

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

NOMINATION: Historic Resources of Paris (Partial Inventory: Architecture)
 SITE NAME: Wallentine Farmstead *(Paris, Idaho)* SITE # 35
 LOCATION: ^{NW} Northwest of Paris, Idaho
 OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Russell Wallentine, Paris, Idaho 83261
 QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Paris, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one
 VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Nomination includes the Wallentine farmstead - the farm-
 house, described outbuildings, and the farmyard area within which these structures
 UTM(S): 12/4, 65, 995/46, 76, 100
 DATE OR PERIOD: 1890's EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local
 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture, agriculture

Fair condition Altered Original site

DESCRIPTION:

The Wallentine farm is sited on a hill within a mile of Paris Townsite, facing southeast toward the village. The tall narrow I-house proportions of the house, with three steep gables breaking the eave on the long side, are visible for substantial distances. These front-facing gables cover wall dormers on the sides and a balcony door in the center; these openings repeat those on the story below. Windows are two-over-two sash. The downstairs door is transomed and contained a window, now lost, above its coffered panels. The upper door had a pair of narrow round arched lights, now boarded over. The body of the house is presently veneered with asbestos siding.

On the side of the house, under a gable window, is a one-story hip-roofed porch which had a low plank wall on which wooden Tuscan columns stand. The porch is presently boarded in. To the rear is a one-story gabled ell with two windows in the rear wall, an enclosed shed-roofed section on the left and an ell-shaped open porch--also now boarded, but originally open and supported on Tuscan columns like the one off the main block, which it adjoins.

The Wallentine house is surrounded by an enclosure and a cluster of six specialized outbuildings and other miscellaneous sheds. Stretching east and south of the house is a field enclosed with a fence of eclectic material: woven wire, poles, unbarked slabs (left from squared timbers), barbed wire, and lumber. The gate through this fence is attached to cottonwood trees. Within this enclosure is an overshot derrick constructed of poles. Also east of the house is a bungalow period automobile garage constructed of balloon frame, covered with clapboards, and painted red. The gable roof is shingled and has boxed eaves.

North and west of the Wallentine house is an outhouse, a shed, a barn, and a granary. A few feet from the house and facing toward it is the outhouse, a one-story, gable-roofed frame building covered with clapboards and outlined with cornerboards and bedboards along the gable. The shed is a simple one-story, gable-roofed, balloon frame structure covered with vertical siding and roofed with metal sheeting. It has a panel door.

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Wallentine farmstead

Verbal Boundary Description (continued):

are enclosed, or, in the case of the barn, to which they are contiguous (see enclosed sketch map), all within T-3248, section 3, Thomas Sleight subdivision, Paris, Idaho.

DESCRIPTION (continued):

The Wallentine barn, with a corral on its east and north sides, adheres to the typical pattern for Paris barns. Two level, it has an upper hay loft with a rectangular hay door, hinged on the right, in the west gable. A pulley set on an extension of the ridge pole brings hay up into the loft. In the east gable wall a door is flanked by two windows. The barn is about eighteen by nine feet. Its balloon frame is covered with shiplap, and corner boards and bedboards outline the tall narrow shape. Shingles cover the forty-five degree gable roof.

The Wallentine granary is a small rectangular building with a rear lean-to. Typical of southern Idaho granaries, it is balloon frame without exterior sheathing, except in the gables. The interior finishing is horizontal lumber. The gable roof is metal. South of the Wallentine barn stretch a number of detached and connected lean-to sheds, and another exposed balloon frame granary, this one having a lean-to roof and sitting on short pillars, probably to discourage rodents.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Wallentine house is architecturally significant as an excellent and nearly prototypical example of the I-house form as found in the Mormon West and as a component of a particularly fine farmstead, sited well, north of and facing back towards Paris. The row of gabled dormers and upper door, also on the Stucki house (site #32) are said to be the Mormon variant of the one-and-one-half-story, four room type. This house was not, however, built as an addition to an earlier dwelling.

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SIGNIFICANCE (continued):

It represents a move to the land by the Wallentines, who had built a house in town in 1880. According to a family member, this house went up in the early 1890's and this relatively late date for an I-house in Paris, after Queen Anne style had been introduced, is supported by the use of columnar posts on the side and rear porches. These Tuscan columns, wonderfully weathered but partially obscured by siding, are well turned with good detail and substantial abaci. They support cornice-like boxed eaves, a feature unique in Paris ornament.

The Wallentine outbuildings and house exhibit an approximation of a parallel layout in which the outbuildings form a line parallel to and behind the house. The farm is a complete one, with derrick, barn, granaries, fenced enclosures, outhouse, sheds and garage. These buildings provide significant examples of a bungalow period garage, the Paris barn type expressed in balloon frame, and the Mormon exposed-stud granary on pillars (an ancient and worldwide vernacular device for discouraging rodents), all assembled around the vernacular "I" farmhouse.