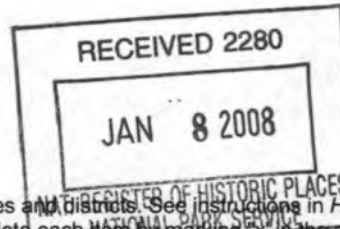
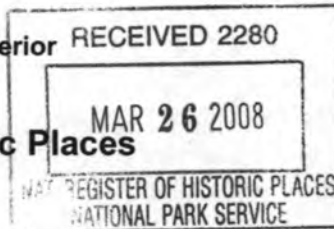


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



Reg
60

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Muir House

other name/site number Muir, Mary, House; Muir, Walter & Margaret, House; Muir, Jane, House

2. Location

street & town 145 S. Main Street ☐ not for publication

city or town Mendon ☐ vicinity

state Utah code UT county Cache code 005 zip code 84325

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title

12-31-07
Date

Utah Division of State History, Office of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.
☐ removed from the National Register.
☐ other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

[Signature]

4/4/2008

Muir House
Name of Property

Mendon, Cache County, Utah
City, County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ public-local
☒ private
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(check only one box)

- ☐ district
☒ building(s)
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
1		structures
		objects
2	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

MID 19TH CENTURY

LATE VICTORIAN

OTHER: cross wing

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls STONE

WOOD: weatherboard

roof WOOD: shingle

other _____

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 1

Muir House, Mendon, Cache County, UT

Narrative Description

The Mary Muir House is a one-story stone house, built 1869, with a frame cross-wing addition built circa 1885. The house is located at 145 S. Main Street in Mendon, Utah. About 1935, a non-contributing frame addition was built on the rear and the entire house covered in stucco. Between 2001 and 2003, the house was rehabilitated and the stucco was removed from the entire house, restoring the stone portion and the cross wing addition to their original appearance. The rehabilitation also included repair and replacement of wood siding and windows. The property includes one non-contributing outbuilding, a circa 1940 cinder-block milking barn, and a contributing structure, a stone-lined irrigation ditch. The Muir House is in excellent condition and a contributing resource in Mendon, Utah.

The original stone portion of the house is located to the south. It is a one-story classically symmetrical hall-parlor house with the ridgeline parallel to the street. The centrally placed entrance is equidistant between the two window openings, as is typical for hall-parlor houses in Utah, and is set deep in the thick stone wall. This is not typical of most early stone residences in the state, as doors and windows are usually set flush with the exterior wall. The inset doorway on the Muir House provides an indication of how thick the stone walls are. The quartzitic stone masonry for the walls is laid in a random rubble pattern with large ashlar quoins of limestone or sandstone set in alternating colors. Similar stone is implemented as lintels and sills for the fenestration on this part of the house. The foundation is of similar quartzite stone, but is now encapsulated by a concrete base.

Around 1885 a small cross-wing addition was added on the north end. The addition is frame on a stone foundation. The windows on the 1885 addition are the original two-over-two, double-hung windows. Most of the glass is also the original wavy glass; although a few damaged panes were replaced. The circa 1935 frame rear addition (which is considered non-contributing because the original stucco was removed and replaced with wood siding and it was built after the period of significance) has a concrete foundation. The rear addition has a shed roof with a small gable roof over cement steps to the root cellar. The addition was originally covered in stucco, as was the rest of the house.

The entire roof complex was covered in cedar shingles in 2001. An unstable chimneystack at the south end of the roof was removed at that time. After the stucco was removed, the original stone was cleaned and re-pointed as needed. New drop-novelty wood siding was milled to match the original, which had been damaged by rot and the application and removal of the stucco. Similar siding was also used to sheath the upper portion of the rear addition, which previously had stucco as the only wall surface. The wood siding is painted dark brown. A portion of the stone at the northwest corner was left exposed at the juncture of the two additions. A new wood cornice was installed to match the original. The wood work (e.g. cornice, lintels, casings, etc.) is painted olive green. The wood sash windows are painted yellow.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 2

Muir House, Mendon, Cache County, UT

New two-over-two, double-hung wood sash windows were installed in the stone portion, replacing non-historic replacements. Smaller two-over-two wood windows were installed in the rear addition. The house has five doors, including a plain wood door to the root cellar (west elevation). Three doors are half-glass, multi-pane wood doors. The door on the north elevation is a full-glass door. On the interior, the Muir House has 910 square feet of space. The living room is in front with a bedroom to the north. The kitchen and bathroom are in the rear addition, along with a former enclosed porch. The interior was also restored in 2002 with the removal of some non-historic finishes.

The Muir House faces east on its 1.25-acre rectangular parcel. There are numerous mature trees around the house. An early (though exact date is unknown) stone-lined irrigation ditch separates the property from the property to the north. The ditch is fed from Bird Creek, which runs along the northwest corner of the parcel, and is counted as a contributing structure. The non-contributing milking barn, a circa 1940 square, cinder-block building with a corrugated metal roof, is toward the rear of the property. The property is extensively landscaped and mostly planted with lawn between the street, house and barn. A short driveway is on the south side of the house. A narrow historic sidewalk leads from the street to the front and side (south) doors. There are flower beds around the house and a patio area in the rear. Since its restoration, the Muir House has become a contributing resource in the Mendon community.

