

Utah State Historical Society

Property Type:

Historic Preservation Research Office

Site No. _____

Structure/Site Information Form

1 IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: Off Utah Highway 35
Diamond Bar X Ranch, Wasatch County, Utah UTM: 12 488560 4489470
Woodland

Name of Structure: Stewart Ranch Foreman's House T. 3 S R. 7 E S. 15

Present Owner: Arvin and Ardean Anderson

Owner Address: RFD
Kamas, Utah 84036

Year Built (Tax Record): Effective Age: Tax #:
Legal Description: Kind of Building:
This house is located on a large parcel of land containing numerous buildings which are not included in this nomination. The small parcel upon which this house sits is described as follows: Commencing at the intersection of Utah Highway 35 with the entrance road into the Diamond Bar X Ranch compound, thence W 150 ft., N 200 ft., E 150 ft., S 200 ft. to beginning. Less than one acre.

2 STATUS/USE

Original Owner: Stewart Ranch Corporation Construction Date: 1919 Demolition Date:
Original Use: residence Present Use: residence

Building Condition: Integrity: Preliminary Evaluation: Final Register Status:

<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant	<input type="checkbox"/> Not of the	<input type="checkbox"/> National Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/> District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor Alterations	<input type="checkbox"/> Contributory	Historic Period	<input type="checkbox"/> National Register	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Resource
<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated		<input type="checkbox"/> Major Alterations	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Contributory		<input type="checkbox"/> State Register	<input type="checkbox"/> Thematic

3 DOCUMENTATION

Photography: Date of Slides: 1984, '85 Slide No.: Date of Photographs: 1984, '85 Photo No.:

Views: Front Side Rear Other Views: Front Side Rear Other

Research Sources:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abstract of Title	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps	<input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers	<input type="checkbox"/> U of U Library
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plat Records/Map	<input type="checkbox"/> City Directories	<input type="checkbox"/> Utah State Historical Society	<input type="checkbox"/> BYU Library
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tax Card & Photo	<input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Encyclopedias	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personal Interviews	<input type="checkbox"/> USU Library
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Obituary Index	<input type="checkbox"/> LDS Church Archives	<input type="checkbox"/> SLC Library
<input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Permit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County & City Histories	<input type="checkbox"/> LDS Genealogical Society	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

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

Epperson, David H. "The Settlement of Pine Valley and Historical Roots of the Stewart-Hewlett Ranch." Unpublished report, 1985. Available at Utah State Historical Society Library.

Snow, Nora Stewart. Letters and interviews, 1981-85. Available in National Register files, Utah State Historical Society.

Cooley, Herman. Telephone interview with Roger Roper, January 9, 1985, Woodland, Utah

Murphy, Roy. Interview with Ruth Stewart Romney, January 20, 1985.

Roberts, Mabel Fife. Interview with Ruth Stewart Romney, January 18, 1985.

Researcher: Roger Roper

APR 9 1985 MAY 23 1985

Date: 1985

Architect/Builder: none/Randolph Fife

Building Materials: log

Building Type/Style: Vernacular

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

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

The Stewart Ranch Foreman's House is a 1 1/2 story log house with a gable roof and a concrete foundation. The gable on the east side is clipped, apparently to more easily accommodate a large cobblestone chimney there. The house is oriented broad side to the street and has a centered hip roof dormer on the front roof slope. The facade is symmetrically composed with a center doorway flanked by large, three-part windows. The logs are painted white and have been since at least the early 1940s, as shown in early photographs. There is a large gable roof crosswing extending from the rear of the house consisting of a log section on the east, a frame section in the center, and a stone section on the west. The stone section, which is the c.1908 summer kitchen of the original manager's house,¹ is the only one of these three sections to be attached to the house at the time of its construction. The frame section and the gable roof that spans the frame and stone sections were probably built by at least the 1930s, as indicated by a c. 1942 photograph and by Herman Cooley, who lived in the house from 1938 to 1955.² The roof over the log section on the east is an extension of the roof over the crosswing, indicating, along with the change in material from frame to log, that the log section was a later addition. Unlike the white-painted logs on the main house, the logs in this section are stained a redwood color.

(See Continuation Sheet)

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: 1919

Built in 1919, the Stewart Ranch Foreman's House is one of eight significant buildings on Stewart Ranch, a well preserved turn-of-the-century "recreational ranch" that served for over 50 years as both a working ranch and a recreational summer retreat for its owners, prominent business and professional men from Salt Lake City. Stewart Ranch is probably the best preserved of the recreational ranches that were established on the western edge of the Uinta Mountains, a popular location for such ranches because of both its wilderness appeal and its proximity to Salt Lake City, only about sixty miles away. The ranch was established c.1902 by four Stewart brothers--William M., Samuel W., Charles B., and Barnard J.--who maintained their homes and professions in Salt Lake City while supervising and, to various degrees, participating in the operations of the ranch. This house was built as the home of the ranch foreman, who was hired to oversee the operations of the ranch since the Stewarts lived and worked in Salt Lake City, except for during the summer months when they lived in their homes on the ranch.

