

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only
received 4/3/85
date entered MAY 16 1985

1. Name

historic JENNER/GRIFFITHS HOUSE

and/or common John M. Griffiths House

2. Location

street & number 10 N. 300 East not for publication

city, town Minersville vicinity of congressional district

state Utah code 049 county Beaver code 001

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	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
	N/A <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Devota Heslington

street & number 10 N. 300 East

city, town Minersville vicinity of state Utah

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Beaver County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Beaver state Utah

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This is a large 1 1/2 story example of the temple-form house type that appears to have been constructed in several stages. Judging from early photographs of the house, the original section, built of brick around 1875, was the temple-form block itself. One and one half stories high, this section was gabled and the ridge was placed perpendicular to the street. The facade was symmetrically arranged and there were centrally placed doors on both the first and second stories. Relieving brick arches were found above the windows and there was a heavy entablature, raking cornice, and cornice returns. The house at that time consisted of four rooms, two on each level. It is not known if there was a front porch on the house at that time.

The first major remodeling of the house occurred c. 1890 and consisted of adding a 1 1/2 story flanking brick wing and spindled Eastlake porches to both the new wing and the original section. The side wing had a hip roof, a symmetrical facade, and, again, there were doors on both the upper and lower levels. Above the second story door was a cross gable that contained decorative shingling. Wall dormers were in both sections that also had the decorative shingling found in the cross gable. The porches were quite elaborate. Turned posts supported balconies with turned balusters and there were brackets and intricate spindles along the porch friezes. A one story, pink tuff stone rear kitchen wing was also probably added at that time. This rear section has a low hip roof and raised mortar joints.

The last remodeling of the home occurred c. 1913 and resulted in the house as it stands today. First, the gable of the original section was shingled to match that found on the side cross gable and the dormers. Second, the brick walls were plastered, scored and painted to simulate coursed ashlar. As part of the plastering, plain cast concrete lintels were placed over the doors and windows, the edges of all the openings were rounded off, and the pedimented returns were removed from the gable of the original section. The spindled frieze-work on the porches were removed at a later date.

The house has undergone many transformations during its history, yet remains in good condition and retains the essence of its original temple form design. The window and door openings have remained unaltered despite the other alterations, and the roof profile, too, has remained intact. The house has been altered very little during the 70-75 years since it was stuccoed.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1875 **Builder/Architect** probably George Jenner (original section)

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

Built c. 1875, the Jenner/Griffith House is significant as one of five documented extant examples of a variant of the temple-form house in Utah, and as the largest and most sophisticated example of early vernacular architectural design in Minersville. It is one of only six houses in the town which are well preserved and potentially eligible for listing in the National Register. The house is also the only well preserved temple-form house in Minersville and in Beaver County. The temple-form house originated from the Greek Revival period of American building¹ and typically has its short end to the street and a pedimented gable facade in imitation of monumental classical buildings.² In its most common form the house had symmetrical fenestration with a door placed to the side of center, and an opening leading to a side passage containing the staircase.³ Popularized by such books as Asher Benjamin's Builder's Companion and Minard Lafever's Modern Builder's Guide,⁴ it became one of the traditional house forms in New England and in the upper mid-west.⁵ The temple-form house migrated to Utah with the members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons).⁶ It is important because it is one of several early house types in the state, and because it is a type traceable to a New England cultural hearth, it documents the important New England heritage of the early Mormon movement.⁷ It is one of seven basic house types that were found in Utah during the early years of settlement. These types are all traditional and include: the square cabin; the rectangular cabin; the hall and parlor house; the central passageway house; the pair-house; and the double pen house.⁸ The pure temple-form was often modified in a number of ways.⁹ The most common type is referred to as a "modified" temple-form in which the door is set in the side wing.¹⁰ Another variant of the house type is evident in the Jenner/Griffith House. The door is centered on the gable facade, it does not have a central or side passage, and may or may not have side wings. There are fifteen documented extant examples of this type of variant, five of which have only one side wing. The Jenner/Griffith house is one of those five.¹¹ Although additions and stuccoing of the exterior have changed the house's original appearance, it continues to exhibit the fenestration and form characteristic of this variant of the temple-form type. Even in its altered form, the house is locally significant as a well preserved example of residential architecture in Minersville.