Muir House
Name of Property

Mendon, Cache County, Utah
City, County and State

8. Description

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

EXPLORATION & SETTLEMENT

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1869-1888

Significant Dates

1867, c.1885, 1888

Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Builders: Walter Muir Jr., Thomas N. Muir

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering
Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☒ Other Name of repository:

Mendon Historic Preservation Commission

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 1

Muir House, Mendon, Cache County, UT

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Muir House, built in 1869 and expanded circa 1885 and circa 1935, is locally significant under Criterion A for its association with the development of the Mendon community from a pioneer outpost into the first half of the twentieth century. The period of significance spans from 1869 to 1888. It was during this period that Mary, the mother of the Muir family which settled in Mendon, and Walter, her son who constructed the house, occupied the house. Mary Muir was a pioneer who brought her six children to Utah in 1866. She made a modest living as a nurse and mid-wife in the community. The house was built by her son, Walter Muir, Jr., who also lived here with his family until shortly after Mary's death. Both of these family members are associated with the early settlement of Mendon. The house was later occupied by her daughter, Jane Muir, and the family of Jane's son, George. The Muir family was part of the Mendon agricultural economy, engaging in farming and dairy production, and made significant contributions to the founding and early historical development of Mendon in those areas. The house is also significant under Criterion C as a well-preserved example of, and one of only a few remaining, stone houses in Mendon. Stone was one of the most important building materials in the early settlement of Mendon, but few stone buildings have survived to the present time. The modest stone Muir House represents the type of dwellings used in early era Mendon and is a contributing resource in the community.

History of Mendon

The community of Mendon was settled in 1859 more than a decade after the arrival of members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS or Mormon Church) to the Salt Lake Valley in 1847, and about the same time as other settlements in the Cache Valley. Before that time, Native American Shoshoni used the valley for hunting and camping. Fur trappers were also frequent visitors to the area. Mendon is located eight miles west of Logan and five miles north of Wellsville, on the foothills of the Wellsville Mountains. Although Mormon settlers brought cattle to the area in 1855 and William Gardner built a cabin on the banks of Gardner's Creek, the settlement was not built until the spring of 1859, when several families, mostly immigrants from England, Scotland and Denmark, moved from the Salt Lake Valley to built cabins and a fort along present day Center Street. On December 19, 1859, the Mendon Ward of the LDS Church was organized by church leaders Orson Hyde and Ezra Benson, who named the community after his Massachusetts birthplace. A pine log school/meetinghouse was built in 1860 and a post office established in 1861 (both demolished).

On October 29, 1863, county surveyor, James Martineau drew the first town site plat, laid out in nine square blocks with a central square. Construction was immediately begun on a rock meetinghouse, which was completed on the town square in 1864. The remaining blocks were divided into eight rectangular lots measuring ten by twenty rods. The streets were six rods wide. The Mendon town site followed the "plat of Zion" recommendations espoused by LDS Church leader Brigham Young, which appeared in variations throughout the Intermountain West. Mendon was a typical Mormon settlement, with residences congregated within the town site (for security and socialization) and farm acreage in the outlying areas. Each town lot usually had a single-family dwelling uniformly set back from the street. Animal shelters and agricultural storage, along with vegetable gardens and orchards, were built at the rear of the large lots. By the mid-1860s,

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Muir House, Mendon, Cache County, UT

the log cabins were moved from the fortification to the town lots and numerous rock homes were under construction. By the late 1860s, the town had a saw mill, a grist mill, a hotel, and a general mercantile.

The city of Mendon was incorporated on April 1, 1870. Within a year, the LDS Church-owned Utah Northern Railroad began work on a rail bed over Collinston Hill into Mendon. The first depot was built on the town square (demolished). At the time, the population of Mendon was 427. Within a decade, the community moved beyond subsistence farming beginning with irrigated wheat production shipped to external markets. The narrow gauge rail line was widened in 1890 and a new depot built on the northeast edge of town (demolished). As shipping services improved, the agricultural economy of Mendon diversified to include alfalfa, sugar beets, dairy cows, and draft horses. The town had several important construction projects, most on or near the town square: Mendon Co-op (1873, demolished), Presbyterian chapel school (1883, demolished), Hyrum Stauffer store (1889, demolished), dance hall (1896, demolished), brick schoolhouse (1899, demolished), and John Anderson store (1901, demolished). The population of Mendon peaked in 1890 at 547. A spur of the Oregon Shortline Railroad (later Union Pacific) was built north to Mendon from Hyrum to complete the southern Cache Valley loop. The most important civic project of the period was the construction of a culinary water system in 1912. In 1914, Mendon high school students began attending classes at the South Cache High School in Hyrum.

In 1916, the community was changed dramatically when the electricity came to the city as part of the Utah Idaho Central Railroad's interurban electric rail line. Within a short time, most of the residents in the community had electricity in their homes. The rail line also made traveling to Hyrum easier for Mendon's high school students. A period of economic growth occurred after the completion of the UIC; however, Utah's agricultural depression of the 1920s and the national depression in the early 1930s slowed the growth of the community. Mendon's population remained steady with an average of 450 in the decades between 1910 and 1940. In 1947, the UIC discontinued service, although the freight line of the Oregon Shortline (UP) continued in operation. Agriculture remained the economic base through the 1950s and 1960s. The population was at its lowest in 1970 with a total of 345. Beginning in the 1980s, the economy of Mendon has shifted from a local agricultural economy to a bedroom community for residents employed in Logan and elsewhere in the Cache Valley. The population has steadily increased to approximately 2,000 in 2006.

History of the Mary Muir House

Mary Bell Ross Muir was born on May 9, 1815 in West Calder, Midlothian, Scotland, to John and Mary Paterson Bell. She married Walter Muir on November 15, 1835, in West Calder. Walter and Mary Muir had twelve children between 1836 and 1860, including one son who died in infancy and a daughter who died at the age of fourteen. While living in Croftshead, where Walter worked as an iron miner, the family joined the LDS Church in 1848. About the same time, Mary Bell's entire family added the name Ross to their last name. This was apparently to honor a man known as "Uncle" Robert Ross, who had paid for the schooling of Mary's

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Muir House, Mendon, Cache County, UT

younger brother in Edinburgh.¹ On August 28, 1860, two months before the birth of their twelfth child, Walter Muir died of consumption.

