



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

732

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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 Grafton Historic District

other name/site number _____

2. Location

street name _____ not for publication

city or town Rockville vicinity

state Utah code UT county Washington code 053 zip code 84763

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] Date 7/26/2010

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] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 9-9-10
Edson H. Beall

Grafton Historic District
Name of Property

Rockville, Washington County, Utah
City, County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(check only one box)

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

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
10	1	buildings
6		sites
		structures
	1	objects
16	2	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
- EDUCATION, RELIGION: school, religious facility
- AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE: storage, animal facility

Current Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT / NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

- MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival
- OTHER: Vernacular Classical
- OTHER: Vernacular Outbuildings

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation STONE: sandstone, basalt (lava rock)
- walls ADOBE, BRICK, WOOD: log, 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

Grafton Historic District, Rockville, Washington County, UT

Narrative Description

Overview

The Grafton Historic District encompasses the entire town site of Grafton, Utah, settled in late 1861 and abandoned in 1945.¹ Cultural and natural resources include residences, outbuildings, a schoolhouse/meeting house, foundations, fields and orchards, roads, fences, and a system of irrigation ditches and related walls. Fifteen contributing resources remain from the agricultural community: four residences, a church/school building, five agricultural outbuildings (barns, granaries), and five visible building foundations/sites, and the footings for a bridge. There is one noncontributing building, a more recent wooden privy, and one object, a mobile home.

Grafton is a small, abandoned Mormon settlement nestled along the Virgin River, approximately two miles from the southern border of Zion National Park in southern Utah, and two miles west of downtown Rockville. It is now incorporated within the Rockville town boundaries. Grafton is located one mile up the river from the original town site ("Old Grafton") that was settled in 1859 and abandoned in January of 1862, as the result of destruction by recurring floods of the nearby Virgin River. The only public building, the church/school/meeting house, is located at the intersection on the north end of town, near the river. This farming hamlet sits to the south and west of the Virgin River below steep rugged sandstone cliffs that are accessed through a maze of deep arroyos (dry river beds) south of town. It is a desert landscape and fields must be irrigated for crops and cattle grazing fodder.

The town can presently be accessed by vehicle only from Bridge Road over the Rockville Bridge (NR listed 8/4/1995) in Rockville. The road is paved for a short distance after crossing the Virgin River, but most of its length is unpaved. Grafton is laid out on a small grid of unpaved streets oriented on an east-west axis, rotated slightly clockwise.² Five streets originally existed: North Street, South Street, Grafton Road, and two other streets that ran north-south whose names have been lost over time. Grafton Road enters town from the south and ends at North Street at the school/church. North Street appears to have run from the east end of town to slightly west of a north/south street (now gone) (Photo # 1). South Street began at Grafton Road and ran west through town. Historically this road continued to Toquerville and St. George but it is now fenced on the west side of Grafton Road and South Street is closed to traffic (Photo # 2).

Architectural Resources

Two types of architectural resources can be identified in Grafton: historic buildings and the remains of historic buildings (foundations). Five contributing principal buildings (Photos 3-7) and five outbuildings (Photos 8-12) still stand inside the district boundaries and include the following:

¹ This is a revised version of the National Register Historic District draft nomination completed by Polly Hart in 1999.

² The survey for Grafton was based on the "Plat of the City of Zion" designed by LDS (Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints or Mormon) Church founder Joseph Smith for the City of Zion near Independence, Missouri, in 1833. Joseph Smith's plan for Zion called for a mile-square grid of streets, each 132 feet wide. Three large elongated blocks at the center of town were set aside for the bishops' storehouses and twenty-four temples, and farm fields were located outside of the town. Obviously the plan of Grafton differs greatly from the City of Zion; however, modifications were made based on local needs and terrain, as was the case in the majority of Mormon settlements.

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- The adobe church/school (Photo # 3) is a c. 1886, front-gabled single-room structure with Greek Revival stylistic influences. It was renovated in 2000 by repairing or replacing damaged adobe and repairing or replacing the windows, doors, roof, and bell tower. At that time an interior wood frame support was added for stability, plaster on the walls and ceiling was repaired, and the non-historic wood floor was refinished. All work was based on the Secretary of the Interior Standards and approved by the Utah State Historic Preservation Office.
- The Alonzo H. and Nancy Foster Russell House is a c. 1862-3 one-and-a-half story Greek Revival side-gabled residence of adobe construction (Photo # 4) with a frame front porch and a shed-roofed rear addition. The double-cell floor plan has a symmetrical façade and cornice returns at the gable ends. The foundation was repointed and stones reset in 2001. The porch had collapsed due to vandalism and the adobe bricks on the second floor façade were pulled away, leaving the second floor interior open to the weather. In 2003, the second story wall was repaired, and non-historic stucco applied for a movie set was removed as well, exposing the original adobe bricks. New doors, windows and hardware were also installed. An interior staircase, two interior fireplaces, associated chimneys, the front porch, and the rear shed-roofed addition were reconstructed. Most work was completed in 2004. Like the church/school, all work was based on historical reference complying with the Secretary of the Interior Standards.
- The side-gabled single-story vernacular classical Louisa Maria Foster Russell House was built c. 1862-3 of hewn-log construction (Photo # 5) with adobe brick in the gable ends. A door with an adjacent window pierces the north-facing façade of the single-cell structure. There is a frame board-and-batten rear shed-roofed addition. In 1999 the exterior logs were re-chinked, and deteriorated logs replaced.
- The David and Maria Smith Ballard House (Photo # 6), c. 1907, is a wood-frame side-gabled one-and-a-half story house with novelty siding on the façade to the north and board-and-batten siding on the other elevations. A single brick chimney is situated on the ridgeline of the roof. The attic has two small symmetrically placed windows on the west elevation. The symmetrical façade has a central entrance door with flanking windows. The roof on the shed-roofed rear addition was rebuilt with new rafters, roof decking and shingles in 2001. Repair and replacement of materials in kind and new wooden railing was done on the hip-roofed front porch in 2003.
- The John, Sr., and Ellen Smith Wood House was built c. 1877 of fired brick (Photo # 7). It is side-gabled in a cross-wing form with two corbelled chimneys and a wooden shed-roofed front porch facing to the east. There are three rooms and three open porches. In 1999 the damaged exterior brick was replaced and repointed as needed. The cellar entrance at the rear of the house was rebuilt in-kind with basalt stone replacements, new stairs, door casing and lintel. The roof was re-shingled as needed and the side porches on the south and north were reconstructed. On the interior damaged floorboards were replaced and living room walls were re-plastered.

The ancillary buildings are agricultural outbuildings. They are all contributing and include the following:

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- A small frame shed at the rear of the Louisa Maria Foster Russell House (Photo # 8) was raised and leveled with approximately 40% of the historic building fabric/exterior walls replaced in kind in 1999. The roof is clad with wooden shingles.
- A large frame Intermountain-style barn was built c. 1907 to the west of the David and Maria Smith Ballard House (Photo # 9). The entrance is on the narrow gable end and it has a flanking shed-roofed side wing. No restoration work has been documented on the barn. The barn is clad with unpainted weathered vertical wooden planks and the roof with corrugated metal sheeting.
- A one-room raised log granary (Prior to 1900) to the east of the David and Maria Smith Ballard House (Photo # 10) has had no known restoration work. It has a low-pitched front-gabled roof with planks at the gable ends. The opening is on the north elevation.
- A small two-room log barn c. 1877 to the south of the John, Sr., and Ellen Smith Wood House (Photo #11) was in an advanced state of deterioration prior to being rebuilt in 2000. The roof pitch matches that in an historic photo and original logs were reassembled in their original position with new below-grade concrete reinforcing the corner posts. The gabled roof is clad with planks.
- A c. 1877 log granary on stilts to the south of the John, Sr., and Ellen Smith Wood House (Photo # 12) was raised, leveled and set on native stone supports rather than the original juniper corner posts. The existing gabled roof was replaced at some point prior to 1998 and clad in wooden shingles.

All of the extant buildings date from between 1862 and 1907 and remain essentially unaltered, with the exception of natural deterioration and recent restoration efforts. The buildings remain as they were constructed, without electricity, gas, modern plumbing, or telephones.

The remnants of five building foundations and a bridge foundation are found in Grafton, and include the following:

- The c. 1862 William and Sarah Smith Hastings house foundation (Photo # 13) is basalt and sandstone and located at the southwest corner of Grafton Road and North street.
- Cut black basalt stones mark the foundation of the c. 1900 James N. and Susan Hirschi Stanworth house on the south side of the east end of North Street (Photo # 14). The stone remnants appear to indicate that the first floor had four rooms with a cellar below the southeast corner.
- Steps lead below grade at the sandstone foundation of an excavated cellar/dugout to the east of the David and Maria Smith Ballard House (Photo # 15). In 2001 it was informally excavated and artifacts retrieved.

