

Utah State Historical Society

Site No. BV-04-B-17-4-4

Property Type:

Historic Preservation Research Office

SIGN. SITE #106

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: 595 ~~North~~ 4th West

UTM: 12/355825/4238150

Name of Structure:

T. R. S.

Present Owner: Louis Robert & Miriam Limb

LESS THAN ONE ACRE

Owner Address: Beaver, Utah 84713

Year Built (Tax Record): c. 1873

Effective Age: 1913

Tax#: B-334-A

Legal Description

Kind of Building: Residence

Com SW cor Lot 3, Blk 17, Plat B, Beaver City; thn N 148 ft; NE 70.71 ft; E 148 ft.; S 198 ft; W 198 ft. to beg. Also N 1/2 lot 4, Blk 17, Plat B.

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Enoch E. Cowdell

Construction Date: c. 1873

Demolition Date:

Original Use: Residence

Present Use: Residence

Building Condition:

Integrity:

Preliminary Evaluation:

Final Register Status:

Excellent

Site

Unaltered

Significant

Not of the

National Landmark

District

Good

Ruins

Minor Alterations

Contributory

Historic Period

National Register

Multi-Resource

Deteriorated

Major Alterations

Not Contributory

State Register

Thematic

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography:

Date of Slides:

Slide No.:

Date of Photographs:

Photo No.:

Views: Front Side Rear Other

Views: Front Side Rear Other

Research Sources:

Abstract of Title

Sanborn Maps

Newspapers

U of U Library

Plat Records/Map

City Directories

Utah State Historical Society

BYU Library

Tax Card & Photo

Biographical Encyclopedias

Personal Interviews

USU Library

Building Permit

Obituary Index

LDS Church Archives

SLC Library

Sewer Permit

County & City Histories

LDS Genealogical Society

Other field work, deeds

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

Mrs. Miriam Limb, interviewed 7/7/80 in Beaver by L. L. Bonar.

Researcher: L. L. Bonar

Date: 7/1/80

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Building Materials: black rock (basalt)

Building Type/Style: hall & parlor vernacular

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

The original portion of this home consists of a hall and parlor house with end wall chimneys. The front facade has a window-door-window piercing pattern with bilateral symmetry. There are wooden lintles above the door and windows, and a white, Greek Revival style cornice runs along the eaves. The front facade (east facing) has well squared, black rock blocks though the lack of pointed mortar joints gives this facade a rather rough appearance. The other facades of the house are all built with rubble rock and the home rests upon a rubble rock foundation.

The first rear addition gave the house an "L"-plan. It retains the original height of the roof and has one end wall chimney. The second rear addition consists of a lean-to built on to the first addition. This gives the house a nearly-square plan. The entire house is built of stone and all portions are of a historic date.

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date:

This house is significant for several reasons. It's black rock construction materials and its nearly unimpaired architectural integrity make it a very interesting example of pioneer architecture in Beaver, characterized by a hall and parlor plan with end wall chimneys.

There is also the question of its builder, which is still a mystery at this date. It was not, however, built by Thomas Frazer, the Scots stonemason who built so many of the black rock residences in town. Frazer developed a very distinctive architectural style over the years, and the Cowdell house does not display many of the architectural motifs characteristic to Frazer's style. It would be very interesting to know who the builder was because there are only a few other black rock houses in all of Beaver that weren't built by Frazer. It is conceivable that Cowdell built the home himself but none of the Cowdell family still resides in Beaver. He and his wife were apparently evicted from the house on order of the County Sheriff in 1894 and it is probable that they left town at that time.