In 1864, Mary's daughter, Jane decided to immigrate to Utah with her husband, Thomas Nimmo Muir, whom she had married on April 20, 1860.² Jane and Thomas made this decision after they lost their first two children in childbirth. They settled in Mendon, Utah. A year later, Mary's daughter, Janet Muir, made the decision to immigrate with her husband, Thomas Johnston. They initially settled in Utah, but moved to Wyoming within a few years. In early 1866, Mary Muir began making preparations to immigrate to Utah with her six youngest children. Before the family could leave, Mary's ten year-old daughter, Elizabeth, died in March 1866. Undaunted, Mary Muir with her five children, Walter, Annie, Agnes, James and David left Scotland in May 1866. After reaching New York, they traveled by cattle boat and rail, eventually crossing the plains and arriving in the Salt Lake Valley on October 9, 1866. Throughout her life, Mary Muir was always proud that she successfully forded each river, with the exception of the Green River, unassisted except by her children, primarily her oldest son, Walter, who had turned twenty-two while on the journey.

After a few days, the family made their way to Mendon where Mary was reunited with her daughter Jane. There was little room in Jane's small house, so Mary and her children spent their first winter in Cache Valley living in a dugout. Within a year, Walter Muir had obtained Lot 7, Block 19, in Mendon's town site and began to build a stone house. He was probably assisted by his brother-in-law Thomas, who was building his own stone house at the time. The house was completed by 1869. The 1870 census enumeration of Mendon lists Walter, a farmer, as the head of household with mother Mary and two younger brothers, James and David. His sister, Agnes Muir Findley, was also living there with her infant daughter, Mary. Agnes Muir Findley had been widowed after only one year of marriage to William Findley. She later married Hyrum Richards. Annie Muir had married Kelsey Bird in 1867. Mary Muir provided a modest income for her family working as a nurse and mid-wife in the community, a skill she had learned from her mother.

On December 28, 1877, Walter Muir Jr. married Margaret Bassett. Margaret Bassett was born in Wales on September 26, 1859. Within a few years of Walter's marriage, Mary Muir moved in with her youngest son, David Muir (1860-1927), who had built a house on the adjoining lot to the north. On the 1880 census, David was employed by the railroad. He never married. After a stint in the army at the turn of the century, David lived in Mendon the rest of his life. Mary's other son, James Ross Muir, died of typhoid fever in 1882. Mary Bell Ross Muir died on November 27, 1888 and was buried in the Mendon Cemetery next to her son. A tribute of Mary Muir, written many years after her death, described her life in these terms:

Mary Bell (Ross) Muir was not unlike many other mothers in Israel whose greatest desire is to see their children strong in the gospel. She gave up her home, her family, her comfort, and everything she had previously known to give her children a greater chance to stay true to the

¹ Pamela Coleman, *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Mary Bell (Ross) Muir Home*, Draft, 2004. The legal reason for the name change is unknown, but it occasionally appears in historical records for Mary Muir and various members of her family.

² Thomas Nimmo Muir was probably a distant relative of Jane Muir, but the exact relationship could not be established by available records.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Muir House, Mendon, Cache County, UT

church. Her faith, her courage, and her dedication have left her descendants with a priceless legacy.³

It was shortly after his mother's death, that Walter Muir Jr. moved his family to Salem, Idaho. Walter and Margaret Muir had five children born in Mendon and five born in Salem. Walter and Margaret Muir remained in Idaho until their deaths in 1909 and 1929 respectively. In November 1892, Walter and Margaret Muir sold the Mendon property to Walter's brother-in-law, Thomas Muir for \$250. It is unclear who occupied the house after Walter and Margaret moved to Idaho. Thomas and Jane Muir may have lived there after their oldest son Thomas Johnston Muir married Mary Longstroth in 1893.⁴ However, by the time of the 1900 census, Thomas and Jane Muir are listed in Logan where Thomas is serving as a commissioner. The available Mendon census enumeration have no street names or addresses, so it could not be determined who might have been living in the house in 1900. In 1904, Thomas and Jane were divorced. Jane Muir received the Mendon property in the settlement and moved back to Mendon. Thomas Nimmo Muir remained in Logan where he died in 1917.

Jane Muir is listed living alone on the 1910, 1920 and 1930 census enumerations of Mendon. She died at the age of ninety-four on October 11, 1934. Jane Muir is buried in the Mendon Cemetery. In August 1935, the property was deeded to her son, George Muir. It is not clear whether George Muir lived in the house. After his wife, Mary Rose Ellen Ladle, died after the birth of her eighth child in Idaho in 1917, George Muir returned to live in Mendon with his family where he worked the family farm. He is listed as a renter on the 1920 and 1930 census enumeration and may have moved into his mother's home soon after her death. Unfortunately, he died in a drowning accident in November 1935, only three months after receiving the deed. The property passed to his children who sold it to a brother, Eddis Muir, and his wife, Lorraine in 1942. Eddis and Lorraine probably made several improvements to the property, including the milking barn in the rear. The Muir family lived there until May 1949, when they sold it to Angus and Maxine Bingham. The property stayed with the Bingham family until 1995 when it was sold to Wayne and Amber Myers. The Myers sold the property to the current owners, Clay and Pamela Coleman, in 2001. By the time the Colemans bought the property, the only remaining outbuilding was the barn. They removed the stucco and restored the home between 2001 and 2003.

