

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only

received JUN 27 1983

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Taylor, George Jr., House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 187 North 400 West _____ not for publication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 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
	N/A <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 Dale H. Taylor

street & number c/o Craig Call
P.O. Box 231

city, town Provo _____ vicinity of _____ state Utah

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Utah County Courthouse

street & number 42 N. University Avenue

city, town Provo _____ state Utah

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Utah Historic Sites Inventory-Provo has this property been determined eligible? yes nodate Summer 1980 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town Salt Lake City _____ state Utah

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

The George Taylor, Jr., House, built in the 1880s, is a one-and-a-half story brick structure on a rubble stone foundation. It is a gable roof, cross wing, vernacular house type with Gothic Revival styling. The cross wing plan is a version of the modified temple plan made popular by the Greek Revival. It was a common plan available to the nineteenth century builder and one propagated through house pattern books to which decorative ornament from any of the prevailing styles was individually or eclectically applied. Carpenter Gothic and Eastlake trim add lacy, intricate ornament to this simple house plan. The house is distinguished as one of only three existing examples in Provo that exhibit the influence of Gothic Revival residential architecture as applied to vernacular house forms. It also has a unique combination of Classical quoins and round arched windows. An addition was made to the back of the house about 1910 and other minor alterations were made during a 1970s restoration project.

This cross wing form house has a gabled wing perpendicular to the main house body. The gable facade is moderately narrow and gives a Gothic feeling of verticality in its two story height with its tall, moderately steeply pitched gable roof. The gable end is decorated with gingerbread bargeboard and a central pendant. This same decoration is repeated in the center gable of the broadside of the cross wing and its end gable. Both gable ends are pierced by paired, round-arched windows with radiating brick voussoirs. These double-hung sash windows are divided by muntins into four lights each. The casing and slipsills are painted white, as is the wooden trim on the rest of the house.

The broadside of the cross-wing is spanned by an elaborate, one story Eastlake porch. A balustrade with turned spindles at the ground level is complemented by an intricate porch frieze that is delicately pierced and has short spindles. Squared, chamfered posts, which represent stylized pillars, on panelled pedestals, support the roof. Springing from the pillar abacus are scroll brackets and side brackets with cutout patterns. Pendants mark the termination of the side brackets where they meet the freize. Much of this wooden porchwork and the wooden bargeboard is not original, but it duplicates as nearly as possible the original woodwork which was replaced during the 1970 restoration due to deterioration. Historic photographs were scaled and the existing elements copied to duplicate the original ornamentation.

Round arches with radiating brick voussoirs are also used for the doorways and other windows on the house. The doorways, all identical, are recessed and topped with lunette shaped glass transoms. Each door has four panels, two tall glass panels with round arched heads over two moulded wooden panels. There are three doors in the porch area, one on the side of the gable facade, and two on the broadside of the cross-wing. There is a door centered over the front porch under the center gable, and also a door and window on the side of the house. Brick quoins decorate the corners of the house and overhanging eaves emphasize the roofline.

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A one-story brick rear addition was attached to the house around 1910. It has a boxed cornice with a plain frieze and casement windows. Each side has one window and the rear facade has one door and four windows. The roof of the addition covers a part of a window in an offset gable at the rear of the house. The addition does not detract from the original historic appearance of the house.

