

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 25 1980

DATE ENTERED AUG 18 1980

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Little, Thomas K., House

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 703 East Belmont Street

CITY, TOWN

Caldwell

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

CODE

16

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COUNTY

Canyon

First

CODE

27

CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

___DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS☒ OCCUPIED

___UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE☒ YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___COMMERCIAL

___EDUCATIONAL

___ENTERTAINMENT

___GOVERNMENT

___INDUSTRIAL

___MILITARY

___MUSEUM

___PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___RELIGIOUS

___SCIENTIFIC

___TRANSPORTATION

___OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Edward Perry

STREET & NUMBER

703 East Belmont Street

CITY, TOWN

Caldwell

VICINITY OF

STATE

Idaho

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Canyon County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Caldwell

STATE

Idaho

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Idaho State Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1972

___FEDERAL ☒ STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Idaho State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

☐ EXCELLENT

☐ DETERIORATED

☐ UNALTERED

☒ ORIGINAL SITE

☒ GOOD

☐ RUINS

☒ ALTERED

☐ MOVED DATE _____

☐ FAIR

☐ UNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The former Thomas K. Little house sits on four lots in the oldest residential neighborhood of Caldwell northeast of the railroad tracks that divide the town. Built in 1896, the house's irregular massing, floorplan, and roofline and its combination of styles are expressive of late Victorian eclecticism. The house is a one-and-a-half-story balloon frame and clapboard structure on a lava rock foundation. The shingled roof with its four gables (side, rear, and forward) and offcenter hipped section, reflects the interior plan of small rooms scattered around two central parlors.

The house has two transomed entrances on either side of a three-sided bay on the southwest facade. Above the bay is a gable with molding, bargeboards, a scrolled apron, and fishscale shingles around a small double-hung sash window. Similar Queen Anne decoration graces the two side gables. The more plain rear gable has a "Palladian" window of three rectangular sashed sections. On the first-floor level, the house is sheathed with narrow white clapboards crisscrossed horizontally and vertically with stick-like members, a surface treatment which alludes to the Western Stick Style. The southeast exposure is elaborated with a circular leaded window lighting the entrance hall and a tripartite window surmounted by a curved pediment-like decoration. Farther to the rear on this exposure, the roofline is pulled down to hood a three-sided dining room bay with double-hung sash windows. The central hipped section of the Little house roof, with its large rectangular, corbelled chimney, unifies the house's eclectic massing and ornamentation.

Two sections of the Little house may date after 1896. The rear lean-to kitchen and screened-in porch is sheathed with shiplap rather than clapboards. The bungaloid front porch is either an addition or a remodeling, with its thick, square, battered pillars and its shingled, battered lower walls.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☒ 1800-1899	☒ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Architect unknown; Contractor:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Robert E. Miller

The former Thomas K. Little house is architecturally significant as a local example of Queen Anne eclecticism, as a remnant of nineteenth century residential architecture in Caldwell, and perhaps as one of the town's few architect-designed houses. The house is historically significant as a remnant of an early residential neighborhood in Caldwell and as a physical reminder of the Thomas K. Little family.

Among Caldwell houses of the period--and few remain as intact as the Little house--this house is unusually elaborate and aesthetically satisfying. It may well be that, as the Caldwell Tribune reported on March 7, 1896, "an Eastern architect" designed the house. By April of that year, the house was under construction, contracted locally to Robert E. Miller for \$3,000. The Little house draws on Gothic, Queen Anne, Georgian Revival and Western Stick Style decoration, making it truly "Victorian eclectic".

T. K. Little came to Caldwell from Chicago in 1892 and joined the newly-incorporated M. B. Gwinn Mercantile Company, one of the oldest businesses in the town. In 1894 he and Gwinn divided their business, Little taking over the dry goods department. Two years later he had this house built in the residential neighborhood where many of his fellow businessmen were settling. Little's name is associated with the Little Block (now Harmon Block) on Main Street, which he purchased in 1899 and expanded in 1906, the year after he served as mayor of Caldwell. In 1909 he closed his dry goods business, and in 1910 the Littles sold their house and moved from Caldwell.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Caldwell Tribune, 1883-1910

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Caldwell

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5 minute

UTM REFERENCES

A 11 525420 4834940

B

ZONE EASTING

NORTHING

ZONE EASTING

NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The nomination includes the former Thomas K. Little house and the property on which it stands: lots 1-4, block 35, in the Caldwell Original Townsite.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Jennifer Eastman Attebery, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Idaho State Historical Society

DATE

10 June 1980

STREET & NUMBER

610 North Julia Davis Drive

TELEPHONE

334-2120

CITY OR TOWN

Boise

STATE

Idaho

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Merle Wells

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 10 June 1980

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

for Acting W. Ray
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8/18/80

ATTEST

DATE

8-5-80

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



Little, Thomas K. House
703 East Belmont Street
Caldwell, Canyon County, Idaho

Photograph by Jennifer Eastman Attebery
April 1980

Negative on file at Idaho State Historical Society
Boise, ID

View from west

JUN 25 1980

Photograph 1 of 1

AUG 18 1980