Architecture

The Muir House, built in 1867, is one of only ten recognizable stone houses remain to represent the early pioneer period in Mendon. The house has been restored to its 1885 appearance, when a frame cross-wing addition was constructed. The building of stone houses in Mendon may have been a response to a speech given by LDS Church leader, Brigham Young, during a visit to the Cache Valley in June 1860. Young asked the assembly, "What are you going to build with? Log buildings do not make a sightly city. We should like to see buildings that are ornamental and pleasing to the eye, as well as convenient and commodious."⁵ Mendon residents had failed to find suitable clay for adobe or fired bricks in the area. Lumber was difficult to procure and the early sawmills could barely produce enough wood for shingles, rafters, and flooring. On a return visit

³ Robyn Golding, "Scottish Mother of Israel," *Mormon Heritage Magazine*, March/April 1994.

⁴ A historic photograph shows the Thomas Johnston Muir family standing in front of a stone house circa 1909 at about the time they built a new frame house at 97 S. 100 West.

⁵ *Journal of Discourses*, Volume 8, 79. Quoted in Carter, [2].

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Muir House, Mendon, Cache County, UT

to the Cache Valley in 1864, Brigham Young asked, "Why not quarry rock and build stone houses and make rock fences?"⁶ A canyon in the nearby Wellsville Mountains provided a rock quarry. The stone, a metamorphic, quartzitic-sand variety, was easily quarried by local residents, but proved difficult to work. Isaac Sorensen recorded that it took 400 perch to erect a two-story home and the effort was considered "a great amount of work to do in one year."⁷

Sorensen's account and other records suggest that most of the stone houses in Mendon were built by the residents themselves. Two stonemasons from Logan, Robert Crookston and Robert Murdock, were called to supervise the masonry work on the Mendon meetinghouse, and may have provided technical advice or assistance to Mendon men building homes at the same time. The building of the chapel would have provided the local workmen with valuable experience and photographs of the now demolished chapel show masonry techniques similar to those found in the surviving residences. The census records provide the names of two stone masons living in Mendon, Richard Mills and James Hannock, who may have been available for hire.

Four stone houses in Mendon have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places: the James Gardner House at 173 N. Main Street, built circa 1868 (NR 1982-02-11); the George W. Baker House, built in 1869, at 115 N. 100 West (NR 1893-02-10); the Samuel Baker House, built circa 1870, at 150 W. 200 North (1983-03-31); and the James G. Willie House at 97 N. 100 West, built circa 1866 (NR 1983-04-13). No other houses in Mendon have been listed on the National Register since these four in the early 1980s.⁸

The appearance of stone houses in Mendon in the late 1860s made an impression on one early visitor writing for the *Deseret News*:

Mendon is one of the most thriving little settlements in all this north country. The people here are pre-eminently progressive. Three years ago I last visited this place. At that time, if my memory serves me right, there were none but log houses in the settlement, now I can count upward of *twenty good substantial rock houses*. [Italics added].⁹

The total number of stone buildings in Mendon was between thirty and forty by 1890 when the popularity of stone masonry was replaced by brick and frame construction methods.

Originally constructed 1867-69 as a hall-parlor residence, common throughout the territory, the Muir House received a small cross-wing addition to the north circa 1885. The hall-parlor type is recognize by a symmetrical placement of fenestration on the primary façade—typically in a window/door/window pattern—the door being centrally placed. What is somewhat unique about the Muir House is the front door which is set into the wall approximately 1 ½ feet, which provides an indication of how thick the stone walls are. Typically, the window and doors are set flush with the exterior wall.

⁶ Quoted in Carter, [3].

⁷ Ibid. Quarried stone was measured in perch, a unit consisting of about 16½ cubic feet of stone.

⁸ The Mendon Elementary School was listed on the National Register, but recently demolished. Nominations for three other stone houses are currently in process. Neither these three nor the four listed have frame additions similar to the Mary Muir House.

⁹ *Deseret News*, December 17, 1870. Reprinted January 5, 1871.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Muir House, Mendon, Cache County, UT

The cross-wing addition was a typical modification in the late-nineteenth century to add room to houses that had little living space. The cross wing house plays a ubiquitous role in Utah. Because Mormon town planning based on Joseph Smith's "Plat of the City of Zion" was promoted, nucleated villages were set up in a grid-iron fashion as was the case in Mendon. With a prescribed number of lots per block, housing, a garden, and a small family farm were incorporated into each homestead.

Houses were usually placed at the corner of the lot nearest the intersection of the streets which left two sides of the house as potential formal facades. With symmetry being a principle concern in the design of a house, the ambiguity of placement was somewhat disconcerting to the designers. But house builders devised solutions that were also in keeping with changing architectural trends. By adding another wing to the common single-cell or hall-parlor, another less-formal facade was created so that there was now an entrance onto both streets. With the addition of the wing the classical form of the house was altered to a Victorian type. Thus, not only was space increased, but the entire appearance of the house was updated as well.¹⁰ The familiar, and proven, hall parlor plan was maintained with the addition of another room, usually in the form of a kitchen.

The Muir House is not on a corner lot, so the addition of the cross wing did not create a design conundrum regarding the design complexities of two formal facades. It is obvious that the primary reason for the cross-wing addition was to increase interior space in a way that was the current trend in home additions. Unlike many examples throughout Utah on corner properties where the cross-wing addition is the most ornate part of the house, the wood-frame cross-wing added to the Muir house was the least expensive and most expedient way to expand the house, and has a very modest appearance.

By approximately 1880, cross wings were being constructed as a general type, rather than just as additions to previously existing homes, although cross-wing additions continued to be a popular way to update and enlarge an existing home. The cross wing ushered in the Victorian house type in Utah that would dominate through the first decade of the twentieth century.

Summary

The Mary Muir House represents the contributions of Mary Muir and her descendants to founding and subsequent historical development of Mendon. The house is an interesting example of how a pioneer-era stone residence underwent a transformation to a stucco cottage in the late 1930s and then restored to its historic appearance in 2002.