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Grafton Historic District, Rockville, Washington County, UT

- The basalt and sandstone foundation of the Alonzo, Jr., and Elizabeth Hardy Russell House (Photo # 16) is located on the south side of North Street, just to the east of the David and Maria Smith Ballard house.
- The John and Charlotte Pincock Ballard House rubble stone foundation, c. 1862, (Photo # 17) is located to the west of the extant Louisa Maria Foster Russell House on the south side of North Street. It appears to have been a two-room house with a one-room root cellar located approximately twenty feet to the rear.
- The Virgin River is located just outside of the Grafton Historic District boundaries. Within the boundaries are some remains of an historic footbridge (circa early 20th century) that was used to cross the river. Due north of West Street two large poles with heavy, rusted metal cable are anchored into the ground at the edge of a field above the bluff leading down to the river. The side of the bluff below the anchor poles is encased with large broken pieces of concrete that once formed a retaining wall for the bridge. Remnants of the retaining wall on the north (opposite) side of the river can barely be seen from the south shore and are not included within the boundaries. The sandy banks of the river range from approximately twenty to fifty feet wide at the town site, due to erosion from many years of flooding.

A non-contributing building and a non-contributing object that date after the period of significance are presently located at Grafton. An outhouse and trailer (both from after 1944 when the area was abandoned) are located on the east end of North Street and are outside of the historic period. The frame outhouse (Photo # 18) is located to the northeast of the foundation and trailer (seen in Photo # 14). The pink and white travel trailer most likely dates from the 1950s or 1960s and has been on the site more than a decade.

Agricultural Landscape

The agricultural landscape of Grafton included features related to farming and property boundaries such as fields and orchards, irrigation ditches, and fences.

Fields dominate the landscape; however, grass has taken over most of them for lack of plowing and planting crops. The fields that meet the cliffs at the west end of town are the exception, and they are overgrown with sage and other plant life native to this arid climate. Many are currently used as pastures for cattle (Photo # 22). One orchard exists to the south (rear) of the David and Maria Smith Ballard House (Photo # 19). The trees, planted in rows, appear to date from the end of the historic period of significance. Fields and trees line Grafton Road (Photo # 20).

Remnants of the historic irrigation system ditches (c. late 1861-1862) can be seen along most of the roadsides, fence lines, and bisecting some of the fields. The ditch running along the west side of Grafton Road (in front of the extant Wood house, Photo # 21) is the most visible and has been lined with concrete. In many places the ditches have been filled with large irrigation pipes and then covered with dirt and now appear as lengthy mounds.

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Other Associated Resources

There are two other important resources that should be mentioned. Although they are historically associated with Grafton, they are located on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land and are not included within the district boundaries at this time. They are the Grafton Cemetery and Wood Road.

The Grafton Cemetery (c.1863-1924) is located approximately one-half mile south of the town site, just west of Grafton Road, outside of the boundaries of the Grafton Historic District. Enclosed by an old (but not original) post and wire fence, the cemetery measures approximately ninety-four feet by one hundred fourteen feet. The cemetery is bare earth, with no grass or major vegetation. Some of the headstones date from the mid-to-late nineteenth century and are badly deteriorated; however, some of the markers are modern replacements, and some are merely movie props, according to unconfirmed local lore. Both stone and wood markers were used to identify the resting places of Grafton residents, and most of the graves are covered with mounds of dirt.

The Wood Road (c. early 1890s) begins at the intersection of South Street and East Street (Grafton Road) and heads south toward the cemetery before winding up the steep mountainside to the plateau above. Named for its purpose, the road was used by the pioneers to haul large timbers from the Mt.Trumbull sawmill in nearby Arizona and the mesa above town. It is located outside of the boundaries of the Grafton Historic District. Both the cemetery and the Wood Road are located on Bureau of Land Management land and not included in this nomination.

Summary

Because of the abandonment of the town several decades ago, most of the buildings suffered from deterioration and had to be repaired – some more than others. All repairs were carried out in such a way as to replicate original materials and appearance and minimize overall visual impact to the resources. Where possible, materials were repaired rather than replaced.

Virtually all the extant structures are contributing buildings from within the historic period of significance. These include the church/school, four residences, five agricultural outbuildings and five residential foundations. Greek revival and vernacular classical influences can be seen in the symmetrical facades, cornice returns and side-gabled roofs of the buildings in this small agricultural settlement. They represent a range of the building materials used in frontier towns in the second half of the nineteenth century in Utah; frame with board-and-batten, novelty and vertical plank siding, soft-fired brick, adobe brick, and log. The Grafton Historic District is significant as a rare extant example of the many small Mormon towns settled in Southern Utah in the Cotton Mission era.

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

AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance

1861-1940s

Significant Dates

1861, 1866, 1868, 1940s

Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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: _____

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 1

Grafton Historic District, Rockville, Washington County, UT

Narrative Statement of Significance

Originally settled in the early 1860s and abandoned in 1945, Grafton, Utah, is a unique example of a nineteenth-century Mormon settlement that, except for natural deterioration, remains largely unchanged from its settlement period.³ The few remaining buildings have not been architecturally altered,⁴ and many original fences mark the historic property lines that surround the still-visible fields and irrigation ditches. Electricity, gas, plumbing, and modern amenities were never introduced into Grafton,⁵ and the roads that remain were never paved. Survival in southern Utah was very difficult because of the harsh climate, and mid-nineteenth-century settlements either thrived or failed rather quickly. Unlike most of these small towns, Grafton managed to barely survive the nineteenth century, but it ultimately failed in the mid-twentieth, as technology, growth and changing ideals rendered it obsolete. Early settlements in Washington County that did not succeed were typically abandoned early, leaving few remains; and those that managed to remain viable have been greatly altered over time with population growth and concomitant building renovations, demolitions, new construction, and modern conveniences, such as paved roads and utilities. The Grafton Historic District is a unique snapshot of the early settlement era. The district has a period of significance dating from 1861 to c. 1940s and is significant under Criterion A for both Exploration & Settlement and Agriculture as a depiction of a Mormon Cotton Mission settlement. Mormon settlers were directed or “called” by Brigham Young to leave their homes to the north and move with their families to Southern Utah, or “Dixie,” as it was known because of the climate, to establish new settlements and raise cotton and other warm-weather crops. Grafton reflects the settlement pattern of early Mormon communities in the region, and is important as a very rare example of a Mormon settlement whose extant, mostly unoccupied buildings have survived unaltered into the early twenty-first century.⁶

The settlement of Utah and the Cotton Mission

Brigham Young and his followers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS or Mormon Church) settled the Utah Territory in 1847. The Mormon migration began with original church leader Joseph Smith in Fayette, New York, and continued across the plains into the Utah Territory after his death in Carthage, Illinois, in 1844. Numerous Mormon towns were established along their way west.

Upon arrival in the Salt Lake Valley, Mormon Church leaders immediately called upon many of their members to leave the city and settle as much of the territory as possible in order to claim it as their own. Following the Utah War in 1858 in which the Mormons found themselves pitted against Federal troops (while also involved in localized skirmishes with Native Americans), one of the Church’s primary goals was to create a completely self-sufficient society.⁷ This was, in part, achieved by a series of economic missions to settle areas that had the

³ This is a revised version of the National Register Historic District draft nomination completed by Polly Hart in 1999.

⁴ They retain their original form although decayed and deteriorated materials have been repaired or replaced in recent restorations.

⁵ Several personal histories state that David and Maria Ballard had a telephone in the later years, and this has been confirmed by Vilo Jones DeMille.

⁶ Three Native American sites have been identified at Grafton. However, these have not been studied to any degree and date from before the period of significance. Therefore they will not be included as resources in the district. The Virgin River Basin is rich with cultural resources that pre-date this period of significance, and it is possible that more sites exist within this project area.

⁷ Leonard Arrington, *Great Basin Kingdom*, pp. 95-6.

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natural advantages needed for this purpose. These missions included gold, iron, silk and cotton, among others.⁸ Gold mining and silk production provided luxury goods; iron enabled the pioneers to produce their own tools; and cotton was essential for the production of clothing.

The Cotton Mission played a key role in the drive for self-sufficiency, for it was down in the more temperate climate of "Dixie" (southern Utah) that commodities such as cotton, flax, hemp, sugar cane, wine grapes, and figs could be raised successfully. Exploration parties set out for the Santa Clara and Virgin River basins in the early 1850s, and in 1857 and 1858 small parties were sent to settle the region. By the spring of 1859, the population of Virgin City had reached critical mass, and that fall six families led by Nathan Cram Tenney were called from Virgin City to settle farther upstream. The settlement was named Grafton, supposedly named after Grafton town in Massachusetts.⁹

Original Grafton Settlement

The families of Nathan C. Tenney, Benjamin Platt, Don Carlos Shirts, William R. Davies, Hyrum Barney and James McFate were listed at the beginning of the 1860 Virgin City Census although they lived at Grafton.¹⁰ They chose a site on the south side of the "Rio Virgen" approximately six miles upstream of Virgin City.¹¹ They promptly began building a dam, laying out a system of ditches, and clearing the land with the intention of growing cotton.¹² In March of 1860 Grafton was organized as Precinct no. 8 of Washington County, and the following appointments were made: James McFate as justice of the peace, Darius Shirts as constable, Benjamin Platt as pound keeper, and Nathan Tenney as road supervisor.¹³

The weather cooperated with the pioneers in 1860, and the crops were a success. That summer 105 acres had been planted, including twenty-five of wheat, ten of cotton, ten of sugar cane, and twenty-five of corn.¹⁴ It was clear, however, that crops alone would not sustain the settlers, and by 1861 the farmers had added cattle ranching to their operations. This industry would become increasingly important for their survival, as farming was difficult and unpredictable. The winter of 1860-61 was harsh, and floods in January destroyed the dam and carried much of the settlers' work down the river. After more flooding during the following fall, it became clear that this location was not going to be viable for habitation.

