

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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received MAR 31 1982

date entered

## 1. Name

historic George W. Layton House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number West Gentile Street \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town West Layton vic. \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 01

state Utah code 049 county Davis code 011

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Patricia L. Evans

street & number 150 East 400 South

city, town Bountiful \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Utah

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Davis County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

city, town Farmington \_\_\_\_\_ state Utah

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Utah Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date Fall 1980 \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town Salt Lake City \_\_\_\_\_ state Utah

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The George W. Layton house is a two story red brick house with a stone foundation and composed of two gable roof sections which intersect at right angles, their angle of intersection being capped with a pyramid roof. One large chimney projects from the pyramid roof, and a second chimney of smaller proportions which has simple corbelling at the top, is located on the east gable end. An elaborate porch highlights the facade. Over the entrance the porch is composed of two stories, the small second story section being capped with a gable roof which projects from the pyramid roof section. The west half of the facade, a gable end section, has beveled edges. The porch is attached to the east wall of that section and spans the east half of the facade. A single gable dormer pierces the roofline above the east half of the porch. There is a one story, shed roof, brick rear extension which has a small porch on the east and west ends. The west wall of the west porch has been covered with aluminum siding. A single, small gable pierces the roofline at the rear of the house with its window centered over the west porch.

The arrangement of the windows of the house is balanced, and several window types have been used. Double hung single sash windows predominate, although a single sash and transom window and a pair of double hung sash windows with a transom were used on the beveled gable, and a two over two double hung sash window was used on the rear extension. Each of the second story windows and the large first floor window on the beveled gable are accentuated by being set into a keyhole-shaped opening whose top half is filled in with jigsaw cut ornamental panels, and is capped with a circular relieving arch. The circular shape of the relieving arch is further emphasized by a narrow outer edge of yellow brick headers. The narrow windows on the sides of the beveled gable do not have keyhole openings, but do have decorative jigsaw cut panels and rounded relieving arches similarly accented with yellow brick. The first floor windows all have rectangular openings with the exception of the windows on the beveled gable, and the first floor window on the west gable end. Each is capped with an arched panel of jigsaw cut ornament which has an edging of dentils, and an ornate shouldered relieving arch of alternating red and yellow bricks topped with an upper edge of yellow brick. The arches on the east, west and north first floor openings are further accented by pendants that extend from the lower edges of the arch. Decorative bands of alternating yellow and red brick further accent the three major walls of the house. The pattern of the second story band varies from the pattern of the first floor band. Both add to the rich surface texture of the building.

Wood ornamentation includes simple bargeboards accented with a circular ornament which is repeated at intervals, varying types of stickwork in each of the gables, excluding the rear gable, ornamental fascias on the beveled gable and the dormer, spindle bands and elaborate brackets accenting the upper edges of the side bays of the beveled gable, and elaborate porch detailing. There is a sunburst pattern in the pediment of the second story porch and brackets supporting a simple cornice. It has lathe turned posts which are accented by decorative brackets that frame the cornice, and the spindle band beneath it. The balustrade of the second story porch is rather unusual, having a row of straight balusters topped with an ornamental panel. The gable over the

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entrance has a paneled pediment and brackets that support a simple cornice. The opening onto the porch is accented by an arch with a central pendant and corner spindles. Monumental brackets support the entrance hood. Each of the first floor front porch piers is lathe turned and accented at the top with decorative brackets. The spindle band and balustrade are both intact. The balustrade extends down the front steps terminating in newel posts. The small porch on the east side of the rear addition is as unique as the first and second story porches of the facade. It has lathe turned posts and a simple balustrade. The brackets at the tops of the posts have been elongated to form an elaborate arching screen on two sides. The porch on the west side of the rear extension by comparison with the other porches is quite simple. Its only accents are simple decorative brackets at the tops of the posts.

Variety was the goal of the architect in his design of the wood ornamentation. No two spindle bands or balustrade patterns are alike, the stickwork in most of the gables varies slightly, and the pediments of the gables over the entrances, and the fascias of the dormer and the beveled gable have different compositions.

The only alteration to the exterior of the building is the addition of aluminum siding to the west side of the west rear porch. The Layton house is in remarkably good condition, considering that it has been rental property for approximately sixty-five years. Its wood ornamentation is completely intact, and a coat of paint would fully restore it to its original grandeur.