¹⁰ Keith Bennett & Thomas Carter, "Houses with Two Fronts: The Evolution of Domestic Architectural Design in a Mormon Community," *Journal of Mormon History*, Volume 15, (Provo, UT: Mormon History Association, 1989, 49-50).

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Muir House, Mendon, Cache County, UT

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Larsen, Valerie. Interviews conducted by author, Mendon, Utah, June-July, 2007.

Logan Daily Herald.

Mendon Historical Society website. Various links.

Peterson, F. Ross. *A History of Cache County*. Utah Centennial County History Series, Utah State Historical Society. Salt Lake City, Utah: Utah State Historical Society, 1996.

Sorensen, Isaac. *Isaac Sorensen's History of Mendon: A Pioneer Chronicle of a Mormon Settlement*. Edited by Doran J. Baker, Charles S. Peterson, Gene A. Ware. Salt Lake City, Utah: Published by Cache County Historical Preservation Commission and Utah State Historical Society; Publishers Press, 1988.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 9 Page 2

Muir House, Mendon, Cache County, UT

United States Census Enumerations, *Mendon, Utah, 1860 - 1930*.

Utah History Encyclopedia, Allan Kent Powell, ed. Salt Lake City, Utah: University of Utah Press, 1994.

Utah State Gazetteers, 1900 – 1928. Published by R.L. Polk & Co. Available at the Utah State Historical Society and the Marriott Library, University of Utah.

Willie, Paul. "Mendon's Stone Houses." Unpublished TMs, [2000]. Available at the Utah State Historic Preservation Office.

Muir House
Name of Property

Mendon, Cache County, Utah
City, County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.25 acres

UTM References

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

1 1/2 4/1/8/7/6/0 4/6/1/7/2/6/0
Zone Easting Northing

2 / / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

3 / / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

4 / / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

LOT 7 BLK 19 PLAT A MENDON CITY SE/4 SEC 8 T 11N R 1W

Property Tax No. 11 - 021 - 0006

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The current boundaries are identical to the original boundaries when the title was first deeded.

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Korral Broschinsky, Preservation Documentation Resource
organization prepared for the Mendon Historic Preservation (CLG) Commission date November 29, 2007
street & number P.O. Box 58766 telephone (801) 913-5645
city or town Salt Lake City state UT zip code 84158

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs: Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items: (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

name/title Pamela & Clay Coleman
street & number 145 S. Main Street telephone (435) 787-1379
city or town Mendon state UT zip code 84325

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. PHOTOS Page 1

Muir House, Mendon, Cache County, UT

Common Label Information:

1. Muir House
2. Mendon, Cache County, Utah
3. Photographer: Korral Broschinsky
4. Date: 2007
5. Digital images on file at Utah SHPO.

Archival Photographs (Printed using archival paper and ink at the Utah SHPO)

Photo No. 1

6. East and south elevations of house. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 2

6. North elevation of house. Camera facing south.

Photo No. 3

6. East and north elevations of outbuilding. Camera facing southwest.

Supplemental Photographs

Photo No. 4

6. East elevation of house. Camera facing southwest.

Photo No. 5

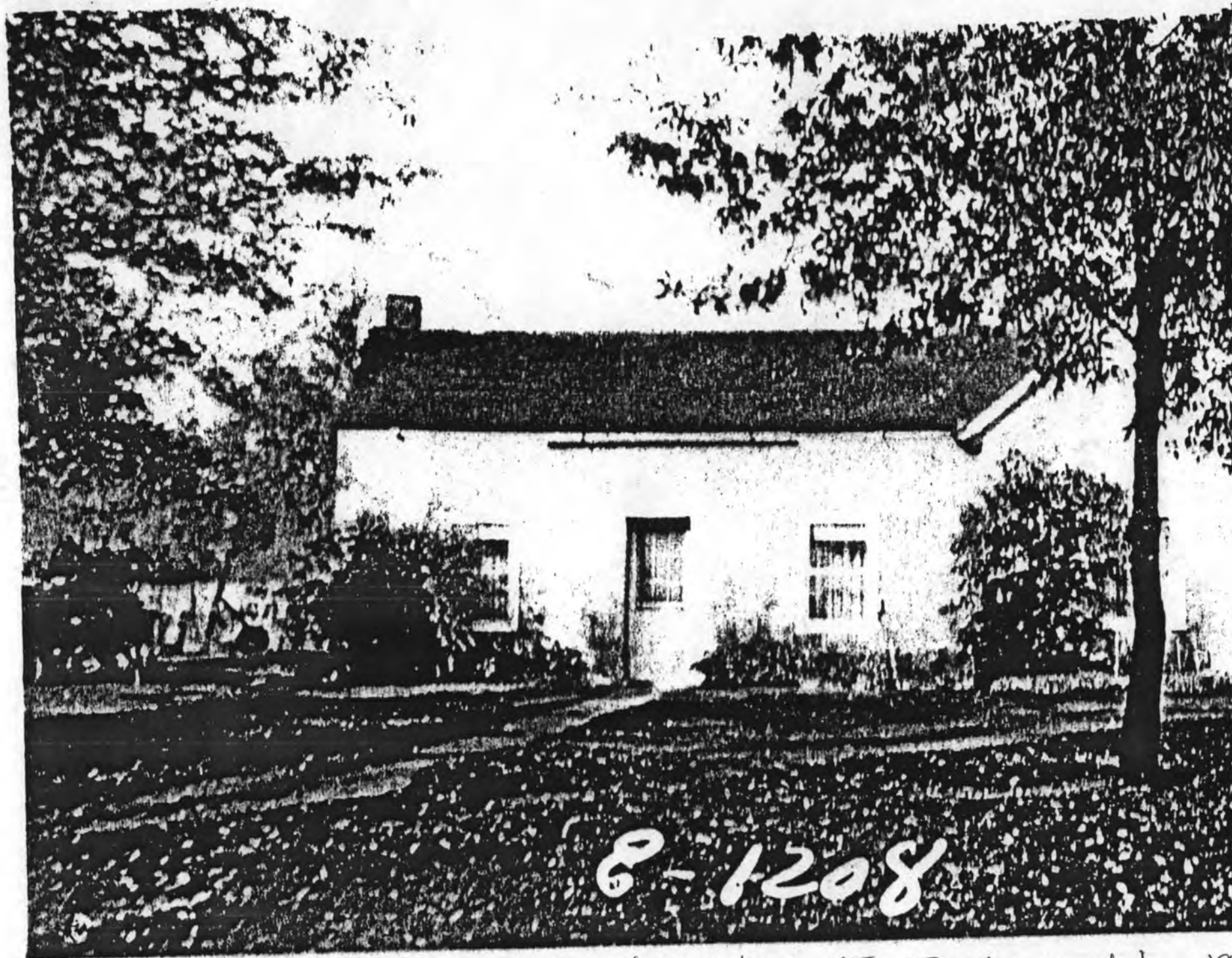
6. View of irrigation ditch and north elevation of house. Camera facing east.

