

DATA SHEET

PH 0667145

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	APR 13 1978
DATE ENTERED	OCT 5 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

NIELS OLE ANDERSON HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 306 South 100 East

\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Ephraim

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

02

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Utah

CODE

049

COUNTY

Sanpete

CODE

035 39

## 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 type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<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

Edna H. Anderson

STREET & NUMBER

306 South 100 East

CITY, TOWN

Ephraim

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Utah

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Sanpete County Recorder's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Sanpete County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Manti

STATE

Utah

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Utah Historic Sites Survey

DATE

July 1976

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Utah State Historical Survey

CITY, TOWN

Salt Lake City

STATE

Utah

# 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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Niels Ole Anderson House is roughly square shaped in plan and consists of the original one-and-a-half story, two-room, fired brick structure at the east of the home and the one-and-a-half story, two-room adobe addition made to the west. The oldest part, built c. 1868 has no basement but contains an unfinished sleeping loft in the attic. The original two-room home faces east with its broadside and has a symmetrical facade with a central door flanked by identical windows on each side. Structurally, a stone foundation supports an unreinforced superstructure of gray/mud colored brick which has been fired and laid up in walls with a crude mud and lime mortar. Notwithstanding the primitive construction technology, the structure remains sound although much of the soft mortar has eroded away. The superstructure which has walls three bricks thick, supports a simple gabled roof made of sawed, large dimensional rafters supported laterally at midspan by round log beams. Access to the attic which is fenestrated by two small windows in each gable end, is by way of the attic area and stairway in the addition to the west.

Although built first, the original part of the home is the most ornamental part of the overall building. It features Greek Revival Lintel trim above all window and door bays and a fancy brick cornice which is corbeled and denticulated. The low pitch of the roof partial cornice return and general building proportions give additional Greek Revival feeling to an otherwise vernacular composition.

The adobe addition built c. 1880-82, is plainer in appearance, featuring two-over-two and six-over-six operable sash windows with simple wooden sills and lintels and a simple wooden cornice. The addition connects laterally to the original building and contains two rooms plus a basement cellar, a small attic room and a crude stairway which must be travelled on hands and knees due to a very low ceiling. The addition faces north and has a porch which fills the void at the nexus of the old and newer structures.

The Anderson Home has remained relatively unaltered since its two-phased construction. Original paneled doors, plain wooden trim, fir floors, unadorned plastered and papered walls and ceilings are intact on the interior. The only significant changes of exterior appearance are the cement block chimney along the west wall and small, old frame and screened porch behind the house at the southwest corner.

Also well preserved is much of the historical setting of the house in relation to its site. Setback well away from the two streets which frames its corner lot, the house is surrounded by very large deciduous trees and shrubs. An open irrigation ditch still runs through the property along the inside bank of the road and must be crossed by small wooden bridges to reach the house. The original log frame and solid stud-wall out-buildings standing near the southwest corner of the house provides historical continuity from Ephraim's rural pioneer period.

# 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 checked="" 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. 1868, 1880-82

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Niels Ole Anderson

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Niels Ole Anderson House relates to its builder and principal occupant, Niels Ole Anderson, an early settler of Ephraim, Utah. Anderson played an important role in the pioneer settlement of his community. His journal accounts of pioneer life and Indian encounters in particular, are a valuable local history resource. The Anderson House is representative of local pioneer architecture and craftsmanship and features the unusual use of fired adobe brick, a transitional, homemade building material used before the advent of commercially made brick.

## HISTORY

Niels Ole Anderson was born in Sweden in 1845 and immigrated to Utah in 1854-55 with his family who became converts to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. After crossing the plains with Captain Noah T. Guyman's company, the Andersons arrived in the Salt Lake Valley of the Territory of Utah. As was customary, the family received instructions from their religious leaders and was sent to Fort Ephraim, Sanpete County, where Niels resided the rest of his life.

By necessity, Niels Anderson quickly became experienced in the rigors of pioneer life. At the age of ten he helped build the "outside fort" where his family lived until after 1860. Niels' father, Ola, died in 1857, after which Niels assumed more than normal responsibility for his family. Ephraim, like almost all other early Mormon settlements, had an economy based primarily on agriculture. Thus Niels spent his early manhood plowing, planting and harvesting for local farmers.

While in his teens, Niels had many experiences with the local Indians, even before he took part in the Black Hawk War in 1865. He carefully recorded his various encounters with the Indians. His written accounts are now valued as an important, local history resource, particularly because of his detailed descriptions of Indian skirmishes. He collected and recorded the events of October 17th and 18th, 1865 when Indians ambushed, tortured and killed in different attacks, seven loggers and farmers from Ephraim.

Anderson also obtained and recorded an account entitled "Skirmish at Ephraim, Battle at Rock Lake," in which settlers and Indians maintained a day-long battle over the possession of a herd of horses. Anderson also recorded a number of Indians encounters in which he was personally involved. Largely because of his long-standing acquaintance with many of the Indians, he was never harmed by them. During his life, Anderson personally knew several chiefs, including Black Hawk, Arrapean, Sanpitch and Tabby. In his later life, Niels Anderson became known as a folklorist who liberally shared his stories with newer generations.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Christensen, Josephine, "Niels Ole Anderson".
2. Gottfredson, Peter, Indian Depredations, Skelton Publishing Co., Salt Lake City, c.1919.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES Ephraim, Utah 1:24000

A 12 449700 435050  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C         

D         

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Allen D. Roberts/Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Utah, Inc.

DATE

December 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 X

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

*Michael D. Gallivan*

TITLE Michael D. Gallivan,

DATE

Executive Director & State Historic Preservation Officer

March 15, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR OFFICE OF HISTORIC AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST *William Lebovich*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

6/6/78  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
DATE 9/28/78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED	APR 18 1978

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Niels O. Anderson's pioneer experiences continued to broaden after the Black Hawk War. In 1866 he went to the Missouri River as a Church Teamster and helped bring a company of immigrants to Utah. He again served in a similar capacity for Captain Lewis Larson's Company in 1867.

Niels married Josephine Overglade on November 2, 1867 in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City. Shortly thereafter, the first part of the present Anderson House was built. The Andersons became parents of nine children and the house was expended to its present size while Niels was serving as a Mormon missionary in Sweden from 1880 to 1882. The two-room addition was built by Soren Jensen, a local mason.

Two years after returning from his mission, Josephine Anderson became ill and died. In 1885, Niels married Matilda Nielson. They had one child, Niels Henry.

After becoming a family man, Niels O. Anderson took active part in community and church affairs. He served several terms as a member of the Ephraim City Council. He also headed various leadership positions in the Mormon church. He was director and part owner of a sawmill which produced lumber for the Manti Temple. Anderson eventually took charge of the "temple sawmill" and was thus instrumental in the construction of this landmark building.

Anderson became expert in many crafts, including marksmanship, braiding, puppet-making, knot-tying, teaming and ox training and livestock raising. His leadership abilities were widely respected and he was a popular local figure.

The Niels Ole Anderson House has remained in the family since its construction. In style the vernacular building with Federal/Greek Revival detailing is representative of early Sanpete County architecture and craftsmanship. The original part of the home is built of an unusual handmade, fired adobe brick, a brick which was apparently a transitional material used after the sun-dried adobe period but before the commercially-made kiln-fired brick was available. Anderson's brick has the color and texture of adobe but has sharp edges and a hard, dense exterior, showing evidence of having been baked in some kind of kiln. As commercially-made brick did not become popularized in Sanpete County until after 1870, the Anderson House represents one of the region's earliest attempts to make and use fired brick, a fact which underscores Anderson's role as a pioneer leader and innovator.