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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original building built for William Staines in 1857 was a two-story residence built of adobe, with a west wing running north-south containing parlor and bedrooms, and a central wing running east-west. Deviating somewhat from the strict plan of the city which ordained that all homes must be built in the center of the lot and set back 20 feet from the frontage line, Mr. Staines built his home in the center of the grounds (2 lots of 1-1/4 acres), with his orchards in the front. The next owner, Joseph A. Young, enlarged the property to three lots when he purchased the corner of the block. When Mr. William Jennings purchased the property, he enlarged the grounds to include more than half the city block.

Later Jennings added a large east wing, respecting the architecture of the original house, and transformed the informal gardens of Mr. Staines to the formal gardens befitting his palatial residence. Iron gates and carriage ways were installed and the property now consisted of the mansion, ornamental grounds, grapery, hot houses, stables and carriage house. Only the house and the much-altered stable remain.

William Paul was the architect. The home was distinctly Victorian in style, with considerable French detail, but curiously was constructed of brick masonry with cement plaster exterior finish scored to resemble stonework. Masonry bearing walls are two stories high with wood framed mansard roofs forming the third floor at the front.

A broad portico extended across the south facade and around to the east side to the dining room. A portion of this just outside the dining room was a glass-enclosed conservatory. None of this remains except the red sandstone steps to the front door.

The interior is elaborate with heavy carved pine woodwork in all major first floor rooms grained to resemble oak, mahogany, birds-eye maple and marble. Ceilings are of plaster with plaster cornices varying in size and complexity. Walls were papered. In the front stair hall and the first floor rear corridor much of the original wallpaper is intact. It was handpainted to resemble oak grain and in the front hall every seam was covered with a painted rope and tassel. Only two fireplaces remain: a white marble mantel in the southeast bedroom and an imitation marble metal mantel in the library below. At one time there were two fireplaces in the ballroom, single fireplaces in the drawing room and dining room, fireplaces or small Franklin stoves in other bedrooms and two stoves in the kitchen.

The building, though abused and neglected inside and out, is structurally sound and a surprising amount of interior detail is intact.

SIGNIFICANCE (continued):

During the depression, the J. J. Coan family lived in the mansion. Many of the treasures of the home have disappeared. However, fortunately, an authentic restoration is feasible. At present a committee consisting of representatives of the Junior League of Salt Lake City, the Utah Heritage Foundation, Salt Lake City Historic Buildings Advisory Committee, Women's Architectural League, the Utah American Institute of Archit ects, the Board of State History, and the Utah State Historical Society, is developing a program for the complete restoration of this historic structure and its setting. S

Pre-Columbian	Appropriate)	18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	le and Known) 1857		
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The "Devereaux" House lays claim to fame for two primary reasons. First of all, it was the first "mansion" in Salt Lake Valley, having been built by William Staines in 1857. Secondly, it was the center of early social life in Utah. Mr. Staines provided hospitality to such important dignitaries as General Thomas L. Kane who arrived in Salt Lake City in Pebruary, 1858, to arbitrate the "Mormon War." Governor Cumming and his lady arrived in April and were received by Brigham Young at this house, where Cumming also assumed his position as governor of the Territory of Utah.

In 1865 Mr. Staines sold his home to Brigham Young's oldest son, Joseph A., for \$20,000. Young sold the property to William Jennings, a prominent Salt Lake City merchant, for \$30,000 two years later. Jennings enlarged the property and changed the name to "Devereaux" in honor of the family estate at Yardley, near Birmingham, England.

William Jennings had two wives, Jane and Pricilla, who moved to the Devereaux House in 1867. When Pricilla died in 1871, Jane acted as mother not only to her own eleven but also to Pricilla's fourteen; however, it appears only fourteen of the children were living in 1881. Jennings entertained royally in his home, not only the "creme de la creme" of Salt Lake Valley but also distinguished national figures as well. After the Civil War Mr. William Seward, Secretary of State, visited Utah and was a guest at the Devereaux Mansion with Brigham Young. Later General Philip H. Sheridan was sent to Utah to "insure federal authority." His visit to the Jennings estate had a salutary impact for the Mormons, since Jennings was himself a polygamist.

In early October, 1875, President Ulysses S. Grant arrived in Utah and before leaving he and Mrs. Grant spent a few pleasant hours at Devereaux. Later, General William T. Sherman, accompanying President Rutherford B. Hayes, also spent time at the house. It was not uncommon for as many as 300 guests to be entertained at one time in the lovely home. Finally, other international dignitaries were occasional guests of the Jennings.

For people of early Salt Lake City, the Devereaux Mansion represented quality and affluence at its best. William Jennings became a very successful merchant, freighting goods to Utah and marketing them through his "Eagle Emporium." After his death January 15, 1886, the home served as a residence for the Jennings family until about 1900, when it was sold to Aaron Keyser and Thomas Weir. Subsequently, it served several roles, including one as a clinic for rehabilitation of alchoholics (the Keely Institute).

(continued on preceding page)

9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGRA	PHICAL RE	FERENCE	5								[
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