

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

NOMINATION: (TOURTELLOTTE AND HUMMEL ARCHITECTURE IN IDAHO 7/12)

✓ SITE NAME: Stephan, Louis, House SITE NUMBER: 88

✓ LOCATION: 1709 ^{N. 18th} ~~North Eighteenth Street~~, Boise, Ada County ~~(001), Idaho~~

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

William and Susan Mauk
1709 North Eighteenth Street
Boise, Idaho 83702

QUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Boise North, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The nomination includes the Louis Stephan House and the property on which it stands, lots 15 and 16, block 23, North Locust Grove addition. Legal description on file at the Ada County Courthouse, Boise, Idaho.

UTM(S): 11/5,63,715/48,31,430

DATE OR PERIOD: 1915

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

CONDITION: excellent unaltered original site

DISCRIPTION:

The Louis Stephan House is a single-story bungalow of the classic type, with a front-facing gabled roof and single front-to-rear ridgebeam. It is perfectly rectangular in plan, with the exception of a small square living room bay just to the rear of the exterior brick chimney, near the front on the right side. The roof has exposed rafters under the lateral eaves and figure-four brackets under the raked eaves. The entrance is centered in an inset porch which crosses the facade behind four blocky battered posts with plain battered capitals.

The facade contains a triple group of contiguous rectangular windows with a common sill, a larger central element, and battered heads. The surface of the gable around and below these attic lights is covered with square shingles and has a slightly flared base. The main walls and the low porch walls also have flared bases and are sided with narrow clapboards. The plain frieze board over the porch posts is continued around the house at the tops of the windows, a short distance below the lateral eaves.

The twenty-nine-by-fifty-five-foot plan of the house is also standard bungalow in type, with a living room/dining room/kitchen/rear porch strip on the right side and

a bedroom/bath/sunroom strip on the left. Except for the screening of the porch, the exterior is identical to the original drawings, even to the concrete parapets drawn out on either side of the stoop at right angles from the concrete foundation.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Louis Stephan House is architecturally significant as a pristine example of a bungalow which is very finely executed, but which is clearly a standard bungalow in profile and plan. Such details as the continuous frieze board and Palladianesque attic light, patterned after those on the more pretentious Sidenfaden house (site 77), give it unusual elegance. This is the first point at which such a straightforward translation of the style has appeared in the Thematic Group. The last examples to appear (sites 100 and 105) are straightforward; this suggests that it may have seemed less necessary, after the heyday of the bungalow in the early 1910s, to make a point of distinguishing custom-designed from mass-planned bungalows.

Louis Stephan was a partner with his brother August in the Imperial Bakery. His given name was changed to Ludwig in the City Directory during and after the war years, 1917-1921. By 1921, Stephan was no longer living in his Eighteenth Street house but was rooming at the Bristol Hotel.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

(Boise) Idaho Statesman, October 2, 1915, p. 5, c. 3.

Polk and Company. Boise City Directories. 1915, 1917-1921.

Boise, Idaho. Hummel Jones Miller Hunsucker P.A. File 411B. Tracings signed Tourtellotte and Hummel.



Tourtellotte and Hummel Architecture in Idaho
Stephan, Louis, House, site # 88
1709 North Eighteenth Street
Boise, Ada County, Idaho

Photographer:
Patricia Wright
1980

Negative on file at Idaho State Historical Society
Boise, Idaho

View from east-northeast

Photograph one of one