ATIONAL RE	PHOGG3 ES DEPARTMENT OF THE IN NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CGISTER OF HISTORI RY NOMINATION I	terior CPLACES	FOR NPS USE ONLY DAT RECEIVED FEB 2 7 1978 DATE ENTERED JUN	A_SHEET. 1 3 1978
S	EE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T			IS
1 NAME	TYPE ALL ENTRIES (LICABLE SECTIONS	
HISTORIC	VALASCO FARR HOUSE			
AND/OR COMMO	N William Fife House		······	
2 LOCATI				
STREET & NUMB			NOT FOR PUBLICATION	1
CITY, TOWN	Ogden	VICINITY OF	CONGRESSIONAL DIST	RICT
STATE	Utah	CODE 049	COUNTY Weber	CODE 057
3 CLASSIF	بالمتعادية والمتكافية المترافية فيتفاقيه سناك أغميتها أوي مهيا الأنبية بتقارك والترتب والكافية			
CATEGOR DISTRICT XBUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT	PUBLIC PUBLIC 	STATUS Xoccupied UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRI ACCESSIBLE XYES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICT NO	AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL ESSEDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMEN GOVERNMENT	SENT USE MUSEUM PARK YPRIVATE RESIDE TRELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATIO OTHER:
	OF PROPERTY			v
STREET & NUMB	Gene Taylor West ^{ER} 133 "M" Street			·
CITY, TOWN	Salt Lake City		STATE Utah	84103
5 LOCATI	ON OF LEGAL DESCR			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DE	Mahar			
STREET & NUMB	er 24th S	treet and Wasl	hington Blvd.	
CITY, TOWN	Ogden		state Utah	
6 REPRES	ENTATION IN EXIST	ING SURVE	YS	
DATE	Utah Historic Sites S	urvey	······································	
DEPOSITORY FO	October 1977	FEDE	RAL X_STATECOUNTYLOCA	AL
SURVEY RECORD		Society	STATE	
CITY, TOWN	Salt Lake City		SiAle Il t ah	

7 DESCRIPTION

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CON	DITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	ORIGINAL SITE
GOOD FAIR	RUINS UNEXPOSED	ALTERED	MOVED DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house was built on a portion of the property deeded to Ogden's first Mayor, Lorin Farr, by Ulysses S. Grant. The house is a Queen Anne Brick Cottage built in 1887. The architect was William Wilson Fife, a brother-in-law of the original owner, Valasco Farr. W. W. Fife was a well known architect in Weber County being responsible for many buildings in that area. His accomplishments include, City Hall, Ogden; Ogden High School, North Ogden; the Fifth Ward Institute and Theatre; the John Cortez Block, Ogden; Lincoln Hotel, Ogden; residences of Lorin Farr and Joseph Stanford, Ogden, and many other stores, office buildings, banks, churches and residences to which reference can be made.

W. W. Fife served his apprenticeship under his father, William Nicole Fife, Weber County's first professional architect. He soon became a partner and when he was fifteen, he was made a clerk. Two years later, he took over the drafting department and shortly afterward his father retired, leaving his business entirely to his son. W. W. Fife played a large part in the architecture which can still be seen in Ogden today.

The house is a one story cottage, which was once the heart of a three acre farm, producing fruit and vegetables. Gene Taylor, who is restoring the 90 year old house, says the structure is sound and the house does not need alot of remodeling. Mr. Taylor has only remodeled the interior as far as improving the heating and plumbing systems, restoring the wood to its original finish, adding authentic patterned wall paper and new floor coverings. On the exterior, he has repaired three porches and installed new windows and new white shutters. Mr. West says his goal is to restore the house as closely as possible to its original condition. He has also stripped the outside of fake veneer to reveal lovely old red brick in need of only cleaning and repairing in a few places. The windows have retained their original colored glass insets and the house has its original turned posts and cornice trim.

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8 SIGN	IFICANCE			
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PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS		POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
	•	INVENTION	$(x_1, x_2) \in (X_1, X_2) $	
SPECIFIC DAT	ES <u>1887</u>	BUILDER/ARCH	HTECT William Wilson	Fife

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is significant historically as well as architecturally. It's historical importance lies in the fact that it's original owner, Valasco Farr was the son of Lorin Farr, Ogden's first Mayor. The Farr family was well known in Ogden's political, busi-ness, and religious circles. In 1850, Lorin Farr was sent by Brigham Young to Ogden to preside over the Saints in the Ogden area. He was also well known in the railroad industry, having supervised the building of many of northern Utah's railroads.

Architecturally, the house is significant because it was designed by William Wilson Fife, son of pioneer architect, William Nicol Fife. W. N. Fife was Weber County's first professional architect, and his son, W. W. Fife was Utah's first native born architect. W. W. Fife designed many buildings of importance in and around Ogden. Ogden City Hall and the Scowcroft Block are among his many accomplishments.

Valasco Farr's wife, Diana D. Fife was W. W. Fife's sister. The family ties which bring these two men together are best illustrated in the Valasco Farr House, a house which directly links these two famous men and their families.

