

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

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

✓ SITE NAME: Fritchman, H. K., House SITE NUMBER: 28

✓ LOCATION: 1207 West Hays Street, Boise, Ada County (001), Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Richard F. and Barbara F. Ragsdale  
c/o Leon F. and Ann M. Scott  
10315 Country Squire  
Boise, ID 83704

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the H. K. Fritchman House and the property on which it stands, lot 11, block 73, Boise City Original Townsite. Legal description on file at the Ada County Courthouse, Boise, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,64,350/48,30,150

DATE OR PERIOD: 1904

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: good altered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The H. K. Fritchman House is a rectangularly planned shingled colonial style house that is given a classical air by a one-story columned and pedimented porch outset at right front. The Doric columns are paired in front and single, though not engaged, against the body of the house. The pediment, which emerges from the hipped porch roof, is cantilevered forward over the steps on large solid modillions. The body of the house is covered with narrow wooden siding. The porch walls, upper-story gables, and front dormer are decorated with bands of shaped shingles. Gable lights--one large centered window and two small dimples on either side--have flared hoods. The front dormer gable contains a small pointed-arched dimple window. (Miniature versions of this window are set into the apexes of the side gables.) All eaves are filled and without modillions but underlined with strips of bed molding. There is a beveled bay on the west wall and a laterally disposed oval stairhall light with a diamond inset and a suggestion of keystones. The east side is simply fenestrated with four sash windows with molded heads. The east side is simply fenestrated with four sash windows with molded heads. A second entrance has been let in at left front--probably early, since it is transomed as is the main front entrance--and a right rear entry porch has been enclosed. Otherwise the house appears entirely unaltered.

#### SIGNIFICANCE:

The Fritchman house is a neat shingled colonial style cottage architecturally significant for its progressive qualities and its classicizing character. The house shares the general characteristics of the type while exhibiting the tendencies previously noted: lower pitch in the gables, enlargement of the front gable so that despite its shape it begins to remind one of the wide shed dormer on a laterally ridged bungalow. The classical-revival attributes of this house are also particularly noticeable. The strongly pedimental treatment of all the gables--side, dormer, and porch overdoor--along with such details as the frieze-like bed moldings and the bulls-eye hall window, all visually with the conspicuous Doric columns. Two increasing tendencies--the horizontality of the bungalow and the formality of the classical vocabulary--are joined to good effect in this house, designed the same year the bungalow was first reported in Boise and the State Capitol was begun.

The house was built for Harry K. Fritchman, a former commercial traveler who brought his family to Boise in 1904 and thenceforth dealt in insurance, real estate, farm loans, and bonds. Fritchman was mayor in 1911.

#### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOURCES:

French, Hiram. History of Idaho. The Lewis Publishing Company: Chicago and New York, 1914, p. 713.

(Boise) Idaho Daily Statesman, March 20, p. 7, c. 2.

Polk and Company. Boise City Directory. 1905, 1911, 1912-1913, 1920.

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 403G. Tracings (unnamed second set).