hummel.