The exact date of construction of this house is not known, but judging from its appearance and the available records it was probably built c. 1875, when the property, which at that time was the entire NW 1/4 of Section 29, was owned by George Jenner. Jenner, who is known to have lived on this property, was one of the first men in the area to make bricks,¹ so it is likely that he
 (See Continuation Sheet)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Carter, Tom. "Folk Design in Utah Architecture: 1849-90." Utah Folk Art: A Catalog of Material Culture. ed. Hal Cannon. Provo, Utah: BYU Press, 1980

Robinson, Alvaretta, ed. They Answered the Call - A History of Minersville, Utah. Minersville, Utah: Minersville Centennial Committee, 1962.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.25

Quadrangle name Minersville

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A

1	2	3	3	2	1	5	0	4	2	3	1	3	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

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D

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification Commencing 4 rods 4 ft E of the W line of Sec 7 T30S R9W Salt Lake B&M, and 41 rods 11 ft 6 inches N of SW corner of NW 1/4 of Sec 7, thence N 20 rods, SE along river 37.5 rods, S 9.32 rods, W 36 rods to beginning.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A		N/A	

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Roger Roper/Historian; Tom Carter/Architectural Historian

organization Utah State Historical Society date October 1984

street & number 300 Rio Grande telephone 801-533-6017

city or town Salt Lake City state Utah

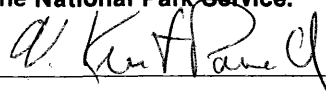
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 A. Kent Powell, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date October 29, 1984

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

William B. Bushong
for Keeper of the National Register

date 5/16/85

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Jenner/Griffiths House, Beaver County, Utah

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made the bricks that were used in the original temple form section of this house. Supporting that construction date is the fact that the temple form was not built in Utah much after the 1870s, having reached its peak of popularity during the 1840s-'60s.

Jenner, about whom nothing more is known, sold the property in 1880 to Fred Bellows, who owned it for six years. Nothing is known about Bellows. Mary Carter bought it in 1886 and owned it until 1892. She was apparently the wife of William Jenkins Carter, a local butcher and grocer. Either the Carters or D. McKinnon, who bought the property in 1892, are probably responsible for adding on the brick cross wing and the stone kitchen on the rear.

The remodeling of the house into its current appearance was done c. 1913 when it was owned by John M. Griffiths,² who had purchased it in 1907. Griffiths, a livestock man and a farmer, had the house stuccoed and scored to look like coursed ashlar. Its appearance resembles the tufa stone, or pink rock, which was used to construct the rear kitchen addition and which was also a relatively popular building material in Beaver County. Griffith's reasons for having the stuccoing done may have been because the soft-fired brick was weathering, or simply because he liked the look of stone better. This is an unusually late example of this technique of stone imitation in Utah; most other known instances occurred relatively soon after the houses were built and took place during the nineteenth century.

The current owner of this house is Devota Griffith Heslington, who bought it from her father, John Griffith, in 1947.

Notes

¹Talbot Hamlin, Greek Revival Architecture in America, (London: Oxford University Press, 1944), p. 268.

²Hamlin, p. 266.

³William H. Pierson, Jr., American Buildings and Their Architects: The Colonial and Neoclassical Styles, (Garden City, New York: Anchor Press, Doubleday, 1976), p. 450.

⁴Pierson, p. 448.

⁵Henry Glassie, Pattern in the Material Folk Culture in the Eastern United States, (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968), p. 133; Fred Kniffen, "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion," Annals of the Association of American Geographers, 55:4 (December 1965), pp. 549-577.

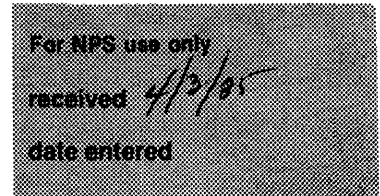
⁶Tom Carter, "Folk Design in Utah Architecture: 1849-90, in Utah Folk Art: A Catalog of Material Culture, ed. Hall Cannon, (Provo: BYU Press, 1980), p. 44.

⁷Tom Carter, "Folk Design in Utah Architecture: 1849-90," p. 44; Henry Glassie, Pattern, pp. 129-133; and Leon S. Pitman, "A survey of Nineteenth Century Folk Housing in the Mormon Cultural Region," dissertation, Louisiana State University, 1973, pp. 169-184.

(See Continuation Sheet 3)

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Jenner/Griffiths House, Beaver County, Utah
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⁸These types, except for the pair-house, are identified in Henry Glassie, Pattern, and Leon S. Pitman, "A Survey of Nineteenth Century Folk Housing in the Mormon Cultural Region." A Scandinavian form, the parstuga, or pair-house, is the subject of a National Register nomination, "The Scandinavian-American Pair House in Utah," listed in 1982.

