

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 7 1977
DATE ENTERED DEC 2 1977

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 The Knight Block

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1-13 East Center Street; 20-24 North University Avenue

CITY, TOWN Provo

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Utah 1st

STATE Utah

___ VICINITY OF
CODE
049

COUNTY CODE
Utah 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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mark K. Allen, J. Knight Allen, Joseph K. Allen

STREET & NUMBER 836 North 1100 East

CITY, TOWN Provo

___ VICINITY OF

STATE Utah 84601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Utah County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Provo, Utah 84601

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Utah State Register of Historic Sites

DATE April 1977

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Utah State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN Salt Lake City, Utah

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Knight Block is a three story rectangular building, approximately 55 feet by 118 feet, housing a ground floor of retail space with a full basement and two upper floors of offices. The office levels have six bays on the South facade and 13 on the West. These two facades are the public areas of the exterior walls. The most prominent feature of the structure is a clock tower on the Southwest corner which extends above the roof line of the rest of the building. This tower is flat-roofed, with a center flagpole and finial point on each of the four corners. The clock, with faces on the South and West, still keeps accurate time and is original except for the electrical rewind system.

Most of the building is red brick with gray limestone lintels and belt courses that form window sills. Originally large stone arches formed the tower base and framed the entrance to the office stairs on the Eastern side of the South facade. These have been removed and the first floor is now faced with a corrugated metal veneer above and below the plate glass store windows installed after a fire circa 1934. The second and third floors are in an excellent state of preservation, with recent painting of the wood, cleaning of the brick, and rehabilitation of the tin work.

The upper floors of the facade are highlighted by pressed metal trim, which forms a bracketed cornice on the South and West facades, topped by brickwork that features rectangular indentations. A sign "Knight Block" caps the center of the West facade. The clock tower is dignified by more elaborate pressed metal trim, framing the clock faces, and forming a metal frieze and more intricate cornice at the top.

The second floor windows have square openings with limestone lintels, the third floor, roman arches of stone instead. The corner windows had small balconies with metal railings originally. Only the third floor balconies remain. The last three bays on the north end of the west facade are slightly different having straight lintels on the third level. This part was built on to the structure shortly after completion, and is known as the Annex.

The interior of the first floor has been altered, except for the hexagonal ceramic tile floors that remain. The second and third levels are well preserved with the original banisters, balustrades, doors, hardware, and woodwork intact. An Axminister carpet adds to the historical flavor. An Otis elevator was installed circa 1935, with little effect on the building's historicity. About 1/2 the original milk glass chandeliers also remain.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" 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 1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Richard C. Watkins

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Knight Block, built in 1900, is significant for its historical associations with Jesse Knight and the development of Provo and Central Utah. Long one of the city's most imposing landmarks, its fine architecture also qualifies it for preservation.

Knight was born in Nauvoo, Illinois in 1845 while the "Mormon" Church prepared to move West. His story of growth and prosperity parallels the Church's progress in Utah, and intertwines the political, financial and religious influences of central Utah's development. He attributed his vast wealth from mining, ranching, finance, and industry to spiritual insights he had received, and became a major factor in avoiding bankruptcy for the Church during the years the federal government disenfranchised it and took title to Church assets.

Knight's philanthropy promoted employment and education in Central Utah. His large woolen mills and public works projects were designed to create jobs. Seven major buildings on the campus of Brigham Young University resulted from his contributions.

In 1909, the Utah democratic convention offered a unanimous nomination as governor to Knight. Because of Church pressure and his own misgivings, he declined. His own town, Knightsville, was unique in Western mining development, for it had no saloons, no gambling houses, and no "honkytonks," representing a stark contrast to the development of other "non-Mormon" boom towns in other areas of the state.

As Knight's financial headquarters, this edifice is the most significant reminder of his career and times. It also is Provo's best link to the turn-of-the-century commerce that changed it from a farming hamlet to an industrial center. It remains in its original use, a visual tie to Pioneers like Jesse Knight and the Mormon role in Utah's commercial development.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Knight, J. William, The Jesse Knight Family (Salt Lake City: Deseret News Press) 1941.

Jensen, J. Marinus, History of Provo, Utah (Provo) 1924 Republished by "The Scribbler" Provo, 1974.

Moffit, James C., The Story of Provo, Utah (Provo: Press Publishing Co.), 1975.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .16 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	2	4	4	4	0	7	0	44	5	3	7	3	0
ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING						

B

ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING						

C

ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING						

D

ZONE			EASTING				NORTHING						

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the southwest corner of Block 28, plat B, Provo City survey, thence North 117.17 feet; thence East 70 feet; thence south 42.17 feet, thence West 15.75', thence South 75 feet, thence West 54.25' to the point of beginning.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Craig M. Call

ORGANIZATION

Historic Utah, Inc.

DATE

4-25-77

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 231

TELEPHONE

801-375-5344

CITY OR TOWN

Provo

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

Michael T. Miller

TITLE Michael T. Miller, State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE May 12, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11-30-77