Photo No. 6

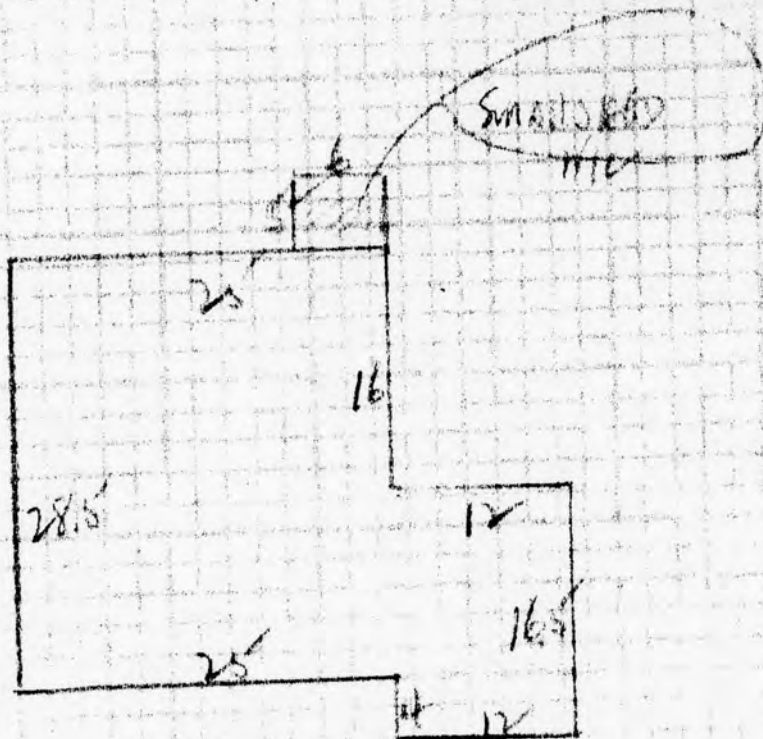
6. North elevation of addition and west elevation of house. Camera facing north.

Photo No. 7

6. West elevation of house. Camera facing east.



Muir House, Mendon, Cache Co., UT Tax Assess. photo c. 1930's?



SMARTER
HILL

SCALE:

145' 5" Main

Muir House, Mendon, Cache Co., UT
Tax Assess. Footprint

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Muir House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: UTAH, Cache

DATE RECEIVED: 1/08/08
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/14/08
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/30/08
DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/21/08

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08000060

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RETURN

SEE ATTACHED COMMENTS

RECOM./CRITERIA RETURN

REVIEWER PAUL R. LUSIGNAU

DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 2/21/2008

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments (Y/N) see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

MUIR HOUSE
Cache County, UT

National Register of Historic Places - Return Comments:

The current documentation is being returned for technical revisions. The basic documentation meets the requirements for National Register listing and approval will be completed upon correction of the items noted below and resubmission of the nomination to the National Register.

Category of Property

The correct category for the property should be noted as *Building*. Only one category should be selected per nomination.

Resource Count:

The *Resource Count* should be revised to change the circa 1940 milking barn from a contributing building to a noncontributing building. The resource was built after the revised period of significance and has no association to the significant themes identified in the nomination. (See Significance below)

Description:

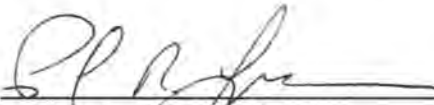
The narrative description is weak, particularly for such a small, simple structure such as this. Elements such as window placement and lintel type, or the nature of the deep set door openings for example would appear to be worthy of note and inclusion. The photographic coverage of the site does mitigate some of the lack of a detailed description.

Significance:

The Period of Significance should be revised to read: 1869—1888, and the Significant Dates: 1869, 1885, & 1888. The period of significance should begin with the completion of the house, not the date of lot purchase and the start of construction, unless clear evidence is provided that the family lived in the building during rudimentary construction. Regarding the end date, the current nomination fails to justify a period of significance ending in 1949 under the contexts of Exploration/Settlement or Architecture. The period associated with the early development of the community of Mendon and the earliest pioneer settlement of the community effectively ended with the date Walter Muir moved out of the house circa 1888 after the death of his mother. Both of the Muirs were closely associated with the early settlement and development of the small agricultural community. Subsequent owners and residents, while variously associated with the Muir family, did not share these same associations and significance. Mere continued use by a single family is insufficient grounds for significance under the themes identified. An end date of 1888 would include the circa 1885 frame additions to the house to illustrate the architectural character of local nineteenth century settlement and early growth.