A new town site was chosen one mile up the river, and preparations were made to establish the new community. A meeting was held on December 13, 1861, and Chandler Holbrook was named surveyor with John Nebeker and William Branch assigned to assist him; Chapman Duncan was appointed as foreman of the new water ditch; Nathan Tenney became the chief herdsman; and Franklin W. Young as elected as both the first bishop of the newly organized Grafton Ward¹⁵ and the first post master for a new mail route between Grafton and Cedar City. Another town named Grafton already existed in northern Utah, so this settlement was officially called Wheeler

⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 33.

⁹ Ronald C. Ballard. "On the Banks of the Rio Virgen [sic]," p. 6. Another theory is that Grafton was named after a town in New Hampshire.

¹⁰ The first U.S. Census taken at Grafton was in 1870. Families settled there in 1860 were listed at the beginning of the Virgin City census.

¹¹ Andrew Jenson. *Encyclopedic History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, pp. 293-4.

¹² *Deseret News*, May 23, 1860, p. 93.

¹³ Andrew Jenson. *History of the Grafton Ward*. 1860.

¹⁴ Church Historian's Office. *Journal History of the Church*, July 22, 1860, p. 2.

¹⁵ A ward is a local congregation of the Mormon Church.

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Grafton Historic District, Rockville, Washington County, UT

for a time.¹⁶ The residents also petitioned and received from the Territorial Legislature \$1,500 to build a wagon road from Grafton to St. George and improve and extend the road from Harmony to Toquerville.¹⁷ The road to St. George was an extension of South Street that followed the Virgin River to the west. The road from Harmony to Toquerville was most likely the present-day State Route 17.

In May of 1861 Church President Brigham Young and several other presiding elders visited Dixie to assess the progress of the Cotton Mission. They were surprised to find the population very small, in spite of Young's past efforts to settle the region. Upon their return to Salt Lake City they asked for volunteers to move south. After just one man offered to go of his own free will, President Young drew up a list of missionaries to be assigned the task. John Harvey Ballard, John Wood, Sr., William Hastings, and Alonzo Haventon Russell were among the Elders "called," or assigned, to Grafton at this time, and their families would subsequently be among the longest-standing residents of the town.

Flooding and the Move to the New Grafton Settlement

On December 17, 1861 a survey was completed for the new location and farming lots were drawn by lottery. There were more people than lots that resulted in several families leaving old Grafton before the move. This shortage of suitable farmland would ultimately be a contributing factor in the demise of the town.

We drew for our farm lots of lottery[sic]. I got a very good lot but bro. Woodbury, a nursery man, got a very poor one and was going to move away, but I wanted him to stay, as I knew it would help the place to have a good nursery here, so I let him have my lot and I took his. In the evening we had a dance in bro. A.H. Russell's big tent. The remarks of bro. Snow has [sic] caused a spirit of uneasiness [sic] in the minds of many, and now those who did not get lots are about moving out, in fact, I may say and that truly although I do not find a bit of fault with what bro. Snow said, yes, it has drew at least one half away from the place and Rockville too, and has almost killed both places.¹⁸

History has traditionally held that the settlers decided to move the town after a rain storm and flood that started on Christmas Day of 1861 and lasted forty days and nights; however, Franklin W. Young's journal clearly stated that, while the river did rise approximately four feet on December 25th, there were seven days of fair or cloudy weather and four days of snow during the subsequent forty days. Furthermore, his diary, along with the minutes of the December 13, 1861, ward meeting, prove that the decision to move the town was made at least a month before the "big flood."

During the early hours of January 18, 1862, the rising water carried away one of Nathan Tenney's houses and its contents and destroyed another. His wife, Olive, who was nine months pregnant at the time, was washed from the house and caught in the river. All of the men were called out of bed to save her, and they carried her

¹⁶ This town was called both Grafton and Wheeler by its residents, but eventually after the other "Grafton" was abandoned, this settlement was solely referred to as Grafton.

¹⁷ Andrew Jensen. *History of the Grafton Ward*. 1861.

¹⁸ Franklin Wheeler Young. *Journal*, Wednesday, December 18, 1861.

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to Hyrum and Mercy Barney's home (possibly a wagon) where she gave birth to a boy. In celebration of the event she named the child Marvelous Flood.¹⁹

The winter and spring of 1862 were devoted to digging the new irrigation ditch, clearing and fencing the land, and planting crops. The location and depth of the trenches were such that residents were able to get water during the wet season, but by May the river was too low to fill the ditches,²⁰ and the irrigation system had to be modified. Ultimately the ditch cost \$5,000 and the labor of twenty-four men.²¹ By summer, the ditches were sufficiently watering the corn, sugar cane, wheat and cotton that had been planted in the spring.

A log schoolhouse/meeting house (demolished) measuring eighteen by twenty-six feet was Dedicated in January and finished at the east end of North Street in the spring of 1862,²² with Dr. Samuel Kenner being the teacher. The schoolhouse was used for all public gatherings. It was a round log house with two windows and a door in it. The windows were very small; also were the window panes. The floor was of slate rock which was hauled and placed in the room for the floor. The benches were of the logs sawed in two; the round part holes were bored and pegs driven in for legs.²³

Prior to this, all church and public meetings had been held in Alonzo H. Russell's large canvas tent, which he had purchased from Johnston's Army, which occupied Utah during the Mormon War and then abandoned the territory when the Civil War started.²⁴ He lived in the tent with his two wives and children until his one-and-a-half story adobe house was built the following year but also hosted community dances in the tent. Alonzo Haventon Russell (1821-1910) was a polygamist, following the Mormon custom of the time, and two wives lived in Grafton with him.²⁵ They were sisters from New Hampshire, Nancy Briggs Foster (1825-1903) and Louisa Maria Foster (1839-1917), and each had nine children.²⁶ Alonzo H. Russell was born in Vermont and was a musician, expert on the drums and fife.²⁷ Russell lived in the house until his death and members of the Russell family occupied it until 1945.

William Hastings (1824-1882) and Sarah Smith (1830-1920) were both English Mormon converts and came to Grafton after the 1861 "call." They had eight children together, five of whom were born in Grafton. Sarah Smith Hastings lived in her house on the southwest corner of Grafton Road and North Street as a widow for her last forty years. The house's foundation is still visible.

John Harvey Ballard (1825-1891) and his wife, Charlotte Pincock (1826-1901), married in Nauvoo, Illinois, in 1845, and after some time of living in Provo, Utah County, were "called" to Grafton, settling there in the early

¹⁹ Ibid., January 18, 1862.

²⁰ Ibid., May 19, 1862.

²¹ James Bleak. *Annals of the Southern Utah Mission*, p. 1234.

²² Jenson. *History of Grafton Ward*, 1862.

²³ Almira Tiffany Bethers. *Biography of Sarah Jane York Tiffany*, p. 8.

²⁴ Lyman D. and L. Karen Platt. *Grafton: Ghost Town on the Rio Virgin*, p. 62.

²⁵ AncestralFile.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Platt & Platt, p. 26.

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1860s. John H. Ballard served as the first schoolteacher in Grafton.²⁸ The foundation of their house is visible on North Street, just to the west of the Louisa Foster Russell House. One of their fourteen children, David Ballard (1867-1939) built the frame house and barn on the east end of North Street c. 1907 after marrying Maria Smith (1867-1917) in 1890 in St. George.

James N. Stanworth (1869-1941) was born in Grafton and married Susan Hirshi (1876-1954) of Rockville in 1900. He was in the cattle business as a young man and served a mission for the Mormon Church. They built a brick house on the east end of North Street. Five of their seven children were born in Grafton.

Early on, a mud pit was excavated to the southwest of the extant David and Maria Smith Ballard House for the purpose of making adobe and soft-fired bricks. These were used to build permanent structures, as good hardwood was not plentiful in the valley.

Crops and Other Trades

In an attempt to better fulfill the primary purpose of their mission, the farmers at Grafton produced a record 4,784 pounds of cotton in 1862,²⁹ at the expense of raising food crops. They subsequently replaced a portion of the cotton crops with corn to ensure that there would be enough to eat, and in 1863 and 1864 they planted sixteen acres of wheat, seventy acres of corn, twenty-five acres of sugar cane, ten and one-half acres of vegetables and tobacco, and twenty-nine acres of cotton.³⁰ By 1866 the breakdown of crops had changed to twenty acres of wheat, forty-five acres of corn, eight acres of sugar cane, and eighteen acres of cotton.³¹ They also planted cherry, peach, apple and pear trees in early 1862, along with grape and currant bushes. The fruit was dried or bottled and then taken to the northern settlements with molasses to be bartered for potatoes, cheese and dry goods.³² After the fruit trees began to produce large harvests and each family had more than they could process, the practice of cutting bees became popular. Many of the women and girls would gather together at one house and cut and lay out all of the fruit to be dried. Afterwards they would play games and eat watermelon and grapes.³³

By 1864 the town had a sawmill, a gristmill, a thresher and a cotton gin. These machines, along with the farming tools, required maintenance. Alonzo H. Russell had been a successful blacksmith in Salt Lake City and continued his invaluable trade at Grafton. He provided the community with knives, forks, tongs, hand irons and hammers, as well as repairing broken wagon parts, sharpening plows, and shoeing horses.³⁴ John Wood, Sr., was also a blacksmith, but his carpentry skills earned him the responsibility of making much of the furniture in town.³⁵ Eventually John Wood, Jr., took over his father's blacksmith shop.