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. 1880s **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The George Taylor, Jr., House, built in the 1880s, is significant as an important example of the cross-wing house type in Utah. The cross-wing plan, a predominant form of late nineteenth century construction, is characterized by a floorplan which has a two-room, forward-projecting wing placed across a single room side wing,¹ and is normally one-and-a-half or two stories high. Looking from above, the massing of the cross-wing house resembles either a "T" or an "L", plus it may have any number of extensions to the rear. The origins of the cross-wing house form can be traced back to the popular gable-facade, or temple-form, houses of the early and mid-nineteenth century.² Cross-wing plans were conspicuous in the house pattern books of the post-Civil War era³ and became particularly popular in the late nineteenth century Utah vernacular building tradition. The basic cross-wing house plan provided a structural form around which decorative ornament was applied from the then current range of high style designs. In Utah, the cross-wing type is often closely associated with the Italianate and Second Empire styles, but is found in a number of highly eclectic configurations. (See Appendix I)⁴ The design, ranging from the simple to the complex, could incorporate porches, bays, and turrets, and could be found with or without an internal passageway containing the staircase. The central-passage cross-wing house, of which the Taylor House is a good example, was usually larger and more elaborately embellished than other cross-wing forms. The Taylor House, which outwardly displays a combination of Victorian decorative styles, has a moderately pitched roof with a center gable and end gables ornamented with scroll-cut bargeboards and pendants that give the house a Gothic Revival identity. The design also brings together such diverse elements as quoins, round arched window and door openings, and a spindled Eastlake porch. These elements, the house plan and its particular combination of decorative ornament, make the Taylor House one of the two best examples of the important cross-wing house in Provo, and one of the best documented examples in the state.⁵ Also, the Taylor House is one of only three existing residential examples in Provo identified in a 1980 survey that have Gothic Revival trim; therefore it is important in documenting the influence of Gothic Revival architecture in Provo, and the manner in which Gothic Revival elements were applied in Utah, being utilized as decorative ornament attached to vernacular house forms.

The cross-wing house type became popular in the late nineteenth century through a process of popular selection. The house originated in the Greek temple-form house which had a front entrance on the gable facade. The cross-wing form developed as one or two side wings were added and the entrance was eventually moved to a side wing. This modified temple plan became a standard vernacular form and served as the prototype for the cross-wing plans

9. Major Bibliographical References

Carter, Tom. "Utah's Vernacular Landscape: A Preservation Method," Utah Preservation/Restoration Volume IV (in Press).
 Downing, Andrew Jackson. The Architecture of Country Houses. New York: Dover, 1969
 reprint of 1850 edition. (see continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property less than one
 Quadrangle name Provo Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>2</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification Provo City Survey
 Commencing NE corner Block 84, Plat A, thence S 99 feet, W 99.41 feet, N 99 feet, E 99.41 feet to point of beginning.

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

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code
state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Carter, Architectural Historian/ Cheryl Hartman, Research Analyst
 organization Utah State Historical Society date February 1983
 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature A. Kent Powell

title A. Kent Powell, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date 6-16-83

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Pell Grosvenor</u>	date <u>8/9/83</u>
for Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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of the house pattern books. The cross-wing type, popular in Utah, was one of the common choices available in the vernacular building tradition, and individual variety in houses was achieved by the application of decorative elements from any of, or a mixture of, the current styles.

The Taylor House is an "L" shaped cross-wing plan that has a side wing, containing one room and a central hall, which is perpendicular to a forward projecting gable wing with two rooms. Elements of the Gothic Revival style are used to ornament the house with decorative bargeboards on moderately pitched roofs, and a center gable on the cross-wing. Typical of late-nineteenth century eclecticism, round-arched windows rather than pointed Gothic windows are used on the house, and Classical Quoins and an Eastlake porch add to the architectural composition.

The original owner, George Taylor, Jr., was born on August 31, 1864 in Provo. His father, George Taylor Sr., founded the Taylor Furniture Store in 1866, the first in Provo. In 1890 the business was incorporated as the Taylor Brothers Company with George, Jr., as vice-president and his mother, Eliza Nicholls Taylor as president. The business expanded, and with new lines of products and new departments, the Taylor Brothers Company became the first big "department store" in Provo.⁶

In December of 1884, George, Jr., married Sarah Elizabeth Thomas in Manti. Sometime after, he built this house in Provo with the help of his father-in-law, a mason. In 1891 the house was sold to Joseph F. Andrew who sold it in 1894 to Joseph D. Jones, a local probate judge and entrepreneur. Jones sold the house in 1899 to John D. Dixon. The residence remained in the Dixon family until 1906 when James E. Hosmer acquired the house. Hosmer sold the house to Eliza N. Taylor, and she in turn sold it to her son George who returned in 1909 to live there until his death in December of 1941. The house presently remains in the Taylor family and is rented as offices.

