

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

NOMINATION: Historic Resources of Paris (Partial Inventory: Architecture)SITE NAME: Paris Photo Studio SITE # 71LOCATION: West Center Street near Main, Paris, IdahoOWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Glen H. Grummett, Paris, Idaho 83261QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Paris, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than oneVERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Nomination includes the former Paris Photo Studio building and the property on which it stands: T-4502, fraction lots 9 and 10, block 17, Paris Townsite.UTM(S): 12/4, 66, 920/46, 74, 810DATE OR PERIOD: 1916 EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: LocalAREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architectureDESCRIPTION: Fair condition altered original site

The former Paris Photo Studio is a diminutive commercial building facing Center Street to the rear of the Browning Block. It is of hollow tile construction, with brick and stucco veneer on the facade. Dimensions are approximately eighteen by thirty feet. The simple storefront consists of a centered glass entry door with filled-in transom, set between plate glass display windows. The window on the left is a single sheet of glass; it seems probable that it was originally at least two panes, as in the vertically-mullioned window on the right. There are six square opaque "mezzanine" lights ranged across the facade above the entrance and shop windows.

Buff brick pilasters frame the storefront to the level of the upper lights. From there to the modestly parapeted roofline, which is trimmed with a simple metal molding, the surface is stucco. The large sign affixed to the upper surface identifies the structure's period of use as a post office; the words "PARIS IDAHO" in small wooden letters above the entry also refers to this interim use. However, under the newer lettering on the main sign, it is possible to discern the words "Paris Photo Studio/Portrait, Group and Home Portraiture."

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Paris Photo Studio building is architecturally significant as the sole example of hollow tile construction inventoried in Paris. It is of a type of commercial building common elsewhere in Idaho in the 'teens but not otherwise found in Paris. This one-story structure was constructed in 1916 as a meat market for W.N. Clayton. Matthew Browning, the Ogden investor responsible for the Browning Block, also financed this small building, joined to the rear of the former Bear Lake State Bank building which is at the core of the Browning Block. The local paper noted the brick for the structure had "arrived", confirming that the materials used were not of the local fired stock.

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Paris Photo Studio

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued):

Also used as the post office, the building, as noted, once held the Paris Photo Studio. It is possible that this is the site, but not the house, of W.N.B. Shepherd's photo studio of 1883, supposedly located on Center near Main.¹

¹ Bear Lake Democrat, 23 June 1883.