The house has a central hall that separates a living room and bedroom on the west half of the house from the dining room on the east half. The kitchen is located behind the dining room in the rear shed roof extension. There are three bedrooms on the second story. According to Vera Merrell, George W. Layton's daughter, the woodwork on the interior of the house is still intact. Access to the interior, however, was not possible.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** c. 1897 **Builder/Architect** Possibly George W. Layton/William Allen

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The George W. Layton house, built in about 1897, is significant as one of a very limited number of houses designed by the Kaysville architect William Allen, that is virtually unaltered. William Allen was the only architect in Davis County at the time that the Layton house was designed, and continued to be the leading architect in the county until the 1920s. The Layton house also documents the use of pattern book house types in the late nineteenth century, and it is the same pattern that Allen used in the John Henry Layton house in West Layton, and possibly in the Joseph Adams house in East Layton. Of the three houses the George W. Layton house received the most ornate program of ornament, and thereby records one extreme of the stylistic possibilities of pattern book design. The complexity of the brick and wood ornamentation, and its unaltered and well preserved condition make the George W. Layton house one of the most distinctive Victorian pattern book houses in Utah. In addition, Layton, who is credited with the resident's actual construction, served in a number of capacities within the community.

The George W. Layton Farm House, in West Layton, was built c. 1897. According to Vera Louise Layton Merrill, a daughter of Layton, the house incorporated an earlier three-room structure. The house was designed by William Allen, a prominent Davis County architect, and the actual construction of the residence is credited to Layton himself. The George W. Layton house is a two story red brick house with a stone foundation that was designed by the Kaysville architect, William Allen. It is a pattern book design with an impressive program of Eastlake and Queen Anne ornamentation. The pattern Allen chose for this house is almost exactly the same as the one he used for the John Henry Layton house which is several miles east on West Gentile Street. The John H. Layton house has longer proportions, but in general massing it is the mirror image of the George W. Layton house.

In 1851, Joseph (Cap) Hill "I" homesteaded at the mouth of Kay's Creek. In 1862, James Bevins built a house on the south side of Kay's Creek. Seven years later, Christopher Layton and some of his sons and sons-in-law cleared six sections of land to be dry farmed. This dry farm and the adjacent areas became known as West Layton. The early settlers of the area were sons and daughters of people who had settled in Kaysville and other areas of Davis County.

George Willard Layton was born November 11, 1863, in Kaysville, Utah. He was a son of Christopher and Rose Ann Hudson Layton. George W. spent his early years in Kaysville. It was there that he met and married Jeanette Maria Hill on December 18, 1884. Layton purchased 82 acres of land located in West Layton in 1891 from William and Aaron Call. At that time, there was a three room structure located on the site, and in about 1897 Layton had Allen design the present structure, with Layton himself involved in its construction.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Abstract of Title, Davis County Recorder's Office, Farmington, Utah.  
 "George W. Layton," Layton Journal, January 13, 1944.  
East of Antelope Island, Daughters of the Utah Pioneers.  
Autobiography of Christopher Layton, p. 203.

(See continuation sheet)

# 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property Less than one  
 Quadrangle name Clearfield

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 

1	2	4	1	4	8	0	0	4	5	4	5	6	9	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Beginning at a point 17 chns. N and 600 ft. W of SE corner of SW 1/4 of Sec. 25 - 4N - 2 W, thence N 3 chns thence W 135.1 ft., thence S 3 chns thence E 135.1 ft to point of beginning.

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

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Deborah R. Temme, Architectural Historian/Fred Aegerter, Historian

organization Utah State Historical Society date Fall 1980

street & number 300 Rio Grande telephone 801-533-6017

city or town Salt Lake City state Utah

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Melvin T. Smith

title Melvin T. Smith, State Historic Preservation Officer date 3/15/82

**For HCRS use only**  
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

[Signature] date 7-23-82  
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: [Signature] date 7-16-82  
 Chief of Registration

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Layton's activities were not limited to farming. He has been characterized as being involved in "everything from baseball diamonds to banking." He raised cattle and livestock and also grain to provide feed. He was president of the First National Bank of Layton and was a major stockholder in the Layton Sugar Company and the Ellison Cattle Ranch. He is also credited with building eleven other houses, in addition to his own. The Laytons were members of the LDS Church and were active in church activities. The couple had eight children, two of whom died in early infancy.

In the early 1900s the Laytons moved from the farmhouse to a house located nearer to the town of Layton. The farmhouse was used as the residence of the hired farmhand. This enabled George W. to take care of his responsibilities at the farm and in town. The children loved the new location because it was located nearer to the train station which provided transportation to Lagoon, a popular resort.

Mrs. Layton died in 1933. George lived eleven years after her death, passing away on January 10, 1944.

The house was deeded to Glen Seymour Layton and other members of the family in 1931. In 1961, the property was acquired to Sheron Layton Ahlstrom and Patricia Layton Evans, who presently own the property. The house is being used as rental property.

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(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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Interview with Vera Merrill, January 12, 1981, at Layton, Utah.