

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

NOMINATION: Historic Resources of Paris (Partial Inventory: Architecture)
 SITE NAME: Orson Grimmatt bungalow *Paris, Idaho* SITE # 84
 LOCATION: 28 West Second North, Paris, Idaho
 OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Opal Shepherd, Paris, Idaho 83261
 QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Paris, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one
 VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Nomination includes the former Grimmatt bungalow and property on which it stands: T-2178 north of lot 7, block 6, Charles Oakey subdivision, Paris, Idaho. 12/4, 66, 870/46, 75, 355
 DATE OR PERIOD: early twentieth-century EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local
 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

Good condition unaltered original site

DESCRIPTION:

The former Grimmatt bungalow has a pair of front-facing gables on its entrance end, the subsidiary one covering an outset porch at left. The porch has low walls, clapboarded as is the body of the house, and unbattered columns. The entrance is to the left of center. A box-like bay with shed roof covers the right front with a similar bay on the right side. A small gabled ell extends to the left, containing a screened-in porch. A shed dormer graces the roofline and the eaves are elaborated with simple bargeboards pierced by cambered purlins.

Orson Grimmatt was a second generation Parisian builder and responsible for many of its structures, including the LDS Seminary (site #90). His own home is a bungalow of above-average interest, with the unusual front bay and outset front and side porches, activating the standard bungalow box.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Orson Grimmatt bungalow is locally significant for its association with a prominent local builder whose work is still visible in Paris and surrounding towns. Grimmatt also owned and operated the Star Confectionery, a 1920's soda fountain. His house at Twenty-eight West Second North, which he built himself, is a strikingly unpretentious, simple plan. The standard bungalow shape is only slightly embellished with purlins and brackets, and the shallow bays and dormers do little to deny the building's boxy massing. Like the Paris LDS Seminary that Grimmatt built during this period, the Grimmatt bungalow belies a conservative, formulaic, and classicizing bent in LDS architecture, which may be traced from the nineteenth century folk architecture through the twentieth century forms. The Grimmatt bungalow is architecturally significant as an owner-built expression of this Mormon esthetic.

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Paris Multiple Resource Area (Grimmett, Orson, Bungalow)

Continuation sheet

Item number

8

Page 1

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Orson Grimmett Bungalow is architecturally significant as an unaltered example of the gable-front bungalow with an outset, offset front porch. It is historically significant for its association with Orson Grimmett, a locally prominent builder.

The Grimmett bungalow is one of the few in Paris to use exposed purlins in a decorative fashion. Other features representative of the bungalow mode include the house's bargeboards, low angle roof, battered porch pillars, Stick style surface decoration, and exposed rafters. The outset bay windows are unique to Paris's bungalows and add considerable visual interest to this standard plan. The Grimmett house is similar to the Lewis house (site 82) in its use of the outset, offset front porch. This plan, a major one in Idaho's small towns, is rare in Paris, represented only by these two sites.

Orson Grimmett was responsible for construction of the Paris LDS Seminary and many other buildings in Paris and surrounding towns. He also owned and operated the Star Confectionery, a 1920's soda fountain. His bungalow was his own work.