

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

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE ~~IN IDAHO~~ 72)

✓ SITE NAME: Beck, Albert, House

SITE NUMBER: 26

✓ LOCATION: 1101 Fort Street, Boise, Ada County ~~(001), Idaho~~

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Dorothy Beck Carlson  
c/o Anna Beck Walters Estate  
1101 Fort Street  
Boise, ID 83702

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Boise South, 7.5 minute

ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Albert Beck House and the property on which it stands, lot 12, block 75, Boise City Original Townsite. Legal description on file at the Ada County Courthouse, Boise, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,64,510/48,30,160

DATE OR PERIOD: 1904

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: good

altered

original site

DESCRIPTION:

The Albert Beck House is a generally rectangular, tall, one-and-a-half-story residence, the asymmetrical aspect of which is enhanced by a large curved wraparound porch and by crossing gables with elaborately bracketed bargeboards. The first story and porch walls are stone veneered. The upper half-story surfaces are covered with square shingles. The porch runs from right front, where it gives access to a right-of-center entrance, around the left front corner to a shallow, outset, two-story bay that contains a secondary entrance from the porch. The rear elevation has a two-story balcony and, below and to the left of it, a one-story rear porch partially outset to the west.

The major first-story windows contain upper sections with leaded geometric lights. Second-story windows are sash, with upper sections divided into four vertical strips. Window heads are simply molded. The street-facing gables contain attic dimple windows. The most conspicuous decorative feature, however, is the treatment of the bargeboards. They are uncarved but spread in a low, wide flare to frame returns braced out from the wall on stocky figure-four brackets. The flare of the roof is extended beyond these brackets and the eaves are returned below them. The eaves rest on exposed rafters.

The only alteration to the house is the revisible one of replacement of wooden porch posts and balusters with wrought-iron supports and railings.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Beck house is architecturally significant as a large and late Queen Anne style house showing the influence of the bungalow style. The floor plan, with its entrance hall, parlor, and sitting room, is pure Victorian, and so is the taste for asymmetry and contrast that is evident on the exterior. As with so many of the residences of this period, however, the pitch of the gable suggests the California style, and the suggestion is confirmed by their form: open, frame-like constructions, supported on figure-four brackets. Curiously, the Statesman's designation of the style was English Country.<sup>1</sup>

1. (Boise) Idaho Daily Statesman, September 11, 1904, p. 5, c. 2.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

(Boise) Idaho Daily Statesman, September 11, 1904, p. 5, c. 2.

Polk and Company. Boise City Directory. 1905, 1906.

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 401C. Collection book reference to Beck in 1905. Tracings signed John E. Tourtellotte and Company.