²⁸ Ibid., p. 56.

²⁹ Bleak, op. cit., p. 128.

³⁰ Platt, op. cit., pp. 64-5.

³¹ Bleak, op. cit., p. 230.

³² McMullin, op. cit., p. 21.

³³ Grant Langston, *Memories of John Langston*, p. 60.

³⁴ Ballard, op. cit., p. 21.

³⁵ McMullin, op. cit., p. 3.

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On January 16, 1864, the Territorial Legislature created Kane County, and Grafton was chosen as the county seat. At this time a statistical census of the church counted twenty-eight families and 168 people in Grafton, the highest population the town would ever have. It remained the largest settlement on the upper Virgin River until 1866.

Indian Conflicts

The year 1866 signaled a major turning point for Grafton. Utah's Black Hawk War had been declared in April of 1865, signaling open hostilities between the Mormon settlers and the Native Americans. The first tragedy hit on January 9th when two Kane County residents identified as Dr. James M. Whitmore and Robert McIntyre were robbed of their cattle and killed by Indians about thirteen miles south of town at Pipe Spring Ranch.³⁶ Nearby Pahreach Ranch was also besieged for a period of two months, although no one was killed.

Then beginning on January 18, 1866, all three sons of Asa Bartlett York and Mary Jane Bethers died over the course of three days from diphtheria. In February two girls, Letty Russell and Lizzie Woodbury, were killed while playing on a swing that was fashioned from the burnt cotton gin at the center of town.³⁷ The two girls were buried together in a single grave at the Grafton cemetery. Before the townspeople had a chance to recover from these events, tragedy struck again on April 2nd when Joseph S. and Robert M. Berry and Robert's wife, Mary Isabel Hales, were ambushed and killed outside of town by native Paiutes while returning home to Long Valley after a visit at Spanish Fork, Utah County.

Evacuation

The Battalion of the Iron Military District had been organized for the continued protection of the Cotton Missionaries from Indians, and Grafton resident James Andrus led the local regiment; however, by the spring of 1866 it was clear that the towns scattered along the Virgin River could be better protected from increasing attacks from native tribes by consolidating. Erastus Snow, president of the Southern (Cotton) Mission, sent a letter to each of the communities on the upper Virgin River, urging them to unify at Rockville, two miles east of Grafton. On June 10th the residents of Grafton vacated the town. Most of the log and frame houses were moved to Rockville, as this relocation was considered a temporary measure. The men commuted back home daily to tend and secure their crops, and they raised twenty acres of wheat, forty-five acres of corn, eight acres of sugar cane, and eighteen acres of cotton in 1866. The population of Rockville increased from ninety-five to approximately five hundred people as the result of this consolidation,³⁸ and the following January it became the new Kane County seat.

Resettlement

By the spring of 1868 conflicts with the Indians had settled down enough for the missionaries to move back to their own settlements. Most of the families that resettled Grafton were former residents; however, less than half of the pre-evacuation population returned.³⁹ As a result, the Grafton Ward of the Mormon Church was

³⁶ *Journal History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, January 22, 1866, p. 5

³⁷ Bethers, op. cit., p. 14.

³⁸ Stout, op. cit., p. 26.

³⁹ Jenson. *A History of the Grafton Ward*, 1868.

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reintegrated into the Rockville Ward as a smaller branch,⁴⁰ and Alonzo H. Russell replaced Anson Winsor as the presiding elder.

Mormon Church leaders in Salt Lake City viewed the dwindling population with dismay, and in 1869 they sent more missionaries down to fortify Grafton and several other small towns. The numbers continued to increase slowly and finally in 1877 Grafton had enough residents to reorganize their own ward once again.

Louisa Maria Foster (1839-1917), married Alonzo H. Russell in 1856 as a polygamous wife. She had the first loom in town, brought from New Hampshire with her as she traveled across the plains to Utah in 1852. She moved to Rockville from Grafton during the Evacuation and four of her nine children were born there.⁴¹ In 1879 she moved back to Grafton to the small log house that Russell built for her across the street from the larger adobe house that he shared with Nancy Briggs Foster, her sister.

One of Nancy Briggs Foster's sons, Alonzo Russell, Jr. (1859-1925), and his wife, Elizabeth Hardy (1858-1924), built their house on the west end of North Street. Although the house is now gone, the foundation remains visible. Seven of their eight children were born in Grafton, but only four outlived their parents—a testament to the difficult life in Grafton at the time.

John Wood, Sr., (1819-1911) and his wife, Ellen Smith Wood (1822-1899) were called to Grafton in 1862 and lived there briefly, before moving on to Nevada and returning to Grafton in 1877.⁴² The Woods were English and joined the Mormon Church there in 1851. John worked as a coal miner in England and as a farmer, blacksmith and carpenter in Utah. The couple had ten children but lost five in infancy and only three outlived their mother. The Woods built the extant brick house with three rooms, a cellar, three porches and a granary in 1877 on the west side of Grafton Road. By the 1880 census the Woods were one of thirteen families, for a total of seventy-two inhabitants, living in Grafton.⁴³

At that time the church index of the ward listed 111 members including children and infants. Beginning in 1881 a number of church organizations were formed, including a Primary Association (for the children), with Nancy Briggs Foster Russell as president, and a women's Relief Society presided over by Charlotte Pincock Ballard. Continuing to focus on the agricultural success of the Southern (Cotton) Mission, Brigham Young sent Asian silkworm eggs down to Grafton and other southern settlements around 1874 in response to a national interest in silk. The mulberry trees in Grafton served as the food source for the silkworms. However, like the growing of cotton, this industry soon declined, as it shifted focus away from the much-needed food crops.⁴⁴

In 1886 the residents built a permanent adobe church/schoolhouse at the intersection of East Street (or Grafton Road) and North Streets.⁴⁵ An undated county school district questionnaire indicated that the one-room

⁴⁰ This branch met separately from the Rockville ward, although they were part of the same organization and shared the same leaders and coffers. A branch is similar to a ward with the primary difference being fewer members of the congregation.

⁴¹ Platt & Platt, p. 82.

⁴² Ibid., p. 62.

⁴³ Ibid., p. 90.

⁴⁴ Ballard, op. cit., p. 18.

⁴⁵ County District of Schools, Questionnaire to James M. Ballard, Secretary and Trustee of Grafton School District regarding the new school house. n.d.

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building was unfinished but had cost \$600 to date and was funded by donations. It also showed that the structure was used for Sunday LDS church services. The building was finally dedicated on July 7, 1888.⁴⁶ It was used for school purposes until 1919 when the last eight students were transferred to the school at Rockville.

Oil Speculation

Underground oil reserves were discovered in North Creek near Virgin in 1904. Before long speculators were surveying claims throughout much of the Virgin River Basin, and an oil company came to Grafton in 1908 and drilled a well in a wash north of town. A derrick was then built south of town to the west of the cemetery; however, the amount of oil that was produced was insufficient to warrant continuing. The company left town the following year, and the boom ended about the same time when none of the claims produced as anticipated. This short-lived industry provided temporary work for some of the local residents, and Ether Wood made four dollars per day as a surveyor.⁴⁷

Entertainment

The settlers at Grafton worked very hard to eke out a meager existence, but they also treasured recreation as a way to relieve the daily pressures of life. Dances were often held in Alonzo H. Russell's tent before permanent structures were erected, and later the adobe schoolhouse/church was the setting for these festivities nearly every Friday night. The children were treated to sleigh rides in the winter when sufficient snow was on the ground, and summer activities included taffy pulls and swimming in the Virgin River.⁴⁸ John H. Ballard was a professional fiddler, and several of the Ballard and Russell men joined talents to create a band that played at the dances and other holiday celebrations.

The Hurricane Canal and the Final Decline of Grafton as a Community

The population of Grafton remained steady during the last decades of the nineteenth and the first decade of the twentieth centuries. The 1880 United States Census listed seventy-one people at this settlement. The 1890 records were destroyed in a fire, but LDS Church Historian Andrew Jenson noted after a visit to Grafton in April of 1892 that there were sixteen families, totaling seventy-eight people.⁴⁹ The 1900 U.S. Census indicated that the number had increased to ninety-eight residents, and to 107 in 1910. By 1920, however, the population of Grafton had plummeted to forty-six people. The last census taken at Grafton was in 1930, and the population had dwindled by half to twenty-three.

There were several important factors that led to the ultimate demise of this small community. Irrigable land at Grafton was severely limited, and it was all claimed by the first generation of settlers. As children grew up and created families of their own, there was no available farmland, and they were forced to look elsewhere to make a living. The same problem contributed to the downfall of other neighboring settlements such as Mountain Dell, Duncan's Retreat, Northrup, and Shunesburg. Furthermore, modern utilities such as electricity and running water were never introduced to the struggling settlement of Grafton, which provided further incentive for the younger generations to move away.

⁴⁶ Jenson, *A History of Grafton Ward, 1888*.

⁴⁷ Wood, *op. cit.*, p. 9

⁴⁸ Ballard, *op. cit.*, p. 23

⁴⁹ Jenson. *History of Grafton Ward, 1892*.

