

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

NOMINATION: Historic Resources of Paris (Partial Inventory: Architecture)

✓ SITE NAME: Arthur Taylor house SITE # 37

✓ LOCATION: West Second North, Paris, Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Margie Floyd, c/o Joanne Storr, Paris, ID 83261

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Paris 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: nomination includes the former Arthur Taylor house and the property on which it stands: T-3283, block 15, Lewis Subdivision, Paris

UTM(S): 12/4, 66, 490/46, 75, 360

DATE OR PERIOD: Late 19th century EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

DESCRIPTION: Good condition Altered Original site

The Taylor house is of frame construction, sided with shiplap, and basically ell-shaped. That is, there is a laterally-placed one-and-a-half story main block with mansard roof, and a one-story gabled section emerging at left front. However there is also a low, hip-roofed one-story ell at right rear; this section appears to be an addition, though an early one as it is sided with shiplap and has a transomed door and a corbelled brick chimney. A hip-roofed running porch crosses the facade to the east from the front inter-section, and where the main entry is situated, and continues back along the east side to the rear ell.

There is an elaborate scroll-sawn apron in the front-facing gable, and a circular attic light in the wall beneath it. Gabled wall dormers are set above the front and side porch roofs. The front-facing dormer retains a stained glass Queen Anne window border, and both dormers have small triangular gable lights above the main, rectangular window frame. Fan-brackets, geometric eave trim, and a spindlework ballustrade set between turned posts survive on the east side; on the front they have been lost. Comparison with an early photograph in the possession of the first owner's son shows that additional trim has been lost, particularly on the dormers. The larger window in the front ell is clearly a modern installation, as is probably the untransomed secondary entry which gives access to this section of the house. The transomed doors and two-over-two sash windows retain simple caps which drop several inches on either side.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Taylor house is architecturally significant as a tall variant of the mansard roof in Paris, here in the context of forms which are related to the display of Queen Anne tendencies among houses of the 'nineties. The running porch is a rarely found feature on Paris houses and is not used on any other mansard. Its undereave decoration and porch posts, more regular than the exuberant and contemporary Ashley Jr. house (site #38) was probably locally obtained. But the Queen Anne glass and the more lacy gable apron ornament would have had to have been imported, following the lead of the J.R. Shepherd house (site #36).

FHR-8-300A
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Arthur Taylor house

SIGNIFICANCE (continued):

Arthur Taylor was a carpenter and painter and, according to his son, did the building of this house around 1890. His house clearly participates in carrying on existing residential traditions while adopting some of the elements of a progressive style.