

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

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE ~~IN IDAHO~~ 77)

✓ SITE NAME: Neitzel, H. R., House ✓ SITE NUMBER: 95

✓ LOCATION: 705 North <sup>9th</sup> ~~Ninth~~ Street, Boise, Ada County (001), Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Elizabeth Anne Griffin  
705 North Ninth Street  
Boise, Idaho 83702

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the H. R. Neitzel House and the property on which it stands, lot 6, block 84, Boise City Original Townsite. Legal description on file at the Ada County Courthouse, Boise, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,64,610/48,29,900

DATE OR PERIOD: 1918

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: State

CONDITION: excellent unaltered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The H. R. Neitzel House is a primarily two-story house of rock-faced, random coursed stone; the lateral block has a steeply pitched, laterally oriented hip-and-ridge roof with a large stucco and fictive half-timber gable at left front and a small gabled roof dormer at right front. The gable of the outset centered overdoor, which contains raked and vertical half-timber strips, matches the roof gables in pitch and outset. The house was designed with a square-bay-windowed kitchen and adjoining pantry in front, an enclosed porch facing north, and a garage at right rear, also opening to the north.

The detail of the house is as unusual as the plan. In addition to the decorative interest of the masonry surface and the half-timber treatment of the gables, the fenestration is notable, with broad strips of casement windows intact though presently obscured by aluminum storm windows. Exterior woodwork, besides the half-timber strips, includes low-peaked frieze boards at the gable bases--supported on rounded joist ends in the main gable--as well as bed molding under the eaves of the one-story sections and the elaborate front entry. This entry has a wooden door with small beveled panes and a stone surround; capiteled wooden posts form a shouldered arch.

#### SIGNIFICANCE:

The H. R. Nietzel House is architecturally significant as a Turdoresque style building with a plan unusually expressive of the changing life styles of town-dwellers.

On the interior, there is an abrupt departure from the sort of streamlining of the standard Victorian floor plan--front-to-back alignment of sitting room, dining room, and kitchen--which the early western colonial houses and even the humble buingalow had tended to reflect. Here, perhaps to an even greater degree than in the Jackson house (site 123) fourteen years later, there is a re-shuffling and substitution of spaces which clearly reflects changing behavior: no parlor, a small kitchen, and accommodation within the original plan for the private automobile.

The owner of this house, which has the first integral garage to appear in the Thematic Group, had a particular interest in autos. Herman Neitzel was a partner in, and later proprietor of, Bannock Motor Sales Company, which distributed Maxwell motor cars and Garford trucks. His house was built by contractor Frank Michel, at a cost projected on the building permit as \$5,000.

#### MAJOR BIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Polk and Company. Boise City Directories, 1918-19, 1923.

Boise, Idaho. Boise City Building Permit, July 24, 1918.

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller HUnsucker P.A. Collection and Selected Accounts book references 1917-1918. Tracings signed Tourtellotte and Hummel.