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Farming at Grafton had always been very difficult. The soil was sandy and alkaline, a less than ideal condition for raising crops. Furthermore, the Virgin River was very unpredictable and could rise as much as four feet in a single day, destroying dams and flooding the town:

...a great number of dams were built only to be washed away, sometimes two or three in a single year. With each flood the ditches were filled with sand, a circumstance which made an almost continuous job of cleaning, amounting in some cases, almost, to building a new ditch. Some of the settlers remarked, with a grim humor, that making ditches at Grafton was like the household washing; it was a weekly chore!⁵⁰

The river could also drop so low that it became a meandering stream. Even the well-engineered irrigation system had its limitations, and the farmers worked extremely long and hard for their moderate harvests. For example, Thomas Woodbury, the nurseryman who initially stayed at Grafton because Franklin Wheeler Young gave him a good farming lot, left after two planting seasons because the cut worms ate all of the buds on his fruit trees every spring, and the red ants and gophers destroyed what the cut worms did not.⁵¹

The final and perhaps largest blow that led to the abandonment of Grafton was the construction of the Hurricane Canal. With a shortage of farmland for the younger generations, the Hurricane Bench, approximately fifteen to twenty miles downstream, was ripe for cultivation, but it was too high above the river to be irrigated with a common ditch. Greater measures had to be taken, and the Hurricane Canal Company was organized on July 11, 1893. Each stockholder would be entitled to twenty acres of farmland up on the bench, thus providing plots for approximately one hundred young men. Wages for the construction workers were set at \$2.00 per day, a significant step up from the money they could make at Grafton, although most of the workers took 25% of their payment in cash and 75% in stock (land). The canal and dam were finally finished in August of 1904. The 1910 census showed that ten families from Grafton, totaling forty-four people, had relocated to Hurricane. By 1920 those numbers had more than tripled to thirty-two families with 138 people.

As families left Grafton they took their houses with them whenever possible. George Henry and Emily Hastings Wood moved their log house to Hurricane prior to 1910, having been stockholders in the canal company. Henry's nephew Andrew moved his house and barn (located east of the extant John, Sr. and Emily Wood house) along with his family to Hurricane, as well, in 1911.⁵² The last people to leave Grafton were Minnie and LuWayne Russell, and Edward D. and Rhoda Ballard Jones⁵³ who owned the John, Sr., and Emily Wood house from 1920 until the spring of 1945. In 1944 the Joneses bought a two-room log cabin from Merrill and Agnes Russell that was located east of the Alonzo and Nancy Russell adobe home. They took the cabin with them when they moved to Rockville in the spring of 1945.⁵⁴

⁵⁰ Andrew Karl Larson. *I was called to Dixie*, pp. 95-6.

⁵¹ Thomas H. Woodbury. Letter to the Domestic Gardeners' Club, *Deseret News*, February 2, 1863.

⁵² Wood, op. cit., p. 1

⁵³ According to Vilo Jones DeMille, daughter of Edward and Rhoda Jones.

⁵⁴ Platt, op. cit., p. 111.

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Grafton and the Movie Industry

Grafton was the filming location for a number of movies beginning in 1929 with "*In Old Arizona*," the first talkie filmed outdoors. "*The Arizona Kid*" with Warner Baxter and Carole Lombard followed in 1930. Several of the local residents, including Vilo and Floyd DeMille, earned four dollars a day working as extras. "*Ramrod*" was filmed in 1947 with Joel McCrea, Veronica Lake, and Lloyd Bridges, and several temporary buildings, including a hotel to the west of the schoolhouse, were constructed for the set. "*Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*," starring Robert Redford and Paul Newman, was filmed at Grafton in 1969. A small frame house was constructed for the movie at the southeast corner of East and North Streets but was later accidentally burned down by campers. "*Child Bride of Short Creek*" in 1981 and "*The Red Fury*" in 1984 were the last movies filmed in Grafton.⁵⁵ There are no structures remaining from the movie sets.

Architecture

Classical styles, particularly Greek Revival, were very popular throughout America during the mid-nineteenth century, as they symbolized the Greek democracy on which our nation was founded. Symmetrical floor plans and elevations also reflected these traditional values, often following the ideal proportions set out by Italian Renaissance architect Andrea Palladio. Builders in each region adapted these ideals to suit their local needs and resources. Classical styles were quite prominent in early Utah architecture, as the majority of settlers came from the eastern United States where these styles were popular. Using available materials such as adobe, soft-fired brick, and logs, with black basalt and red sandstone foundations, the Grafton pioneers built in the popular classical styles, incorporating vernacular characteristics such as stucco-covered walls, unadorned frieze boards, flat wooden lintels, and cornice returns. Timber for building construction and fences was obtained via the nearby Wood Road (not included in district boundary), which provided access to forested areas.

Floor plans also reflected these traditional styles and many of the homes had single-cell, hall-parlor, or double-pile plans, depending upon the wealth, need, or social standing of the individual. The extant buildings in Grafton were built over a forty-five-year period from the initial settlement of the community at this location from c. 1862 to c. 1907.

The rather elegant (considering the setting) adobe brick Alonzo H. and Nancy Foster Russell House is a side-gabled one-and-a-half story Greek Revival vernacular house with a full-width frame front porch and a shed-roofed section at the rear. The house reflects the prominent position of Alonzo H. Russell in the community including his role as bishop of the local LDS ward. It was built c. 1862-3 with Greek Revival-style elements like low-pitched side-gabled roof, the emphasized, cornice with frieze, cornice returns on the gable ends, and six-over-six pane double-hung windows. Greek Revival architectural styles were popular in the United States from 1825-1850 but the Mormons brought the style with them to Utah and continued to use it here for several more decades.

The Louisa Maria Foster Russell House is a single-story vernacular log house built c. 1863⁵⁶ with few styling details. Its modest size and styling was most likely appropriate for an additional polygamous wife. It is side-

⁵⁵ Grafton Heritage Partnership Project. "Historic Grafton; A National Register Historic Site in Southwestern Utah." Undated (post 2001) pamphlet.

⁵⁶ The exact construction date is unknown but presumably it was either soon after arrival in the area c. 1862-3 or c. 1873-9. Platt & Platt notes (p. 82) that Louise Maria Foster Russell lived in the house from "about 1879 when she returned to live in the log home that Alonzo had built for her."

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gabled with a central door, adjacent window and a board-and-batten shed-roofed rear addition. Six-over-six sash double-hung windows provide light to the interior. The logs are roughly squared with overlapping saddle notching. The attic gable ends are adobe brick with vertical window openings. One of its outbuildings, a frame shed, is located to the south (rear) of the house.

The John, Sr., and Ellen Smith Wood house was built c. 1877. It is constructed of fired brick, and is a cross-wing with a side-gabled front section with two corbelled chimneys and a rear-gabled ell, three open-frame porches and three rooms. A cellar entrance is through the rear porch. Cross wings were popular in Utah from 1880 through 1910 and again from 1920-1930. It was the most popular house type in Utah after 1880. Greek Revival styling influences can be seen in the angle of the gabled roof and the strong cornice line. Two of the original frame agricultural outbuildings remain to the south of the house; a raised granary on stilts and a two-room log barn. Both outbuildings date from c. 1877.

The front-gabled single-room adobe brick Grafton Church & School building was constructed in 1886 with Greek Revival style influences. It is a temple shape with its entrance in the gable end. The ridgeline has a corbelled-brick chimney on the north and an open roof-top cupola/bell tower over the door. Three symmetrically placed windows in vertical openings pierce both side walls. Stairs have been added on the exterior east wall so that visitors can see the interior through the high window when the building is locked.

David and Maria Smith Ballard built their one-and-a-half story frame house c. 1907 on the west end of North Street. It has painted horizontal drop or novelty wooden siding on the façade and vertical board-and-batten siding on the other elevations. The side-gabled roof has a medium pitch, close eaves and a simple fired-brick chimney on the roofline. A single-story shed-roofed rear addition has vertical window openings. A large frame barn and a raised log granary remain nearby the house.

Conclusion

Today the Grafton town site stands as a tribute to the men and women who settled it and kept it alive for more than eighty years. The extant cultural resources are in varying stages of deterioration, but most of the buildings are quite sound because of recent restoration work. Grafton is a unique example of a Mormon frontier settlement that survived the hardships of the hostile and untamed environment of southern Utah, yet was abandoned in the mid-twentieth century without having been significantly altered. The buildings appear largely as they did when they were erected, except for the effects of time and neglect. Unlike Grafton, other Mormon mission settlements were either quickly abandoned, leaving very few visible remains behind, or they thrived and continue to survive today in a much altered state. Grafton should be preserved as an unparalleled example of a nineteenth-century frontier Utah town. The remaining buildings provide a good representation of the settlement as it appeared near the turn of the twentieth century and continue to be contributing historic resources.

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- Young, Franklin Wheeler. "Journal 1861-1881." Unpublished manuscript. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Archives, call # MS 324.

Grafton Historic District
Name of Property

Rockville, Washington County, Utah
City, County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 66.5 acre(s)

UTM References

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

A 1/2 3/1/3/7/6/0 4/1/1/5/4/8/0
Zone Easting Northing

B 1/2 3/1/5/5/6/0 4/1/1/5/4/6/0
Zone Easting Northing

C 1/2 3/1/5/5/6/0 4/1/1/4/9/6/0
Zone Easting Northing

D 1/2 3/1/3/7/6/0 4/1/1/4/9/6/0
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

See continuation sheet. Also see map for exact boundary area.