The current nomination also fails to make a case for the architectural significance of the post-1885 additions to the property. The architectural evolution of the property is not placed in context with the general architectural development of the community during the twentieth century. In addition, it would appear that the 1935 addition fails to retain physical integrity from its construction period with the removal of its original stucco cladding. Likewise, the circa 1940 barn is not associated with the themes of nineteenth century settlement and exploration or architecture.

If you have questions regarding these comments, please contact me directly at the number listed below.



Paul R. Lusignan, Historian
(for) Keeper of the National Register
(202) 354-2229

2/21/2008
Date

s:\nr\lusi\muir2.rtn

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Muir House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: UTAH, Cache

DATE RECEIVED: 3/26/08

DATE OF 16TH DAY:

DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

DATE OF PENDING LIST:

DATE OF 45TH DAY:

5/09/08

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08000060

DETAILED EVALUATION:

___ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT ___ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Muir House meets National Register Criteria A and C at the local level in the areas of Exploration/Settlement and Architecture. The modest stone and frame dwelling was completed in 1869 (addition 1885) and represents a rare extant illustration of early settlement era construction within the small, nineteenth-century, Mormon farming community of Mendon, Utah.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criteria A+C

REVIEWER PAUL LUSIGNAN

DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 4/4/2008

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



① Muir House
Mendon, Cache Co., UT



② Muir House
Mendon, Cache Co., UT



③ Muir House
Mendon, Cache Co., UT



MUIR HOUSE

PHOTO 4

MENDON, CACHE CO., UT



PHOTO 5

MUIR HOUSE
MENDON, CACHE CO., UT



MUIR HOUSE

PHOTO 6

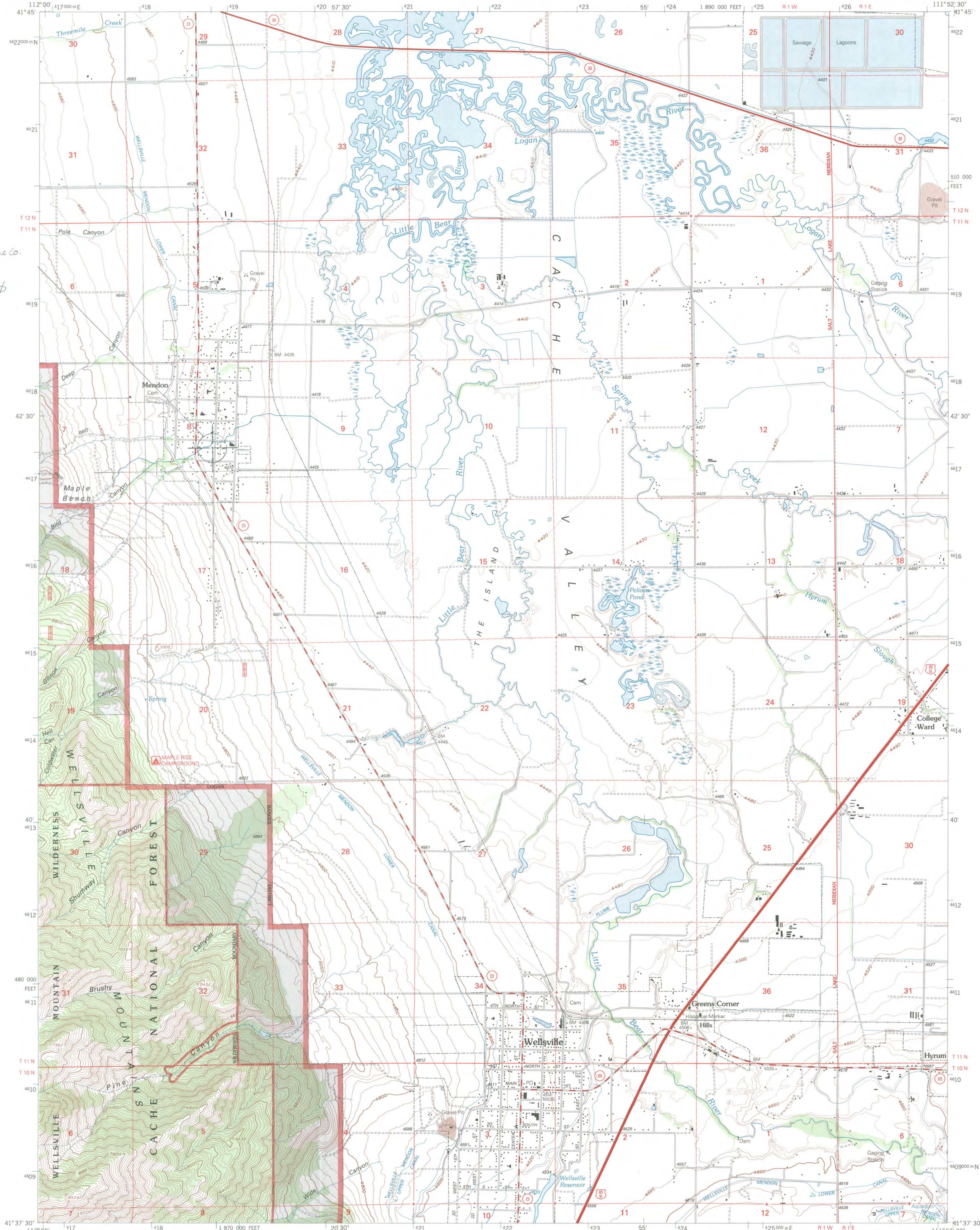
MENDON, CACHE CO., UT



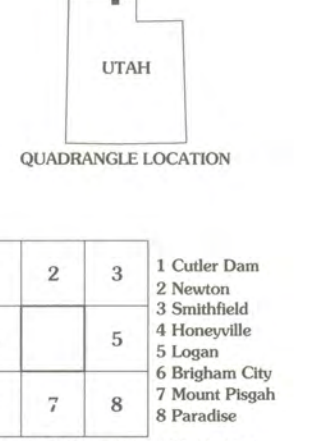
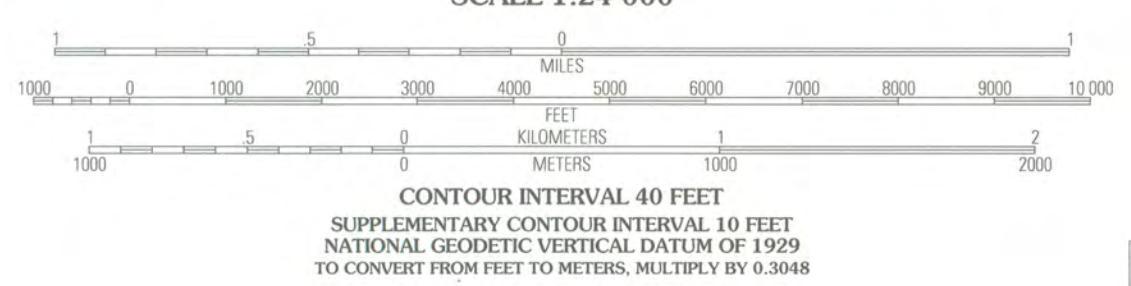
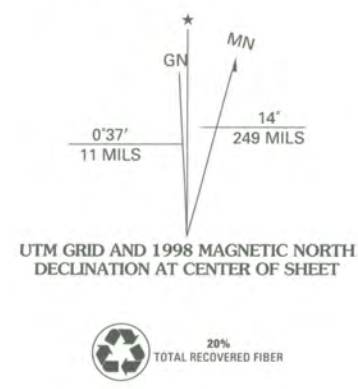
MUIR HOUSE
MENDON, CACHE CO., UT

PHOTO 7

Muir House
Mendon, Cache Co.
Zone 12
E) 418760φ
N) 461726φ



Produced by the United States Geological Survey 1986
Revision by USDA Forest Service 1998
Topography compiled 1962. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1997 and other sources. Public Land Survey System and survey control current as of 1998.
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 10 000-foot ticks: Utah coordinate system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic). Blue 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator ticks, zone 12.
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software.
Non-National Forest System lands within the National Forest. Inholdings may exist in other National or State reservations.
This map is not a legal land line or ownership document. Public lands are subject to change and leasing, and may have access restrictions; check with local offices. Obtain permission before entering private lands.