Notes

¹Tom Carter, "Utah's Vernacular Landscape: A Preservation Method," Utah Preservation/Restoration Volume IV (in press).

²Henry Glassie, Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968), pp. 131-33.

³Andrew Jackson Downing, The Architecture of Country Houses (1850, reprint New York: Dover, 1969). See designs II, IV, VI, XVII, and XX.

⁴See Karl Haglund and Philip Notarianni, The Avenues of Salt Lake City (Salt Lake City: Utah State Historical Society, 1980), pp. 55-56.

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⁵The other example in Provo, the Erik Henrichsen House at 690 West 300 South, was also identified as a significant building in the Provo survey and is eligible for nomination. Other National Register examples throughout the state include the George H. and George W. Layton Houses, Davis County, the William Culmer House, Salt Lake County; David McDonald House, Salt Lake County; N. S. Nielson House, Sanpete County; Thomas Allen House, Summit County; John Boyden House, Summit County; and the William Myrick House, Summit County.

⁶J. Marinus Jensen, A.M., History of Provo (Provo: New Century Printing Company, 1924), p. 319. The Taylor Brothers Store was listed in the National Register in May of 1980 as part of the Provo Downtown Historic District.

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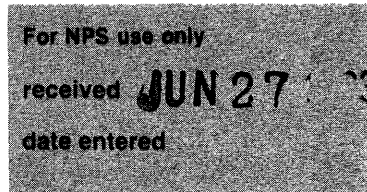
Page 2

Glassie, Henry. Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern
United States. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968.

Jensen, J. Marinus. History of Provo. Provo: New Century Printing Company, 1924.

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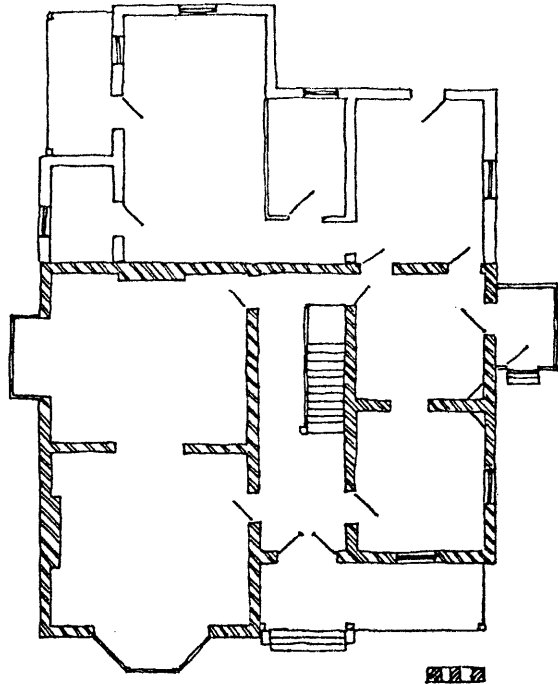
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APPENDIX I