Property Tax No. N/A

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

See continuation sheet.

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Beatrice Lufkin
organization Grafton Heritage Partnership date June 19, 2010
street & number 1460 Harrison Avenue telephone 801-583-8249
city or town Salt Lake City state UT zip code 84105

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 Various
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 10 Page 1

Grafton Historic District, Rockville, Washington County, UT

Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

Privately held lands within the historically settled areas of Grafton, Utah, being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of the Hall & Grafton Ditch and the Grafton to Rockville Road, said point being South 89°10' West 528 feet, more or less, along the center section line and North 242 feet, more or less, from the center of Section 3, Township 42 South, Range 11 West, Salt Lake Base and Meridian and running thence southwesterly along said ditch 516 feet, more or less, to a point on the BLM boundary; thence westerly along said boundary 798 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with said ditch; thence westerly along said ditch 944 feet, more or less, to a point on the BLM boundary; thence along said boundary northerly and northwesterly 1865 feet, more or less, to a point on the top of a terrace lying south of the Virgin River, said terrace edge being also the northerly limit of the historically irrigated land; thence northeasterly 4582 feet, more or less, to a point on the BLM boundary; thence easterly and northerly along said boundary 396 feet, more or less, to a point of intersection with said terrace edge; thence southeasterly along said edge 864 feet, more or less, to the terminus of the east branch of the Hall & Grafton ditch; thence southwesterly along said ditch 1501 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning. (See map for detail)

Contains 66.5 acres, more or less.

Boundary Justification

The Grafton National Register Historic District boundary as described encompasses landscape features (buildings, roads, irrigation ditches and pastures) that are important to understanding the historical significance of pioneer settlement and life ways in Grafton. While historical land use included a larger area than currently included, the boundary includes those areas where land features are still readily apparent and retain integrity. It includes those remaining features that best represent the historic use and occupation of the Grafton town site.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. PHOTOS Page 1

Grafton Historic District, Rockville, Washington County, UT

Common Label Information:

1. Grafton Historic District
2. Rockville, Washington County, Utah
3. Photographer: Beatrice Lufkin
4. Date: October 2009
5. Digital images on file at Utah SHPO.

Photo No. 1:

6. North Street. Camera facing west.

Photo No. 2:

6. Grafton road (foreground) and South Street (on right). Camera facing west.

Photo No. 3:

6. School/Church (with Russell House at rear). West and south elevations of building. Camera facing northeast.

Photo No. 4:

6. Alonzo H. and Nancy Foster Russell House. South and east elevations of building. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 5:

6. Louisa Maria Foster Russell House. East and north elevations of building. Camera facing southwest.

Photo No. 6:

6. David and Maria Smith Ballard House. North and west elevations of building. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 7:

6. John, Sr., and Ellen Smith Wood House. South and east elevations of building. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 8:

6. Louisa Maria Foster Russell shed. North and west elevations of building. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 9:

6. David and Maria Smith Ballard barn. North and west elevations of building. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 10:

6. David and Maria Smith Ballard granary. North and west elevations of building. Camera facing southeast.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. PHOTOS Page 2

Grafton Historic District, Rockville, Washington County, UT

Photo No. 11:

6. John, Sr., and Ellen Smith Wood barn. North and west elevations of building. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 12:

6. John, Sr., & Ellen Smith Wood granary. South and east elevations of building. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 13:

6. William and Sarah Smith Hastings House foundation. Camera facing southwest.

Photo No. 14:

6. James N. and Susan Hirschi Stanworth House foundation. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 15:

6. Cellar/dugout near the David and Maria Smith Ballard House. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 16:

6. Alonzo, Jr., and Elizabeth Hardy Russell House foundation. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 17:

6. John and Charlotte Pincock Ballard House foundation. Camera facing south.

Photo No. 18:

6. Privy. West and south elevations of building. Camera facing northeast.

Photo No. 19:

6. Orchard to the south of the David and Maria Smith Ballard House. Camera facing southwest.

Photo No. 20:

6. Grafton Road. Camera facing south.

Photo No. 21:

6. Ditch in front of the John, Sr., and Ellen Smith Wood House. Camera facing south.

Photo No. 22:

6. Field across from the John, Sr., and Ellen Smith Wood House. Camera facing northeast.

Photo No. 23:

6. Overview of Grafton from south hill. Camera facing north.

Photo No. 24:

6. Overview of Grafton from south hill. Camera facing northwest.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. PHOTOS Page 3

Grafton Historic District, Rockville, Washington County, UT

Supplemental Digital Images

1. Grafton Historic District
2. Rockville, Washington County, Utah
3. Photographer: Jack Burns
4. Date: May 2010
5. Digital images on file at Utah SHPO.

Photo No. 25:

6. Remnants of footbridge landing. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 26:

6. Remnants of footbridge landing. Camera facing east.

Supplemental Historical Print (no digital image file)

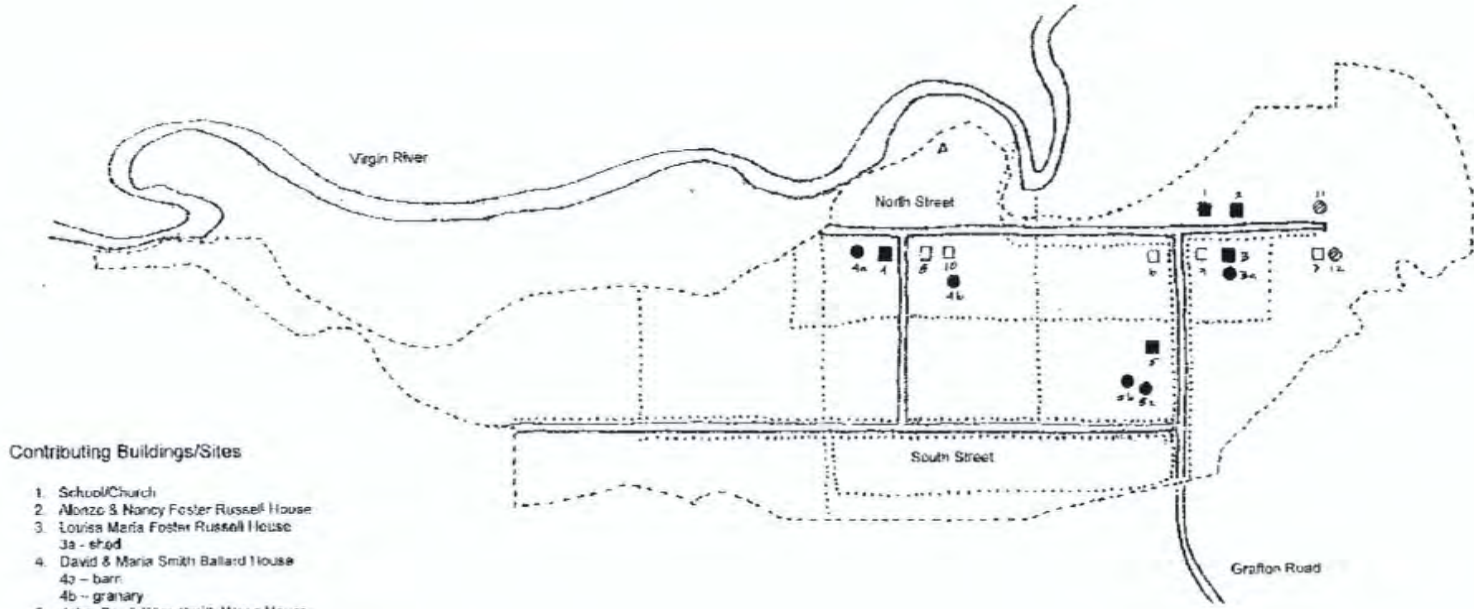
Photo No. 27:

6. Overview of Grafton from across Virgin River. Camera facing southwest.
1. Grafton
2. Washington County, Utah
3. Photographer: Unknown
4. Date: c. 1929-1930
5. Print on file at Utah SHPO.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. MAP Page 1

Grafton Historic District, Rockville, Washington County, UT



Contributing Buildings/Sites

1. School/Church
2. Alonzo & Nancy Foster Russell House
3. Louisa Maria Foster Russell House
3a - shed
4. David & Maria Smith Ballard House
4a - barn
4b - granary
5. John, Sr., & Ellen Smith Wood House
5a - log barn
5b - granary
6. William & Sarah Smith Hastings House Foundation
7. James N. & Susan Hirsch Stanworth House Foundation
8. Alonzo, Jr., & Elizabeth Hardy Russell House Foundation
9. John & Charlotte Pincock Ballard House Foundation
10. Cedar foundation

Noncontributing Building/object

11. Outhouse
12. Mobile home

- Building
- Outbuilding
- Foundation
- ⊗ Noncontributing building/object
- ▲ Remains of footbridge

Grafton Historic District
Rockville, Washington County, Utah



Not to Scale
Boundary - - - - -
Irrigation ditches
Drawn by Beatrice Lufkin
June 2010

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Grafton Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: UTAH, Washington

DATE RECEIVED: 7/27/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/23/10
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/07/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/10/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000732

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: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9.9.10 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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.





North Street
Grafton H.D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 1













Grafton Road $\frac{1}{2}$, South Street
Grafton H. D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 2

HP Premium



HP Premium








Schoolhouse/Church
Grafton H.D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 3








Alonzo H. & Nancy Russell House

Grafton H.D.

