

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

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

SITE NAME: Ezra Allred cottage SITE # 45

LOCATION: 159 Main Street, Paris, Idaho

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Milton G. Widdison, 2801 South 2750 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84109

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Nomination includes the former Ezra Allred cottage and the property on which it stands: T-1623, fraction of lots 9 and 10, block 15, Paris Townsite

UTM(S): 12/4, 66, 930/46, 75, 225

DATE OR PERIOD: 1890's EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, craft, agriculture

DESCRIPTION: Good condition Unaltered Original site

The former Allred cottage on Main is a squarish hip-and-ridge frame house, shiplap-sided and with a nice display of Queen Anne decorative detail in the simple porch which is outset at left and in the gable which rises above the main window at right. The porch is square, shed-roofed, and supported on simple milled posts, two free-standing and two engaged. Angular "spindlework" runs under the eaves and narrow slats fill the shed-end. The entrance is transomed. Centered on the wall to the right of the porch is a large window with a stained glass upper light and molded window head. Above it rises a large gable on which most of the decoration on the house is concentrated: octagonal shingles, bargeboards perforated with rows of discs, gable apron containing sunburst and coffer designs. There is one corbelled brick interior chimney.

The Allred granary is a tightly built structure that exhibits an alternative technique for granary construction. Two by four lumber is laid flat in even tiers and joined at the building's corners with false corner timbering, forming a thick and tight wall of unpainted lumber with considerable textural interest. The granary is square with one batten door in its east wall and a forty-five degree north-south gable roof with close eaves. The entire structure is elevated on a foundation of doubled two by four joists, with four by four timbers under each gable wall. Gables are sided with shiplap over a balloon frame, and the roof has corrugated metal sheeting over lumber purlins. A rear lean-to is a recent addition for wood storage.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Allred cottage is architecturally significant for its particularly focused array of Queen Anne ornament and, with the Lewis house, as an example of formular building in the 1890's in Paris. The Allred house is nearly identical to Lewis' in plan and in placement and pattern of ornament, but this house is better preserved and more finely rendered. The hipped-roof cottage was a popular rendered form in town through the bungalow period,

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but the Allred house is clearly relating to Victorian forms, at a small scale compared to the J. R. Shepherd house, but with a vernacular exuberance that the larger house lacks. The composite sunburst is clearly an allusion to the molded Shepherd overdoor. The continued existence of stained-glass upper lights is rare in Paris houses of this period. The Allred cottage casts a pleasing image to this north end of Main Street.

Numerous examples of granaries exist in Paris, demonstrating that this was a significant building type in this agrarian town. All Paris granaries were tightly framed, most of them with exposed, exterior studs and a smooth interior wall of boards. The Allred granary represents an alternative type of construction for Mormon granaries, sometimes used for other outbuilding types (see chicken house, site 20). This technique has been observed as a secondary granary construction throughout the Mormon culture area in Idaho. Its smooth walls of even-tiered boards still stand in excellent condition.