⁹Current research in the state has identified three major types of the temple-form house, each having several subtypes. These are: Type I identified by a gable facade, a side passage, and a door on the main gable, with or without one or two side wings; Type II identified by a gable facade, a two cell plan, a door centered on the main gable, with or without one or two side wings; Type III identified by a gable facade, a two cell plan, and one or two wings with the door on the wing. Some Type III houses were created by remodeling an existent structure. Fifty examples of temple-form houses have been identified across the state: 9 of Type I; 15 of Type II; and 26 of type III. The Jenner House is a Type II with one wing. Only four other examples of this variant have been documented. There are eight examples of Type II with no side wings, and only two examples of Type II with two side wings.

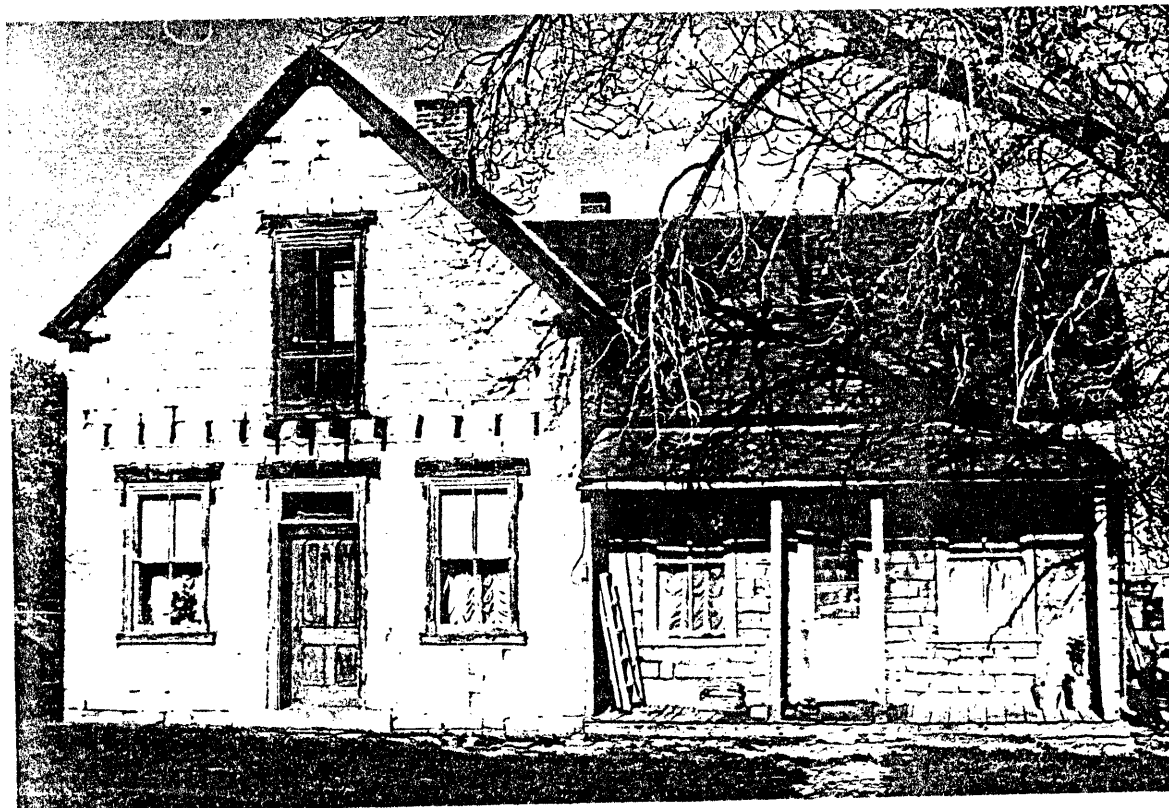
¹⁰Glassie, p. 132.

¹¹Following is a list of the five documented Utah examples of the temple-form house with a central entrance and one side wing, along with their status with regards to the National Register:

1. Soren Hanson House, 100 South 100 East, Manti, eligible for nomination, part of a multiple resource nomination in prep.
2. Thomas Davis House, Wales, eligible for nomination.
3. George Jenner House, Minersville, to be nominated to the National Register, 1984.
4. N.M. Hodges House, U.S. Route 89, Pickleville, eligible for nomination.
5. Unidentified house in Bountiful, eligible for nomination.