Washington County, Utah

Photo # 4







Louisa Maria Russell House
Grafton H. D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 5

HP Premium

HP Premium





David & Mania Ballard House
Grafton H. D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 6





John, SR, $\frac{1}{3}$ Ellen Wood House
Grafton H.D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 7



HP Premium






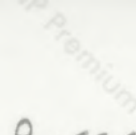




HP Premium







Louisa Maria Russell shed
Grafton H. D.
Washington County, Utah
photo # 8









David & Maria Ballard barn
Grafton H.D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 9

HP Premium






HP Premium







David & Mania Ballard granary
Grafton H. D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 10





John, Sr., Ellen Wood barn
Grafton H.D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 11













John, SA., 1/2 Elm Wood granary
Grafton H. D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 12







Sarah Hastings House foundation
Grafton H. D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 13





Stanworth or Ballard House foundation
Grafton H.A.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 14



Cellar/dugout nr. David & Maria Ballard House
Grafton H.D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 15





Alonzo Russell, Jr., House Foundation
Grafton H.D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 16






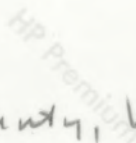



John & Charlotte Ballard House foundation
Grafton H. D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 17








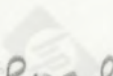

Privy
Grafton H. D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 18






Orchard to the south of the David & Maria Ballard House
Grafton H.D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 19





Grafton Road
Grafton H.D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 20





Ditch in front of the John, Sr.,³ Ellen Wood House
Grafton H. D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 21





Field across from the John, Sr., Ellen Wood House
Grafton H. D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 22







Overview of Grafton,
Grafton H.D.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 23

HP Premium

HP Premium







Overview of Grafton from south hill
Grafton H.A.
Washington County, Utah
Photo # 24