HISTORY

Valasco Farr the original owner of the house was the son of Lorin Farr, an early Utah pioneer. Lorin Farr was born on July 27, 1820 in Waterford, Vermont. He accepted the faith of the Latter-Day Saints and helped establish their community at Nauvoo, Illinois. In Nauvoo, he became close to Brigham Young, and in January 1845, Young married Farr and his first wife, Nancy B. Chase. Lorin Farr was among the first group of pioneers to enter the Salt Lake Valley in September 1847. He lived in Salt Lake until 1850, when Brigham Young called Farr to establish a community at Ogden. In Ogden, Lorin Farr became the first President of the Weber Stake of Zion and served in this position for 22 years. Aside from his mission to Europe from 1870 to 1871, Farr spent the remainder of his life in Ogden.

In 1851, he married Sarah Giles in Ogden. Farr married three more times; in 1852, Olive Ann Jones (Valasco Farr's mother); in 1854, Mary Bingham Snow; and in 1857, Nicholine Erickson. Lorin Farr and his five wives had a total of 36 children.

Aside from his many church related activities, Lorin Farr was well known in the political and business worlds. He was the representative from Weber County to the Territorial Legislature for 28 years, from when it was first organized. He was the first mayor of Ogden, being elected for ten consecutive terms (20 years) and six years later he was

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	<u>Less than one a</u>	<u>c</u> re.		
	, Utah		QUADRANGLE S	CALE 1:24,000
UTM REFERENCES 4 60 A 1 2 4 1 9 4 4 6 ZONE EASTING	415 615 41310	B ZONE		
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GLII		нЦЦ		
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIP	TION			
LIST ALL STATES AND CO	DUNTIES FOR PROPERT	IES OVERLAPP	ING STATE OR COUNT	YBOUNDARIES
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
11 FORM PREPARED E		earcher and	Wilson G. Mart	in, Preservation Plnr
ORGANIZATION	, <u> </u>		DATE	
Utah State Histori	.cal Society		Januar	<u>ry 27, 1978</u>
603 East South Tem	ple		533-5	
CITY OR TOWN Salt Lake City			state Utah	84102
12 STATE HISTORIC P	RESERVATION	N OFFICE	R CERTIFICA	TION
THE EVALUA	TED SIGNIFICANCE OF	THIS PROPERT	Y WITHIN THE STATE	IS:
NATIONAL	STAT	E	LOCAL	X
As the designated State Historic Pres hereby nominate this property for in criteria and procedures set forth by th STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFIC	clusion in the Nati on al R ne National Park Service.	equister/and cert	tify that it has been ev	i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i
TITLE Michael D. Galliva	an, Executive Dire		DATE	February 8, 1978
FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PI	ROPERTY IS INCLUDED			dialas
ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL R	IEGISTER	1 st	DATE	6.5.78

GPO 921-803

CONTINUATION SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



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re-elected for another term. He was also involved in the expanding railroad system in Utah. He superintended the building of 200 miles of the Central Pacific Railroad and also helped in the building of the Utah Northern Railroad to Brigham City.

He lived with his third wife, Olive Ann Jones on a farm outside Ogden. There the family raised corn, wheat, beans, potatoes and other vegetables. Olive Ann Jones, Valasco's mother, was born in June 1829 in Wallingford, Connecticut. She moved with her family to Utah in 1850. She lived in Bountiful, Utah until she married Lorin Farr in February 1852. Olive Ann was known as a good student and was often called a "walking spelling book", since her family claimed she could spell any word. She was also known as an excellent seamstress and cook. She often helped her husband's other wives with their households and children. She died in Ogden on September 19, 1914. Lorin Farr died on January 13, 1909 in Ogden.

Valasco Farr was the second child of Lorin Farr's third polygamous marriage to Olive Ann Jones. He was born in Ogden on August 29, 1855. He had many happy memories of his childhood, growing up on his father's farm and helping at the family molasses factory. At various times in his life he was engaged in farming, fruit growing and the ice business. On February 24, 1881 he married Diana Davis Fife in Salt Lake City.

Diana Davis Fife was born October 7, 1859 in Ogden, Utah. She was the daughter of Dana Davis Fife and William Nicole Fife, an early Utah pioneer. William Nicole Fife was a noted architect, responsible for many buildings in Salt Lake City and Ogden. William N. Fife was also the first professional architect in Weber County. His eldest son, (Diana's brother), William Wilson Fife (1857–1897) was perhaps Utah's first native born architect of significance. He designed Ogden's City Hall, the Scowcroft Block, the Utah Loan and Trust Company Building in Ogden, to mention just a few. William Wilson Fife, designed the home of his sister and brother-in-law, the Valasco Farr home in 1887.

Diana Davis Fife Farr and Valasco Farr had seven children. Diana Farr was active in the L.D.S. Church affairs. She died at the age of 44 of stomach cancer at her home in Ogden on May 18, 1904. Valasco Farr was a member of the High Priests Quorum of the L.D.S. Stake. He died at the age of 82, on December 12, 1937 in Ogden.

Valasco Farr continued to live in the house after his wife's death. When he died in 1937, the house passed into the hands of his son, Melvin Farr. Today, the house is owned by Mrs. William E. McHenry. Mrs. McHenry's brother, Gene Taylor West, has done much restoration work on the house and has researched the history of the house.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



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Lorin Farr Pioneer, T. Earl Pardoe, 1953, BYU Press, Provo, Utah.

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