

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

NOMINATION: Historic Resources of Potlatch

SITE NAME: Boarding House

SITE NUMBER: 5

LOCATION: 850 Pine Street, Potlatch, Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Atta Patrick  
Box 552  
Potlatch, ID 83855

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Potlatch, 15 minute ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The nomination includes the boarding house (now an apartment building) at 850 Pine Street, a detached double garage, and the property on which it stands, lot 1, block 13, Potlatch.

UTM(S): 11/507640/5196550

DATE OR PERIOD: 1906

ARCHITECT OR BUILDER: C. Ferris White

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Aarchitecture, community planning

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: Good, altered, original site

DESCRIPTION:

This two-story nearly L-shaped structure has shiplap siding and a gable overhang roof with exposed rafters. There is a pyramidal cupola on the wood shake roof. It has a concrete foundation and faces north with three doors, all with windows, on the north; two wooden doors on the east; and one wooden door leading to the basement level on the west. The open post porch on the north has two posts and a balustrade. It is centered and recessed, so that the porch overhang roof is even with the building's two wings. On the east side is an open post porch with four posts and balustrade, off-centered to the north, and there is a stoop on the southeast entrance. Most windows are double-hung sash, two over two lights. The north has nine on the main floor, ten on upper; south has five on main,; four on upper; west has six on main, ten on upper; east has seven on main, seven on upper. The only alterations are enclosure of the shed porch on the west and metal roofing over the west and north porch overhangs.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Historically known as the Green Boarding House, this structure was one of several boarding houses in Potlatch, and it is significant as the most intact representative of this type of group housing. In 1910 there were at least five boarding houses in town, and in 1928 at least four. The lumber company forbid unmarried men from renting houses in town. In this way it encouraged matrimony, believing married men made for a more dependable work force. Unmarried men either subletted from families in Potlatch, or more likely, lived in one of the boarding houses.

In addition to serving as a boarding house, this was also the community bakery, at least from 1910 through 1928. By 1923 this building also housed the town hospital. Between 1910 and 1928, the original structure was changed substantially. Wings were added to the south and the bakery was moved there. Some boarding rooms were removed. It is today an apartment house.