HP Premium



HP Premium

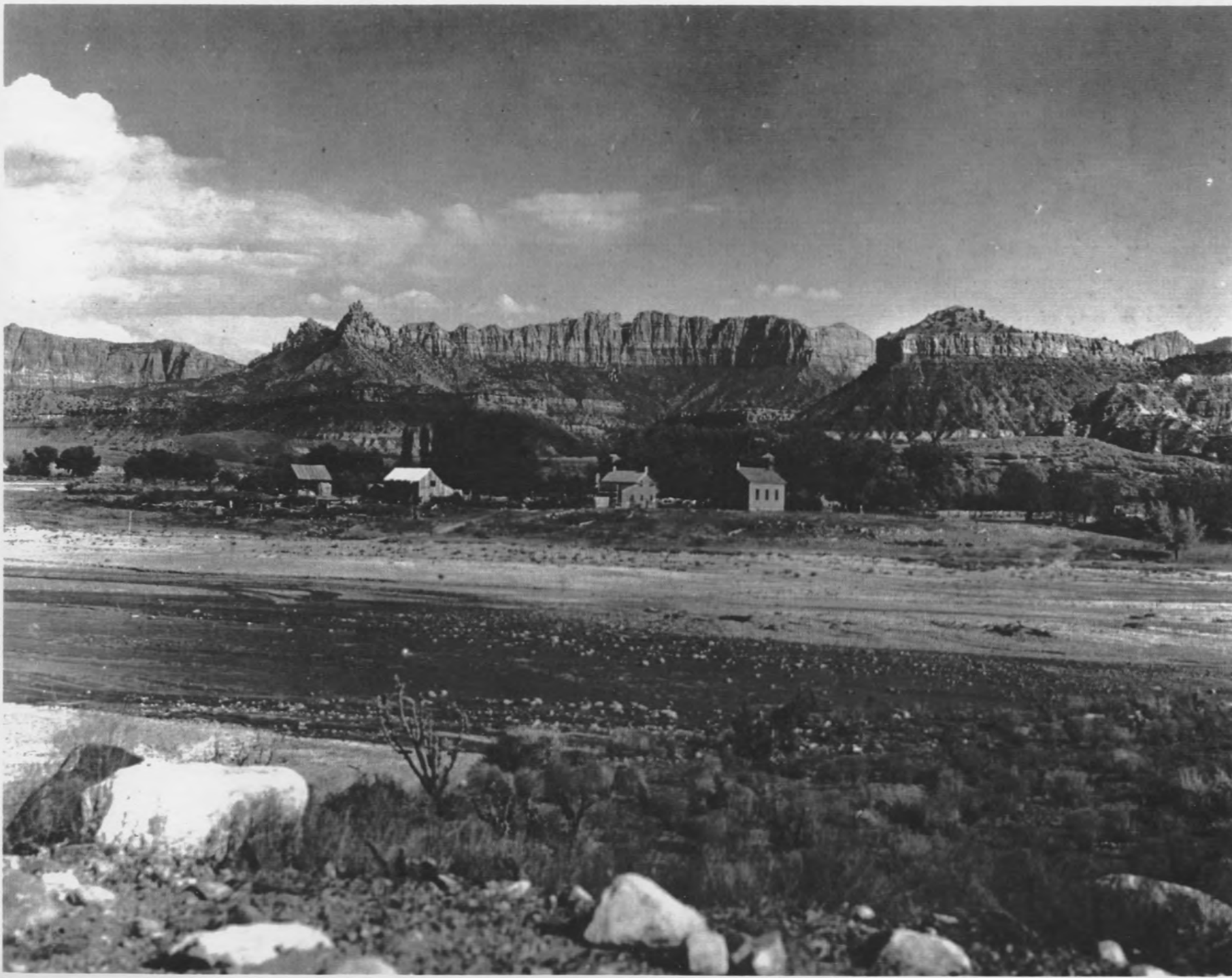




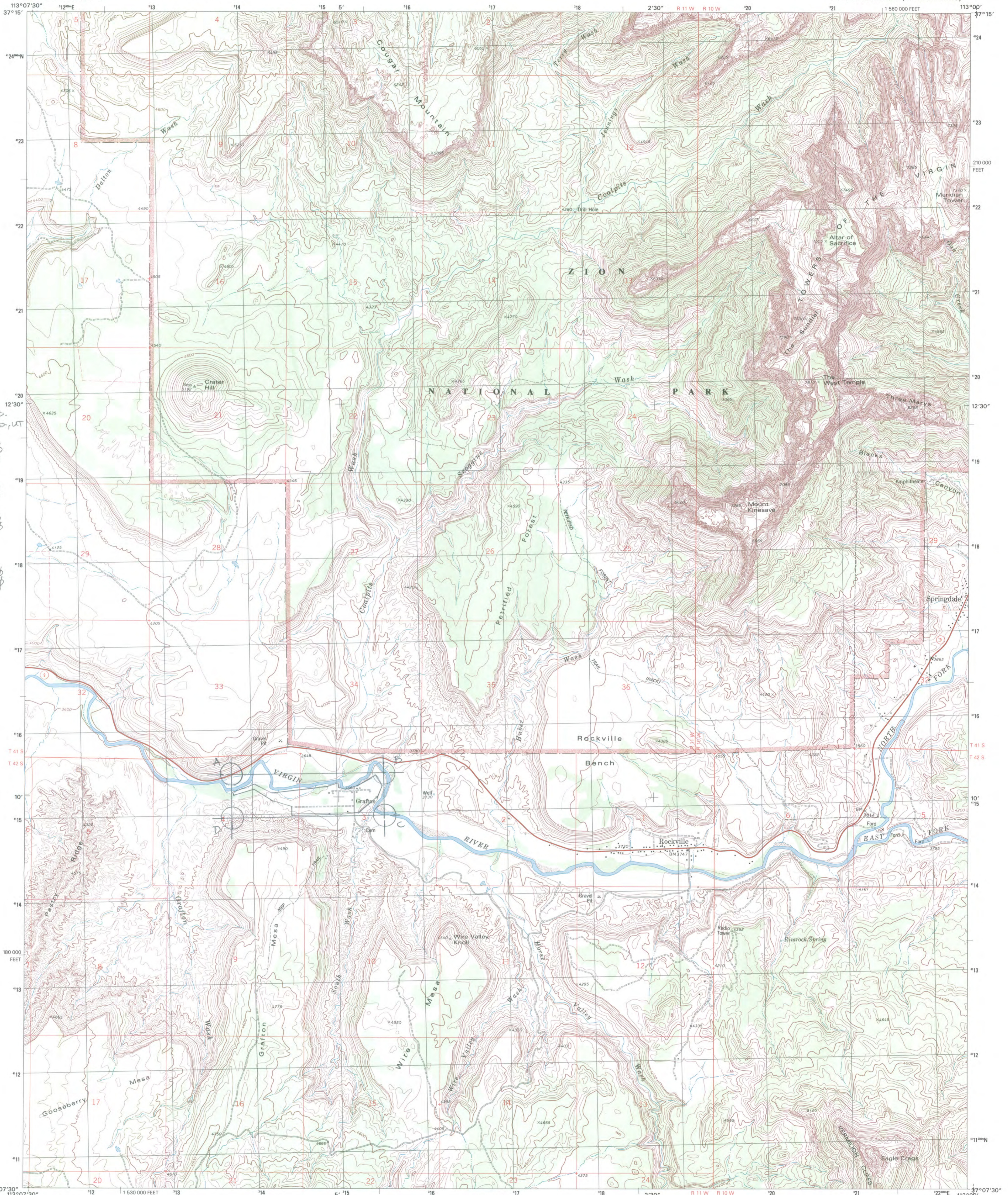
#25 Grafton H.D
Washington Co., UT



#26 Grafton H.D.
Washington Co., UT

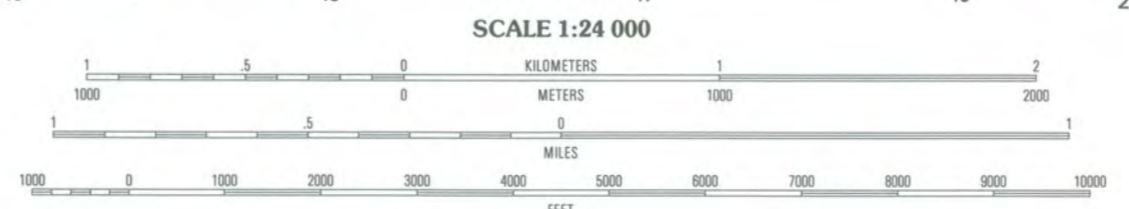
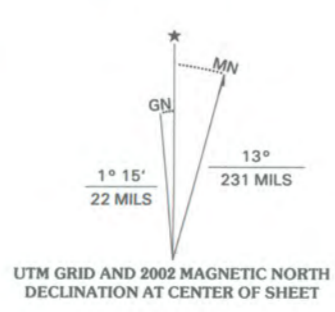


GRAFTON
PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN
DATE UNKNOWN, Possibly c. 1929-30
COURTESY OF NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPH #27

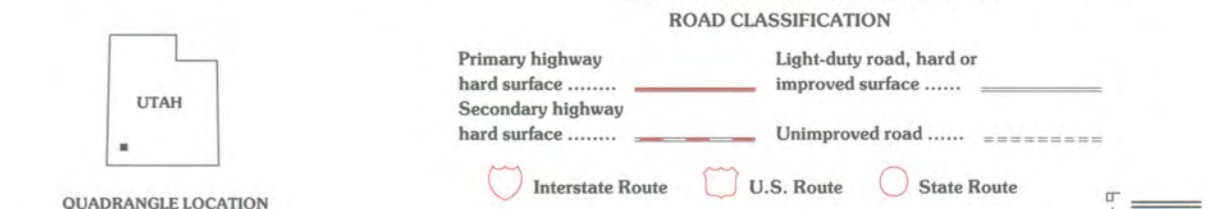


Grafton H.T. Washington Co., UT All Zone 12
A) E 313760 N 4115460
B) E 315560 N 4115460
C) E 315560 N 4114960
D) E 313760 N 4114960

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Derived from imagery taken 1973 and other sources. Photoinspected using imagery taken 1999; no major culture or drainage changes observed. Public Land Survey System and survey control current as of 1974. Boundaries revised 2002.
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 1 000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 12. 10 000-foot ticks: Utah Coordinate System of 1927 (south zone).
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.
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map. Where omitted, land lines have not been established.



SCALE 1:24 000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
(TO CONVERT ELEVATIONS TO THE NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988, ADD 3 FEET)
TO CONVERT FROM FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

1 Smith Mesa
2 The Guardian Angels
3 Temple Of Sinawava
4 Virgin
5 Springdale East
6 Little Creek Mountain
7 Smithsonian Butte
8 Hildale

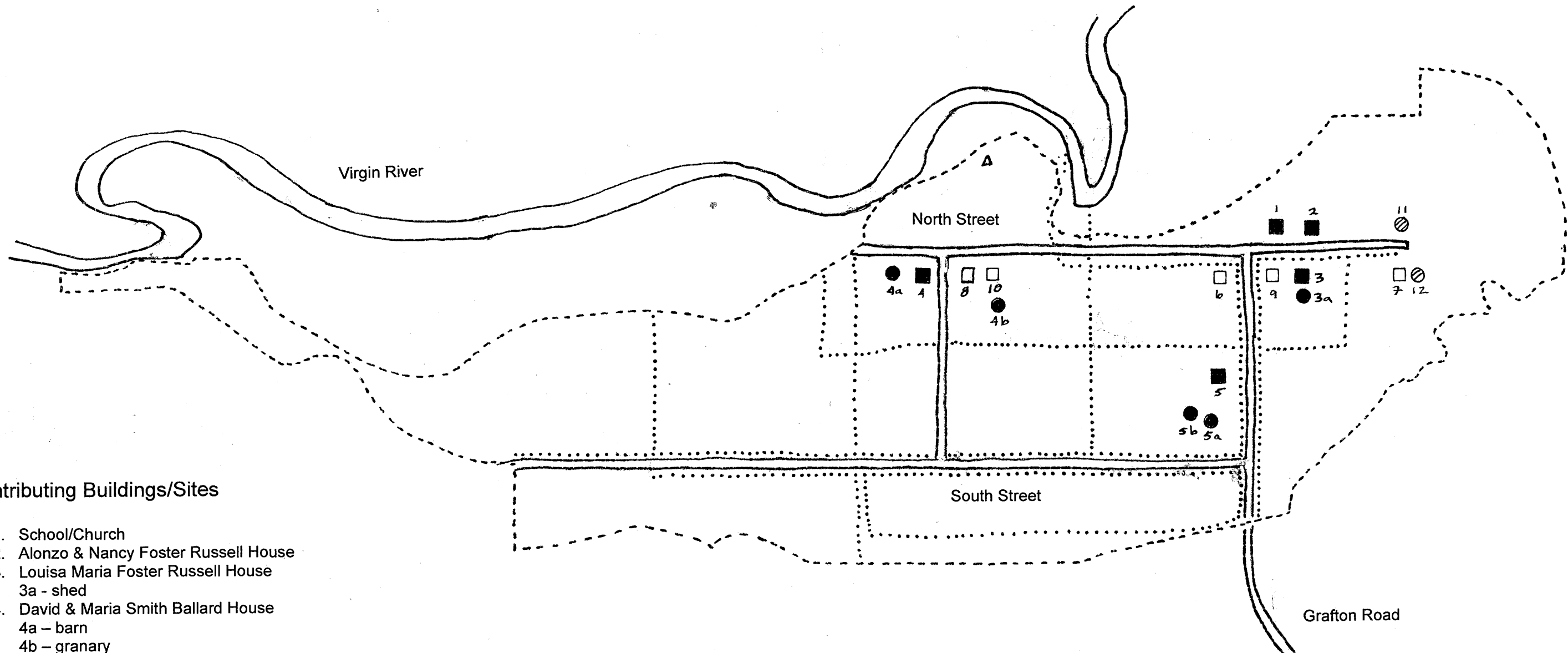
SPRINGDALE WEST, UT 1999

NIMA 3358 II NE-SERIES V897



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





Contributing Buildings/Sites

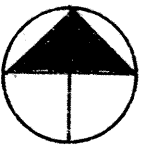
- 1. School/Church
- 2. Alonzo & Nancy Foster Russell House
- 3. Louisa Maria Foster Russell House
3a - shed
- 4. David & Maria Smith Ballard House
4a - barn
4b - granary
- 5. John, Sr., & Ellen Smith Wood House
5a - log barn
5b - granary
- 6. William & Sarah Smith Hastings House Foundation
- 7. James N. & Susan Hirschi Stanworth House Foundation
- 8. Alonzo, Jr., & Elizabeth Hardy Russell House Foundation
- 9. John & Charlotte Pincock Ballard House Foundation
- 10. Cellar foundation

Noncontributing Building/object

- 11. Outhouse
- 12. Mobile home

- Building
- Outbuilding
- Foundation
- ⊗ Noncontributing building/object
- ▲ Remains of footbridge (contributing site)

Grafton Historic District
Rockville, Washington County, Utah



Not to Scale
 Boundary - - - - -
 Irrigation ditches
 Drawn by Beatrice Lufkin
 June 2010



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREG BELL
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Community and Culture

PALMER DePAULIS
Executive Director

State History

PHILIP F. NOTARIANNI
Division Director



TO: Carol Shull, 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 26th day of July, 2010,
for the nomination of the Grafton Historic District

to the National Register of Historic Places:

- 1 Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form
Multiple Property Documentation form
26 Photographic Prints
Photographs (supplemental image files on CD-R)
1 Gold Archival CD-R w/Image Files & Nomination PDF
1 Original USGS Map(s)
1 Sketch Map(s)/Figure(s)
Pieces of Correspondence
1 Other Photo copy of historic photo

COMMENTS: Please review

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



UTAH STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANTIQUITIES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
RESEARCH CENTER & COLLECTIONS



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREG BELL
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Community and Culture

PALMER DePAULIS
Executive Director

State History

PHILIP F. NOTARIANNI
Division Director



July 26, 2010

CAROL SHULL
KEEPER
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
1201 EYE STREET, NW, 8th FLOOR (MS 2280)
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the registration form and documentation for the following National Register nominations that have been approved by the State Historic Preservation Review Board and the Utah State Historic Preservation Officer for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places:

Grafton Historic District
Curtis, Genevieve & Alexander, House
Loveless House
Verd's Fruit Market Complex

Rockville, Washington Co.
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co.
Orem, Utah Co.
Orem, Utah Co.

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

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures



UTAH STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANTIQUITIES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
RESEARCH CENTER & COLLECTIONS