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SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
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	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED		
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4 OWNER OF	FPROPERTY			
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Each of the four forts on the Little Colorado was designed to be at least 12 rods square and to enclose approximately an acre. The fort at Brigham City (Ballinger's Camp) had bastions on the NE and the SW corners.

quoted An 1876 description/by Walton gives interesting details:

... The fort is 200 feet square, a driveway on north and south sides and narrow entrances on east and west. The walls are seven feet high, of rock; there are 36 dwelling houses also on the north side, a dining hall 20 x 80 feet with two rows of tables, to seat from 150 to 200 persons. Adjoining the dining hall (on the outside) is a kitchen 20 x 25 feet, also a bake-house and oven. There are also six dwelling houses adjoining the west side and six partly built on the south side of the fort, a good cellar 18 x 18 feet, and a storehouse built thereon; also a good well 25 feet deep, furnishing sufficient water for family and culinary purposes. Inside the fort also, another well 23 feet deep near the kitchen. Good corrals and stockyards south of the fort.

Most of the walls were dismantled by the La Prade family but part of the East wall of the fort was incorporated into the barn, of which it forms the west wall. Some of the original foundations are still visible.

The barn has a gambrel roof of horizontal planks covered with corrugated metal. One story shed roof additions surround the building. The gable is vertical plank and the walls (excluding the fort wall which remains intact) are constructed of stone salvaged from the fort. The roof is supported by peeled logs and board braces. There is no loft.

An archaeological survey has revealed other evidence of the original settlement. Most of the farming activity of the colony took place north and west of the fort and much of this land has been idle since about 1890 but remnants of irrigation ditches and other features can be seen.

Several buildings and corrals have been constructed on the fort site. Four of the buildings incorporate sandstone slabs from the fort. The north wall of structure D (see sketch map) appears to correspond to Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

an original fort wall. Further investigation is needed to determine whether the building itself might be original. Test excavations have revealed what may be portions of the fort's north, east, and south walls and the archaeologist has concluded that the fort was probably about 211 feet square.

Further investigation is also needed to resolve a puzzle raised by the U.S. Geological Survey of 1879. The surveyor's notes indicate that the community occupied a space 660 feet east and west and 600 feet north and south. What buildings outside the actual fort might be included in this parcel is not known at present. However, it is clear that intensive settlement and activity occurred throughout the southeast quarter of the section and further research and archaeological investigation will be necessary to pinpoint specific structures and areas.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The 100 year old west wall of the La Prade Barn stands as a symbol of the strategy and scale of Mormon colonization and the hardships endured by members in ventures that did not always succeed.

The financial panic of 1873, combined with other factors, increased eastern interest in emigration to the western territories. Two colonies were organized in Boston to settle on the Little Colorado, an area which had been described to the prospective colonists in glowing terms. After lengthy preparations and much publicity, two "Boston Parties" set out early in 1876.

The Boston colonization schemes aroused considerable concern in Salt Lake City. Arizona was considered an excellent prospect for Mormon expansion and details on the territory had been gathered as early as 1846 when the Mormon Battalion scouted the area. Furthermore, a Gentile settlement on the Little Colorado would interrupt the natural emigration route of Mormons on their way south from Lees Ferry. In addition, it was customary for the Church to plant settlements at convenient intervals along any major migration trail if possible.

Accordingly, in the winter of 1875-1876, a call was sent out for volunteers to establish themselves on the Little Colorado before either of the Boston Parties could arrive. The emigrants started out in February of 1876, most of them traveling in small groups. Some families traveled alone and many of them suffered grievously in the mud, slush, and deep snow along the way. When they reached Kanab most of them organized in groups of 10 or more families.

Jesse O. Ballinger was head of the Brigham City settlement, which was originally called Ballinger's Camp. The other three Little Colorado communities were Allen's City, Sunset, and Obed. All of the settlements were organized under the United Order, pooling their resources and eating communally.

The colonists of Brigham City, who were mostly from the area around Springerville, Sanpete, and Juab in Utah, arrived late in March.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

They set to work at once to build a dam but could not get any water to their fields for the first summer's crop and were unable to raise anything at all the first year.

The construction of the fort began in late June. Each of the four settlements constructed a fort in anticipation of Indian attacks which did not materialize.

On the Fourth of July the hardworking settlers took time to celebrate the centennial with races, games, picnics, singing, and speeches during the day and a dance in the evening.

The first Boston Party, which had come through shortly before, was much dismayed to find the land so bleak and unpromising as well as already occupied. The Bostonians went on to the present site of Flagstaff and celebrated the centennial there, thus giving the future town its name.

By the end of the summer, with no crops in sight for another year and the original supplies dwindling rapidly, many of the Little Colorado settlers decided to go back to Utah for supplies to prevent the colonies from starving during the approaching winter. Quite a few of those who left did not return.

In September the sawmill from Mt Trumbull, which had been used to make lumber for the construction of the temple at St. George, Utah, was transferred to the Little Colorado. It remained in use there about three years.

In the fall of 1877 the communities acquired a grist mill which was set up near the Ballinger Dam and began operation in May of 1878. The four settlements also pooled their resources to set up a dairy at what is now Mormon Lake, near Flagstaff.

The settlers did manage to raise a crop in 1877 but the following year the crop was almost destroyed by a flood and in 1880 there was no crop at all. Consequently, most of the colonists abandoned the Little Colorado that summer and migrated to the area around Safford.

In 1881 the remaining colonists were released from their obligations. They withdrew their shares in the venture and moved away, except for Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

two families which were still there in 1882. The grist mill was given to the community of Woodruff.

During the spring and summer of 1881, the railroad was being built across northern Arizona. John W. Young, (son of Brigham) who had contracted for some of the construction, used the Brigham City fort for his headquarters and for housing for some of the workers.

After that brief period of activity, the fort was sold to five farmers for \$800. Their farming efforts failed and the place was abandoned. The doors and windows were removed and used in a settlement near Heber.

In 1890, a homestead certificate for this quarter section was issued to Sydney Wilson, who had lived at the fort in the 1870s. However, the property appears to have passed into the hands of Fernando T. LaPrade in October of that same year. A farm and a dairy were operated by the family until 1947. LaPrade was also active in other local enterprises and served on the first City Council of Winslow. During this period, the buildings of the fort were mostly dismantled. The barm was constructed in 1903, incorporating part of one wall of the fort. The southwest turret remained into the 1920s.

In 1947, the city of Winslow decided to acquire the property in order to hold the Clear Creek water rights in anticipation of the future needs of the city. The property is leased to a rancher who uses the barn for storage.

The Brigham City site has very high potential for archaeological research into the material culture and architecture of the early Mormon communal settlements.



