United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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 Jame	es B. Staker Hous	e				
and/or common	Staker House		1977			
2. Loca	ation U.S	89				
street & number		t 1			not for publication	
city, town	Pleasant	\	vicinity of	congressional district	01	
state Utah		code ⁰⁴⁹	county	Sanpete	code 039	
3. Clas	sification					
Category district X building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Accessi yes:	cupied in progress	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park _X private residence religious scientific transportation other:	
<u>4. Owr</u>	ner of Prop	erty				
name Genev:	ieve Coe Carroll					
street & number	General Deliv	very				
city, town Mt	ity, town Mt. Pleasant		/icinity of	state	UT	
5. Loca	ation of Le	egal Des	scripti	on		
courthouse, regi	istry of deeds, etc. S_1	napete County	7 Courthou	56		
street & number	160 N Main S	t				
city, town	Manti			state	UT	
6. Rep	resentatio	n in Ex	isting	Surveys		
title Sanpete	Vernacular Surv	∋y	has this pro	operty been determined el	egible?yes X no	
date Sprin	g 19 79			federal <u>X</u> sta	te county loca	
depository for s	urvey records Utal	n State Histo	orical Soc	······································		
	Salt Lake City			state	UT	

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unaltered altered	Check one original site moved date	
tair	unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The James B. Staker house is a brick 1 1/2 story central passageway type house. In the ground level, the house basically consists of two square rooms separated by a central passageway/hall which contains the staircase. The upper story repeats this lower plan arrangement. There is a 1 1/2 story brick "T" extension to the rear. There are stove chimneys located on the two gable ends of the main section and a fireplace in the rear "T". The facade is symmetrical with five bays. There is an second level door in the center over the lower front main entrance.

The house is contructed of fired red brick laid up in a common bond pattern, a large two-tier pedimented portico stands on the east facade. This portico is supported on both levels by a tuscan column and enclosed by spindled balcony railing. The cornice entablature is relatively plain but contains stylized Italianate paired brackets. The rear "T" also has a two-tier portico similar in style to that found on the facade. The window heads are wood and pedimented and there are plain cornice returns on the gables.

The interior of the Staker house is largely in original condition. On the lower floor the window casings, doors, mouldings, and staircase are oak-grained pine. Upstairs the woodwork is painted in subdued Victorian shades of red, blue, and gray. The elaborately decorated rooms reflect James Staker's prominence in the Mt. Pleasant community.

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The Staker house is virtually unaltered and remains in excellent original condition.

8. Significance



Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The James B. Staker house is a fine example of folk/vernacular building in the Sanpete Valley. The central passageway type house was built rather sparingly in the early period of local settlement (1850-1870) but became increasingly popular in the area through the late 1870s and early 1880s. The Staker house, while quite elegant in its own right, was typical of the homes that the more affluenct members of the community were building during the later pioneer period. In the context of the vernacular architectural style, the Staker house assumes a position near the top of the economic spectrum and illustrates well the building needs of a particular segment of Mt. Pleasant's 19th century population.

James Staker was born in Pleasant Grove, Utah in 1858, the son of Nathan and Elizabeth Staker.¹ Nathan was an early (1837) Canadian convert to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints who migrated westward to Utah in 1853. The Stakers moved in 1859 to Mt. Pleasant where young James was educated and raised a farmer. In 1880 James married and in 1881 purchased a building lot from his father for \$200. The large brick home was probably built in the early 1880s as James established his family and farming business. In 1892 Staker organied the Planning Mill Company of Hansen, Staker, and Johnson to "manufacture rustic, ceiling, flooring, mouldings, with scroll sawings and turning." The Staker house remained in the Staker family until the early 1960s when it was acquired by its current owner, Ms. Genevieve Coe Carroll.

The central passageway type vernacular house results from the 18th century marriage of an older two-room wide, one room deep traditional hall and parlor house with the Georgian stylistic preference for an internal entrance hall.² The resulting house, two rooms and a hallway wide and one room deep, was distributed widely throughout the eastern united states and quite naturally moved to Utah in 1847.⁴ As a building type, it is found in all Utah communities though not in the quantities which some scholars have previously thought.⁵ In Sanpete, the central passage entrance hall was found during the early years of settlement only in the homes of the most wealthy and influential individuals. Its frequency increased into the 1870s and by the 1880s most of the larger brick homes - like the James Staker home - were equipped with the entrance hall.⁶

Staker Family history gleaned from LDS Family Geneological Records and W.H. Lever, History of Sampete and Emery Counties (Ogden: W.H. Lever, 1898), pp 273-274.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Sanpete County Records

W.H. Lever, History of Sanpete & Emery Counties (Ogden: W.H. Lever, 1898), pp. 273-274.

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organization	Utah State Histo er 307 West 200 S			April 1980
street & numbe	er 307 West 200 S Salt Lake City	South	teleph	one 533-6017 UT 84101
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3	Henry Glassie, Pattern in the Ma United States (Philadelphia: Un "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion Geographers, 55:4 (December 1965	iv of Penn ," Anals o	Press, 1968); Fre f the Association	d Kniff	
4	See, Leon S. Pitman, "Nineteenth Culture Region," diss. Louisiana				
5	Richard Francaviglia's Article, American West," Anals of the Ass (March 1971), pp. 65-71, vastly central-hall type. F.Cf. Pitman "Folk Design in Early Utah Archi Hal Cannon (Provo: BYU Press),	ociation o overrated , "Folkhou tectue," i	f American Geograp the presence of th sing," P. 167; Tho	o <u>hers</u> , 4 me mas Car	ter,
6	See, Thomas Carter, comment on " Herman, in <u>American Material Cul</u> (Cooperstown, N.Y.: Cooperstown	ture, ed.	by Simon J. Broner		ard

JAMES B. STAKER HOUSE Mr. REASANT



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BRICK CENTRAL HALL HOUSE, C1885