The formation of Stewart Ranch began in 1900 when William M. Stewart purchased 160 acres of land in the northern end of Pine Valley and encouraged his three brothers to also purchase property in the valley. Eventually, virtually the entire valley and much of the surrounding land was bought by the Stewart brothers and incorporated into Stewart Ranch, which, at its peak, totalled 2,262 acres. Cattle and sheep were raised on the ranch, as well as hay and grain for feed, and a ranch foreman was hired to manage the operations since the Stewarts had homes and occupations in Salt Lake City and were away from the ranch most of the year. Although Stewart Ranch was a working ranch and a business venture, for the Stewarts it served perhaps more importantly as a recreational retreat to which they could bring their families in the summer.

(See Continuation Sheet)

Stewart Ranch Foreman's House
Description Continued:

Other alterations to the house include asphalt shingles on the roof and aluminum siding in the gable ends of the house and porch and on the sides of the dormer. Also, a shed roof porch canopy has been attached over the doorway on the east side of the house (n.d.), and an exterior stairway was built on the west side to provide access to the doorway in the gable end, which was there before the stairway was built c. 1982. Despite those alterations, the house maintains its historical integrity. The major portion of the rear addition was probably built during the historic period, and since it is at the rear of the house it is not clearly visible from the road. The aluminum siding in the gable ends presents the horizontal appearance of wood siding or logs, which would have been the original material, and it blends with the horizontal lines of the log walls. The exterior stairway on the west side is relatively superficial and does not cover any of the original material of the house.

¹Interview with Roy Murphy by Ruth Stewart Romney, January 20, 1985;
interview with Mabel Fife Roberts by Ruth Stewart Romney, January 18, 1985.

²Herman Cooley, interview. Herman, who began working at the ranch in 1935, claims that the rear crosswing has been on the house for as long as he can remember.

Stewart Ranch Foreman's House History Continued:

Although the four brothers were initially equal partners in the ranch corporation, Barnard eventually took over the bulk of responsibilities and by 1920 had assumed complete control of the ranch operations and purchased from his brothers all of the ranch property except a 15-acre parcel surrounding Charles' home. By that time William had died (1913), Charles had become involved in numerous other business activities and had moved to California (1920), and Samuel had ceased being involved in the ranching activities.

Because the Stewart brothers spent only the summer months in Pine Valley, they always had a resident foreman who managed the actual ranching activities; there is no indication, however, that any foreman ever participated in the management of the finances. The first foreman was Alex Murphy; either for him or for his successor, a Mr. Potts, the original foreman's house was constructed, probably c. 1903. It was made of logs and is said to have had two rooms with a small shanty attached at the rear (north) side. Either during the period of Mr. Potts or of a Mr. Haney who succeeded him a large stone summer kitchen was attached to the shanty. After Mr. Haney's death in 1918 the next foreman was Randolph Fife, son of the Stewart's sister Elizabeth. In the summer of 1919 the present log house and shanty were built for him and his family. The original foreman's house was moved to the rear where it was used as a bunkhouse for the hired hands. A blacksmith shop, a root cellar, an ice house, a large barn, and various other outbuildings were also constructed. When Randolph left the ranch in 1923, Alex Murphy returned as foreman and remained until 1929 or 1930. A succession of other foremen followed, but the one who stayed on the longest was Herman Cooley, who worked at the ranch for twenty years, seventeen as manager. He was hired in 1935, four years after most of the ranch was sold by the heirs of Barnard Stewart, who died in 1931, to Lester and Vern Hewlett. Lester was a son-in-law of C.B. Stewart, one of the original Stewart brothers.

The Hewletts launched the ranch into a relatively successful 24-year period of operation as a dairy and sheep ranch. The Hewletts, like the Stewart brothers, lived and worked in Salt Lake City, and, having built summer homes on the ranch in 1929, used the ranch as a recreational retreat as well. They depended heavily on Herm Cooley, the ranch manager, for the successful operation of the ranch. Under their ownership and his management the ranch became one of the top milk producers in the area and, for the first time, produced a surplus of hay.

The Ranch Foreman's House is currently occupied by Arvin and Ardean Anderson, who are part-owners and operators of the ranch, now known as the Diamond Bar X Ranch.