


APR 21 1980

ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

PROPERTY NAME Double Roof House		CURRENT PHOTOGRAPH 
LOCATION 553 Fourth Avenue		
CITY/TOWN/VICINITY Yuma	COUNTY Yuma	
OWNER Ernest Hassell		
OWNER'S ADDRESS 491 17th Avenue Yuma, AZ 85364		
FORM COMPLETED BY Yuma County Historical Society		
ADDRESS 240 Madison Avenue Yuma, AZ 85364		
PHOTO BY P. Callahan	DATE 8/79	
VIEW Front and side from northwest		
PRESENT USE Residence/single family	ACREAGE less/acre	
STYLE OR CULTURAL PERIOD Frame Cottage		
SIGNIFICANT DATES Constructed c. 1911		

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The Double Roof House is a one story symmetrical frame structure with a rectangular floor plan. The building is 25 feet wide and 50 feet deep. The double roof is gabled with the ridge perpendicular to the street. A porch, covered by a shed roof, extends across the front of the building. Four turned posts support the porch roof. The main entry is centrally located in the front facade and is flanked on either side by rectangular windows. Exterior wall surfaces are shingled. The upper roof is board and batten in construction; crossed lattice ties the upper and lower roofs together. Although in need of repair, the building appears to be sound.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built about 1911, the residence at 553 Fourth Avenue is the only known example of a double roof structure extant in Yuma. The double roof configuration was a technical innovation which lessened the heat load in a building by use of a vented air space above the actual weather barrier. Although this feature was particularly well suited to the hot desert areas of the southwestern United States, relatively few structures were built with them. One deterrent was the difficulty in integrating the roof into eclectic models. The use of the simplified form eliminated this problem as is exemplified by this particular structure.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 133; Lot 10; Yuma Townsite