HIGHWAYS AND ROADS	
Interstate	1
U. S.	2
State	3
County	4
National Forest, suitable for passenger cars	5
National Forest, suitable for high clearance vehicles	6
National Forest Trail	7
Primary highway	8
Secondary highway	9
Light-duty road	10
Composition: Unspecified	11
Paved	12
Gravel	13
Dirt	14
Unimproved; 4 wheel drive	15
Trail	16
Gate; Barrier	17

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

WELLSVILLE, UT
1998
NIMA 3667 III NW-SERIES V897





State of Utah

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Community and Culture

PALMER DePAULIS
Executive Director

State History

PHILIP F. NOTARIANNI
Division Director



March 24, 2008

JANET MATTHEWS
KEEPER
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
1201 EYE STREET NW, 8th FLOOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Matthews:

Enclosed please find the resubmitted registration form and documentation, for which recommended revisions/corrections have been made, for the following nomination:

Muir House

Mendon, Cache Co.

Also included is a copy of the evaluation/return sheet and return comments for your information.

Thank you for your assistance with this nomination. Please contact me at 801/533-3559 or coryjensen@utah.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

J. Cory Jensen
Architectural Historian
National Register Coordinator
Office of Historic Preservation

Enclosures
STATE HISTORY

UTAH STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANTIQUITIES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
RESEARCH CENTER & COLLECTIONS

300 S. RIO GRANDE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84101-1182 - TELEPHONE 801 533-3500 - FACSIMILE 801 533-3503 - HISTORY.UTAH.GOV



State of Utah

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

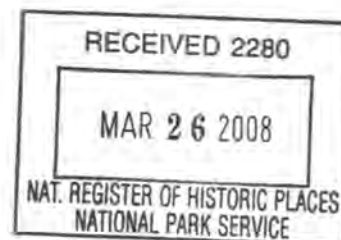
GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Community and Culture

PALMER DePAULIS
Executive Director

State History

PHILIP F. NOTARIANNI
Division Director



TO: Janet Matthews, Keeper,
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Cory Jensen, National Register Coordinator
Utah State Historic Preservation Office

SUBJECT: National Register Nomination

The following materials are submitted on this 25th day of March, 2008,
for the nomination of the Muir House
to the National Register of Historic Places:

- 1 Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form
- Multiple Property Nomination form
- 3 Photograph(s) (archival)
- 4 Photograph(s) (supplemental)
- CD-R w/Image Files
- 1 Original USGS Map
- 1 Sketch map(s)/figure(s)
- Pieces of Correspondence
- 1 Other Photocopy of historical photograph

COMMENTS: Resubmission of nomination returned for corrections. CD-R containing image files was retained by the National Register and not returned with the nomination packet. Please review.

STATE
HISTORY

UTAH STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANTIQUITIES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
RESEARCH CENTER & COLLECTIONS

For questions please contact Cory Jensen at 801/533-3559, or coryjensen@utah.gov