

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

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE IN IDAHO<sup>2</sup> (72))

SITE NAME: Anderson-Elwell House SITE NUMBER: 11

LOCATION: 547 West <sup>1st</sup> ~~First~~ Street, Weiser, Washington County (087), Idaho<sup>2</sup>

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Fern N. Meyer  
P. O. Box 384  
Weiser, ID 83672

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Weiser South, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Anderson-Elwell House and the property on which it stands, north one-half of lots 7-10, block 31, Watlington's addition, Weiser, Idaho. Legal description on file at the Washington County Courthouse, Weiser, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,02,400/48,99,140

DATE OR PERIOD: 1900

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: excellent unaltered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The Anderson-Elwell House is a one-and-one-half-story brick and frame Queen Anne cottage, square-planned except for a low hipped section outset at rear, but complex and various in appearance.

Part of the complexity has to do with elaboration of profile. The porch is outset and offset to the right front, but bow bay at left front is surmounted by a left-of-center gable, a gabled dormer emerges at front center, and there are side-facing wall dormers with the roofline hipped back beside them. The texture of materials also provides variety. The body of the house is red brick, with a continuous sill of cut stone above a rough rock foundation. Cut stone is also used to trim the window sills, curved lintels on the curved bay, cornerpieces for the triple-header-coursed segmental arches on the sidewall and stylized wooden keystones for the striking round hall light to the right of the entrance. Vertical frame surfaces above the first story are shingle-sided in horizontal bands, using several patterns. Eave returns and bed molding appear on all gables except the one over the entrance to the porch. In the large south-facing gable there is an extra fillip: an ordinary sash window is fitted with an elongated wooden keystone, above which

lly rich town of Weiser.

Tourtellotte and Hummel went into practice together in 1900, and after that date it becomes difficult to assign specific authorship to specific designs. The structure is especially valuable for being securely attributed by contemporary newspaper reference to Hummel.

A. B. Anderson was a very prominent Weiser capitalist, president of the Weiser Bank, and the town's first mayor (1900-1901). His own residence next door, which is probably another Hummel design though it is not documented as such, has been remodeled and stuccoed over. Hummel's pristine Elwell house was built by Anderson and occupied by his daughter and his son-in-law Billy Elwell. Elwell was Weiser manager of Mountain States Telephone Company.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Hibbard, Don. Weiser: A Look at Idaho Architecture. Boise: Idaho State Preservation Office, 1978.

(Weiser) Weiser Signal, March 22, 1900, p. 3, c. 2.