

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

NOMINATION: Historic Resources of Paris (Partial Inventory: Architecture)✓ SITE NAME: Beck barns and automobile storage SITE # 73✓ LOCATION: Center Street, Paris, IdahoOWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Carol Sommers, c/o Fern Beck, Paris, ID 83261QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Paris, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: one acreVERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Nomination includes the Beck barns and automobile storage and the property on which they stand, block 17, lot 8, Paris Original Townsite.UTM(S): 12/4, 66, 880/46, 74, 780DATE OR PERIOD: 1880-1930 EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: LocalAREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture
Fair condition altered original site

DESCRIPTION:

Located along an alley west of Main Street is a series of commercial buildings and outbuildings in an elongated layout stretching north and south. The cluster includes, from north to south, a former automobile storage complex, an automobile garage and two barns surrounded by a corral.

The automobile storage section is a boxy gable-front frame building facing east onto the alley with a gabled wing extending from its south wall, both painted red. Attached to this wing is an unpainted gable-front board and batten section. The main part of the building has a shiplap false front with centered double doors. Two loft windows with six small lights punctuate the expanse above these doors. Two twelve-light windows are set in the north wall, which is sided with corrugated metal sheets, and the rear gable has a six-over-six-light double hung sash loft window.

The garage is separated by a few feet from the storage complex. It is a simple one-story gabled structure with clapboard siding over a balloon frame, large double doors in the east gable wall, and a door and window in the south wall.

To the south of the garage, again a few feet away, are two barns in the Paris type, connected by a gabled one-story board and batten walkway. This long tripartite structure is surrounded on the east by a corral and loading chute of eclectic materials.

The northern barn is square-notched hewn log with a shingled gable roof, and the southern barn is board and batten with a gable roof of full-length shingles. Both have hay openings to their lofts, the log barn in both gables, and the board and batten barn in the southern gable surmounted by a pulley system and pointed hay door hood. Both roof angles are approximately forty-five degrees.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

Beck barns and automobile storage

SIGNIFICANCE:

The automobile storage complex and barns on the present Beck place are significant as part of an elongated outbuilding layout employing a covered walkway and thereby well adapted to the cold, snowy Paris winter. Individual buildings in the group are exemplary of an early commercial building type, the false-fronted livery stable with its typical small gable windows, and of the Paris barn type built in log and in board and batten, fully enclosed with a corral and loading chute. The fence built of eclectic materials is a common artifact of the Mormon landscape. The lineage of this group of buildings is now lost, but two Paris residents have identified it as originally a livery stable and blacksmith shop, and the present owner's father, Frank Beck, used it as a garage, an example of fitting adaptive **re-use**. Sanborn fire maps date the log barn from the 1880's or 1890's and the frame barn and the livery/automobile complex from the period 1907-29. This marks the livery/automobile complex as a relatively late use of the pioneer false front, and it indicates that the Paris barn type was built into the twentieth century.