

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

APR 28 1982  
received APR 28 1982  
date entered

1. Name

historic Silver Row

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 621-645 West 100 North not for publication

city, town Provo vicinity of congressional district

state Utah code 049 county Utah code 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 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 type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" 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 John A. Riding

street & number RFD #1, Box 405-D

city, town Springville vicinity of state Utah

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Utah County Courthouse

street & number University and Center Streets

city, town Provo state Utah

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Utah Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes  no

date Summer 1980 federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town Salt Lake City state Utah

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" 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 Silver Row apartment complex is an early example of multi-family housing in Utah. Row houses, often called "tenements" on the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of the late nineteenth century, were a common feature of the larger cities in the state. The Silver Row is constructed of brick and consists of five residential units joined together in a straight line under a common gabled roof (see floor plan). The entire structure measures about 120 feet in length and is a single-story high. There is an original shed extension to the rear, making each unit two rooms deep and a small, narrow apartment, also original, projects out from the southeast corner. Stylistically, the Row combines Greek Revival and Eastlake motifs into an overall symmetrical framework.

While the Silver Row must be viewed as a single entity, it also exists conceptually as the sum of five individual units, each roughly twenty-four feet in length and based on an older traditional house type in the area. The type, often referred to in the literature as the "rectangular cabin" house,<sup>1</sup> is characterized by a rectangular plan and a symmetrical, three-opening facade. Each building unit is self-contained internally and externally. There is a central door flanked by two windows. The long, narrow, double-hung windows are typical of late-nineteenth-century houses in Utah and are capped by segmental relieving arches with applied decorative infill. Similar ornamentation was found over each of the front doors. Over each front door is a small wall gable which contains elements of Victorian detailing. The decorative carved wood panels along the eaves of each gable have round arches cut from them which focus attention upon store plaques centered on the wall surface. Each plaque designates the unit number, "Silver Cottage 1," "Silver Cottage 2," and so forth. At the base of each arch, further framing the plaques, are interesting turned pendants which extend out both horizontally and vertically. The entablature is plain and the gables contain returns at the two front corners.

Alterations to the Silver Row apartments occur in the following areas: (1) The tops of the original doors have been filled in so that a standard size door could be fitted into the opening. (2) The small gabled hoods present over the apartment doors are a twentieth century addition. (3) The wooden casements of the windows have been removed and replaced with metal frames; however, the size of the original windows has been maintained. These alterations do not significantly detract from the Row's historic integrity.

<sup>1</sup>Henry Glassie, "The Types of the Southern Mountain Cabin," in Jan H. Brunvand, The Study of American Folklore (New York: W. W. Norton, 1968).

## 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 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			
<b>Specific dates</b>	1890	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Unknown	

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Built c. 1890, the Silver Row apartment complex is an excellent example of early multi-family housing in Utah. Such row houses, or tenements, were prevalent in the state's larger cities during the nineteenth century and are representative of the lower-income residential architecture of the time. Despite documentary evidence of the widespread occurrence of the row house type in the years before 1900, very few such structures survive in Utah today. The Silver Row remains one of two significant examples of the row house type which have been documented in the state. The other house, located at 136-146 West in Salt Lake City, has been nominated to the National Register as part of the Capitol Hill Historic District.

The Silver Row comprises five one-story brick apartment units arranged in a linear fashion. While each unit is a self-contained living space, the apartments share common walls and gabled roof. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps from two of Utah's major cities, Provo and Salt Lake City, reveal that such multi-family residential complexes were relatively common during the nineteenth century.<sup>1</sup> These structures, built in both adobe and brick, were labeled "tenements" by the insurance company and provided housing for low-income families during the early years of Utah's settlement. The row house type is historically important in documenting the full range of domestic architectural alternatives in Utah's past. Many people then, as now, could not afford the luxury of owning a single-family dwelling. Entrepreneurs met this housing need by providing rental properties. The row house concept in Utah was a nineteenth-century version of the modern apartment house and it is an important architectural form which is now encountered only rarely in the state.

Silver Row was built about 1890. The original owner, David P. Felt, was a publisher and printer who was born in 1860 in Salt Lake City. After marrying Nora Civish, Felt located briefly in Provo where he had these row apartments built. In 1893 Felt sold the building to Samuel S. Jones and Henry J. Maiben, two prominent local businessmen. Maiben lived with his family in one of the dwellings until his death, and his wife and children remained there until the early 1920's. Maiben owned and operated the Maiben Glass and Paint Company and served as a city councilman from 1888 to 1892. Samuel Jones sold his interest in the property in 1902.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

City Directories, 1888-1922

Deseret News, April 19, 1907

Jensen, J. Marinus, History of Provo, Utah. Provo: J. Marinus Jensen, 1924, pp. 78, 236.

See continuation sheet 2

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Provo

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 

1	2	4	4	3	0	9	0	4	4	5	3	8	5	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

C 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

D 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

E 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Commencing 57.75 ft west of NE corner Block 73, Plat A, thence west 142.35 ft, south 99.7 ft., east 142.35 ft, north 99.71 ft to point of beginning.

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

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Carter, Architectural Historian/Ken Cannon, Historian

organization Utah State Historical Society date Summer, 1980

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

city or town Salt Lake City state Utah 84101

# 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 Melvin T. Smith

title Melvin T. Smith, State Historic Preservation Officer date April 7, 1982

For NPS use only

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

Tom M. Daniel date 8-9-82  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Emma Jane Sayre date 8-9-82  
Chief of Registration

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

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

000 000 0 000-0018

For NPS use only

received APR 28 1982

date entered

Continuation sheet 1

Item number 8

Page 2

All the owners of the Silver Row since the Maibens have held the property for rental purposes only. In 1920 Joseph Nelson, a local architect, bought the apartments and sold them in 1926 to George P. Parker, a prominent judge and lawyer in Provo. Parker and his wife owned the property until 1958 when Silver Row was sold to Thomas O. and Judith W. Parker. The Parkers sold the property to B. Park Brockbank in 1973 who sold it to Robert L. Gunther in 1976. Gunther sold Silver Row in 1977 to Bob and Pop Investments, Inc., which deeded the building to John A. Riding in 1978.

<sup>1</sup>See Sanborn-Perris Maps for Salt Lake City, 1884 and 1898; for Provo, 1908.

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

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

For NPS use only

received **APR 28 1982**

date entered

Continuation sheet 2

Item number 9

Page 2

Miller, Marilyn McMeen & Moffitt, John Clifton, Provo: A Story of People in Motion.  
Provo: BYU Press, 1974, p. 102.

Plat records, Utah County.

Sanborn map, 1908.

SILVER ROW APARTMENTS  
PROVO, UTAH