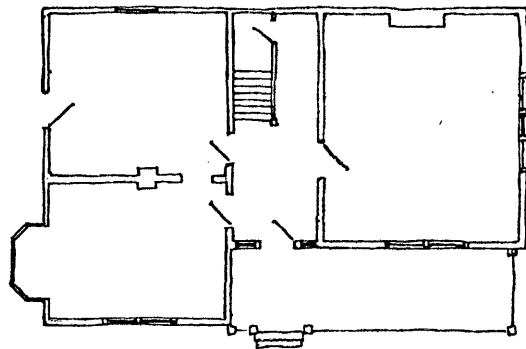
Figures 7A-F: 7A: the Horace Eldredge house, Italianate, c. 1878, West Bountiful (8/6/82); 7B: the Brice W. Sainsbury house, Second Empire, 1881, Salt Lake City (plan courtesy David Merrill); 7C: the George Taylor, Jr. home, Victorian Eclectic, c. 1885, Provo (plan courtesy Craig Call); 7D: the John Boyden house, Victorian Eclectic, 1865, remodeled to present form c. 1885, Coalville (3/80); 7E: the George W. Layton house, Victorian Eclectic, William Allen, architect, c. 1897, Layton (8/2/82); and 7F: the William Myrick house, Eastlake, 1902, Marion (8/9/82). These six Utah houses, while displaying great diversity in external stylistic features, are all examples of what I have chosen to call the "central-hall, Cross-wing" vernacular house type. The Cross-wing house is characterized by a floorplan which has a two-room, forward projecting wing placed across a side wing which contains the central hall. The type is normally found as a 1 1/2 or 2 story house and may have a side wing which is two rooms deep (7A is an example of this double-pile arrangement). Looking from above, the massing of the Cross-wing house resembles either a "T" or an "L" and may have any number of extensions to the rear (the basic house plans are shaded in the drawings). This house form was extremely popular throughout Utah during the late nineteenth-century--a popularity fueled no doubt by the house's similarity to earlier traditional models and its widespread occurrence in the pattern-book catalogues of the period. The plan was utilized in new house construction and also for the remodeling of older homes. The John Boyden house (7D) was originally a smaller 1-story brick home (shaded walls) which was enlarged in the 1880s to resemble the more prestigious Cross-wing type (facade sketches and plan drawings by author).



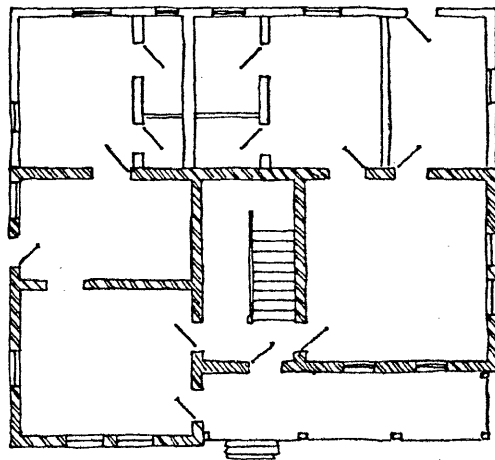
7A



7B

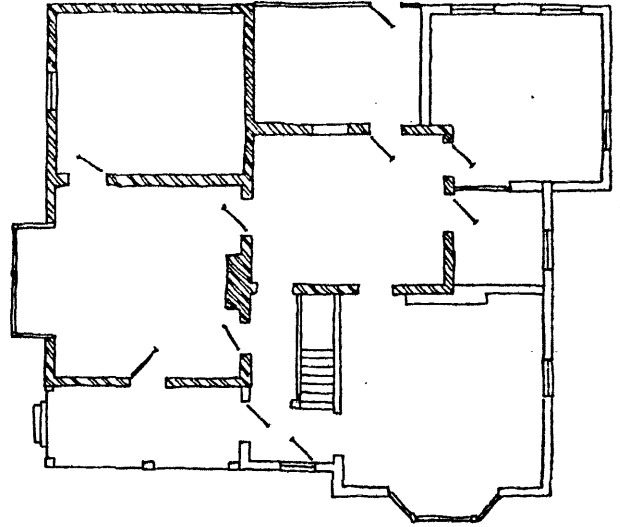


7C

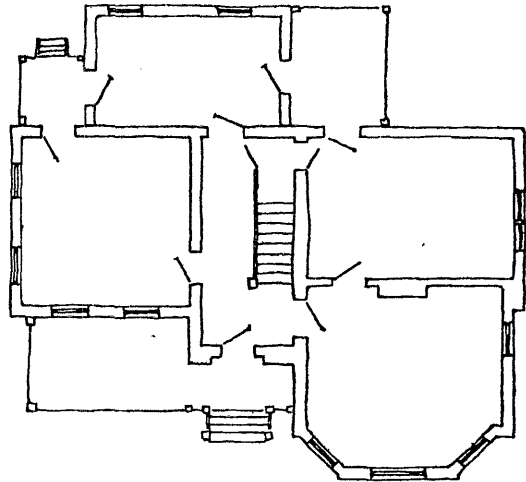




7D



7E



7F

