

PH0660175

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JAN 10 1978
DATE ENTERED	APR 26 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Peter Wentz House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
575 North University Avenue

CITY, TOWN
Provo

STATE
Utah

VICINITY OF
01

COUNTY
Utah

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
01

CODE
049

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Wilford W. Brimhall

STREET & NUMBER
575 North University Avenue

CITY, TOWN
Provo

STATE
Utah

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Utah County Recorder's Office

STREET & NUMBER
Utah County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN
Provo

STATE
Utah

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Utah State Historic Sites Survey

DATE
July 16, 1975

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Utah State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN
Salt Lake City

STATE
Utah

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Peter Wentz Home, built c. 1866 - 70, is a two-story salt-box residence containing two rooms on each level. The home is built upon a foundation of cobblestone and contains a basement cellar. The superstructure is made of local bondmade sun and kiln baked brick. Floors are framed with wide-dimensional joists and are covered with tongue-in-groove for flooring. The roof is supported by 4 x 6 inch red cedar rafters spaced 24 inches on center. Aside from crown molding trim along the exterior cornice, the building is without decorative elements. Two fireplaces, one each in the west and north walls, still exist. Though simple in construction and primitive in terms of materials, the building is structurally sound and the fabric is remarkably well preserved. All important aspects of the building's original appearance are intact.

Unlike the broadside two-story variations of the hall-parlor plan commonly employed by Mormon pioneers, the Wentz home is only one room wide. The front part of the home is fully two stories tall and has one finished room on each floor. The back room on the first floor is also finished with painted lathe and plaster walls while the upper rear room, much shorter in height because of the dropped saltbox roof, is unfinished and was used as a sleeping attic and storage area.

The front facade of the Wentz Home is symmetrical. On the first level it consists of a central door flanked by a six-over-six operable sash window on each side. Directly over these three bays are three three-over-six operable sash windows along the second level of the facade. All bays have wooden sills and lintels. The building is essentially a vernacular structure with subtle Federal overtones. It may be Wentz was influenced by homes he saw in New York during his mission of 1871-2.

The home has been documented through architectural drawings prepared by architectural historian, Allen D. Roberts.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1866 - 70 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Peter Martin Wentz was born July 3, 1831 at Canaan Corners, Wayne County, Pennsylvania, one of eight children born to a Methodist circuit minister Peter Wentz and his wife, Mercy Green. Due to a breakup of the Wentz family caused by the death of his mother and financial reverses of his father, Peter was forced to leave school and home and apprentice as a boot and shoemaker. At about the age of twenty, he was introduced to the doctrines of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and became a convert. Caught up in the attitude of "gathering" held by Mormons of that time, Wentz traveled to Nauvoo, Illinois then to St. Louis, Missouri and finally joined an emigrant train to Oregon and walked to Salt Lake City.

Wentz remained in the city of Salt Lake for two years during which time he participated in the Echo Canyon War against Johnston's Army during the so-called "Mormon Rebellion" in 1857. In late 1857, Wentz settled in Provo, Utah where he engaged in the boot and shoe business. He spent the summer of 1863 in Montana trading and prospecting. From 1864 to 1867, Wentz operated a freighting business carrying goods, principally flour to Virginia City, Montana.

Peter Wentz was married to Ximeria Boren in 1864 and the couple eventually became parents of nine children. In 1871, Wentz served as a missionary for the Mormon Church in New York. In 1876, he was elected a member of the Provo City Council, a position which he held for ten years. He also served as a Justice of the Peace. Wentz was one of the organizers of the Provo Bench Corral and Irrigation Company and for sixteen years served as its director and secretary.

Throughout his life, Peter Wentz remained an active member of the Mormon faith and served his church in several leadership capacities. In 1885, he became the first bishop of an area north of Provo known as the Provo Bench or Timpanogas Ward. He held this position for eighteen years. Wentz was also a strong advocate of education. After moving to the Provo Bench, he retained his old Provo home located across the street from the Brigham Young Academy to enable his children to pursue their educations there.

The Wentz Home which is the subject of this history, was built sometime between 1866 and 1870. At the time the home was built, Wentz owned the entire block and he placed his home near the middle of it. As the Provo street system developed, Wentz's home became surrounded by other homes which now face University Avenue. By virtue of its present unusual location, the old home reflects a bygone time when Provo was a quiet,

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Jensen, Andrew, Latter-day Saint Encyclopedia Vol. II, pp. 134-5, Salt Lake City.
2. Interview with Ray V. Wentz, 1975.
3. Huff Emma N., Comp., Memories That Live, Utah Co. Centennial History, Springville, UT, 1947.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 2	4 4 4 0 0 0	4 4 5 4 5 3 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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 Allen D. Roberts / Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Historic Utah, Inc.

DATE August 22, 1977

STREET & NUMBER 32 Exchange Place Suite #105

TELEPHONE 355-5915

CITY OR TOWN Salt Lake City

STATE Utah

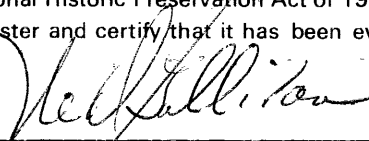
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

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



TITLE Michael D. Gallivan, State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE October 26, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR/OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST: Wendell H. Smith
 —KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 4/26/78
 —KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 4-25-78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

rural community. The building itself possess architectural merit as a well-preserved example of pioneer design and craftsmanship. The modified saltbox home features a front-to-back two-over-two plan, unusual in the Mormon corridor. In style, the home is reminiscent of the Federal rowhouse designs of the eastern United States. The home is also Provo's earliest known building of fired brick construction.

In 1864 the Atwood House in Murray, a satellite of Salt Lake City featured what is believed to be the first all-fired brick construction. The Colton Brickyard opened two years later in Provo followed shortly thereafter by the Nels Tiffany yard. Peter Wentz built his home of Tiffany brick although fired, the brick was primitive by today's standards. The bricks were formed by hand in wooden molds and were dried in the sun before being baked in kilns. No major changes have been made to affect the original character of the home.