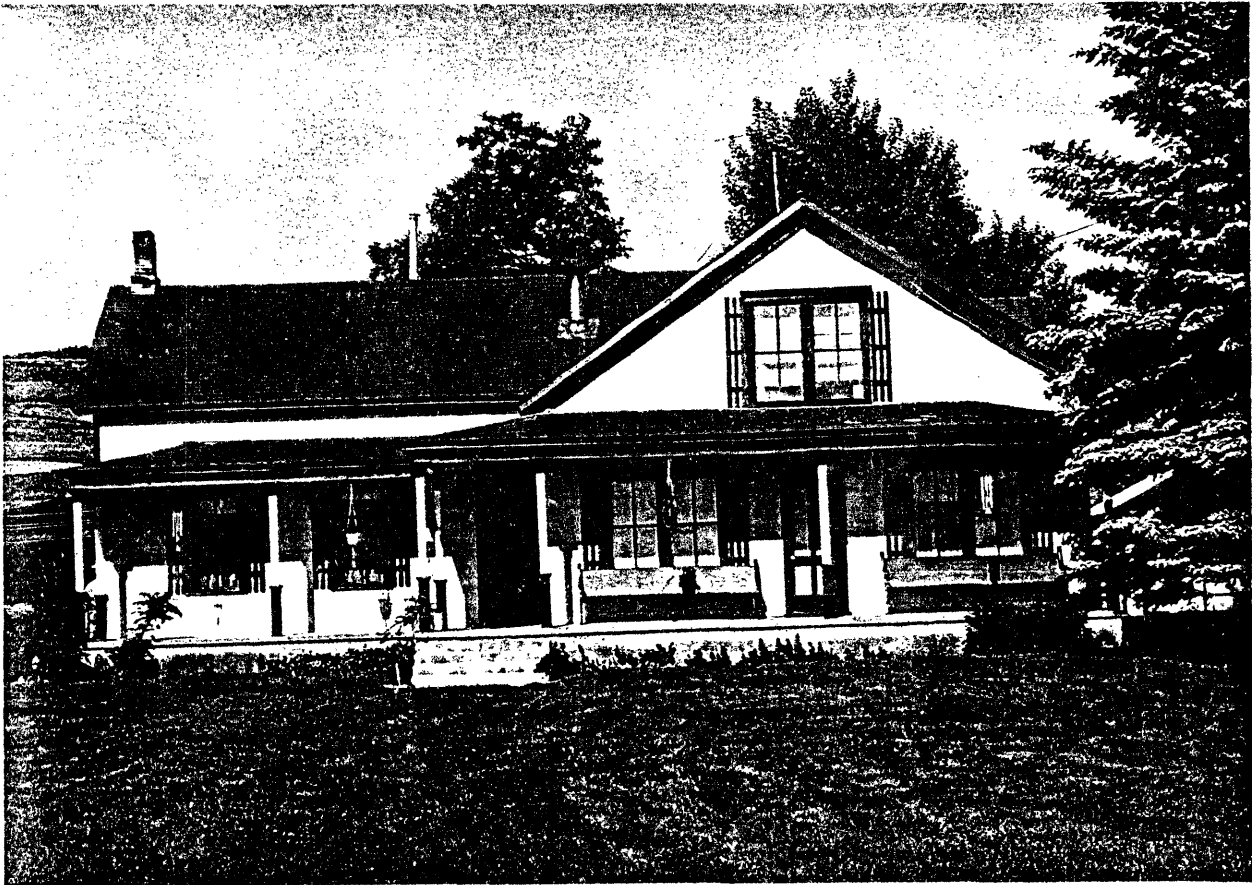
¹²Robinson and Gillins, editors, They Answered the Call, p. 124.

¹³Old photographs of the house show the Griffiths family in front of the house when it was still brick and again several years later after it had been stuccoed. In the later photograph, the young girl in front of the house is the current owner, who was five or six years old at the time, which would have been around 1914-15, so the stuccoing was done by at least then. The photographs are available at the Utah State Historical Society Photo Library.



Soren Hanson House
100 S. 100 East, Manti, Sanpete County, Utah

One of five documented examples of the temple-form house with a central entrance and one side wing.



N.M. Hodges House
U.S. Route 89, Pickleville, Rich County

One of five documented examples of the temple-form house with a central entrance and one side wing..

