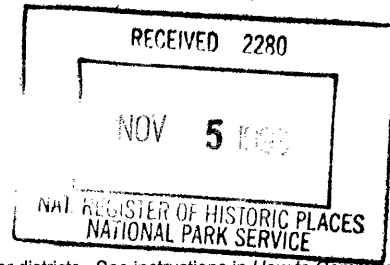


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places 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 American Fork Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Roughly 200 W, 170 E, 300 S, 100 N (See accompanying map, "American Fork Historic District" N/A not for publication

city or town American Fork N/A vicinity _____

state Utah code UT county Utah code 049 zip code 84003

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] 10/30/98
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this 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] 12/10/98
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

American Fork Historic District
Name of Property

American Fork, Utah County, Utah
City, County, and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

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

Contributing	Non-contributing	
<u>104</u>	<u>47</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>104</u>	<u>47</u>	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

2 (48 E 100 South and 130 W 100 South)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC: single & multiple dwellings
- DOMESTIC: secondary structure
- RELIGION: religious facility
- AGRICULTURE: agricultural outbuilding

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC: single & multiple dwellings
- DOMESTIC: secondary structure
- COMMERCE/TRADE: business & professional

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

- MID 19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival
- LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate, Victorian Eclectic
- LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:
- Tudor Revival, Colonial Revival
- LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
- Bungalow, Prairie School

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation STONE: sandstone, limestone, CONCRETE
- walls BRICK, WOOD: weatherboard, STUCCO
- roof ASPHALT
- other _____

Narrative Description

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

American Fork Historic District
Name of Property

American Fork, Utah County, Utah
City, County, and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" on one or more lines 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" on all 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.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE
- EXPLORATION / SETTLEMENT
- COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
- COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1868-1940

Significant Dates

1868-1940

Significant Person

(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

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

American Fork Historic District
Name of Property

American Fork, Utah County, Utah
City, County, and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property approximately 50 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A <u>1/2</u>	<u>4/3/1/6/8/0</u>	<u>4/4/6/9/7/4/0</u>	B <u>1/2</u>	<u>4/3/1/7/8/0</u>	<u>4/4/6/9/9/0/0</u>
Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
C <u>1/2</u>	<u>4/3/2/0/3/0</u>	<u>4/4/6/9/6/8/0</u>	D <u>1/2</u>	<u>4/3/2/3/0/0</u>	<u>4/4/6/9/6/3/0</u>

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property)

The Boundary of the American Fork Historic District is shown as the dashed line on the accompanying map entitled "American Fork Historic District"

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

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundaries were selected to include the areas with the most historic structures and those which maintain their integrity. Areas not within the district were excluded either due to numerous out-of-period structures or those lacking integrity.

 See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nelson W. Knight, Architectural Historian/Utah SHPO staff

organization Smith Hyatt Architects

date July 1998

street & number 845 S Main St.

telephone (801) 298-1666

city or town Bountiful

state UT zip code 84010

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/or 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 District Nomination: Multiple Owners

street & number N/A

telephone N/A

city or town N/A

state N/A zip code N/A

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

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

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 1

American Fork Historic District, American Fork, Utah County, UT

Narrative Description

Site:

American Fork is located in Utah Valley near the north end of Utah Lake, fifteen miles north of Provo, the Utah County seat, and thirty miles south of the State Capital, Salt Lake City. The city contains a central historic commercial and residential core area, which is surrounded by suburban subdivisions built on what was once agricultural land.

The American Fork Historic District is located in the historic core of the city and is built upon a grid of five acre blocks separated by wide streets. Following the original Plat of Zion as envisioned by Mormon church founder Joseph Smith, each block was originally divided into eight lots, though every block within the district has since been subdivided and open space filled with new construction. All of the streets are paved and are lined with curb and gutter and sidewalks. Large, mature trees line the streets and shade residential lots throughout the district.

Residential Buildings:

The district is irregularly shaped, and includes only portions of twelve downtown blocks, wrapping around the commercial area that no longer retains its integrity. The primary east-west axis of the district runs along 100 South, while the north-south axes are 200 West, 100 West, Center St., and 100 East. The district is almost exclusively residential in character, and contains a variety of houses from four general building phases: 1868-1880, 1880-1910, 1910-1940, and 1940-present.¹ Although out-of-period and altered structures are found throughout the downtown area, the district retains its overall integrity of feeling and association.

Summary Statistics American Fork Historic District

Status:	<u>Contributing</u> 104 (69%)	<u>Non-contributing</u> 47 (31%)				
Ages:	<u>1868-1880</u> 6 (4%)	<u>1881-1910</u> 67 (44%)	<u>1911-1940</u> 49 (33%)	<u>1941-present</u> 29 (19%)		
Styles:	<u>Classical</u> 6 (4%)	<u>Greek Revival</u> 28 (19%)	<u>Victorian Eclectic</u> 50 (33%)	<u>Bungalow</u> 28 (19%)	<u>Period Cottage</u> 18 (12%)	<u>Other</u> 35 (23%)
Materials:	<u>Brick</u> 67 (44%)	<u>Stucco</u> 23 (15%)	<u>Wood Siding</u> 2 (1.5%)	<u>Adobe</u> 2 (1.5%)	<u>Other</u> 57 (38%)	

¹All statistical data for this nomination was obtained from information compiled by the Utah SHPO from reconnaissance level surveys conducted in American Fork by C. Ray Varley in 1987 and Elizabeth Egleston in 1994. The 1987 survey included the area contained within the boundaries of this district.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 2

American Fork Historic District, American Fork, Utah County, UT

No properties dating from the earliest period of American Fork's settlement (1849-1868) are contained within the district. The earliest properties in the district date from the late 1870s, around the last years of American Fork's pioneer settlement, before the arrival of the railroad. The remaining examples from this time are single-story, symmetrical hall-parlor or crosswing type, gable-roofed houses, in simple vernacular classical styles. Decorative details, when present, are inspired by the Greek Revival. These houses are generally constructed of adobe or soft fired brick and are most often covered with stucco.

The bulk of the district's buildings (approximately 67) date from the period 1880-1910. These are primarily Victorian Eclectic and late Greek Revival crosswing or central-block-with-projecting-bays houses, usually one or one-and-a-half stories in height (Photos 2 and 9). Fired red and putty colored brick is the most common building material of buildings of this time, though wood frame houses are also found. The Victorian houses are characterized by asymmetrical facades, prominent front gables, and substantial one-story porches with Classically inspired turned columns. Foundations are most often coarsely laid sandstone, though concrete came into use toward the end of this period. Roofs are a mix of gabled and hipped types. Windows on the front elevations consist of large single panes with fixed transoms, or one-over-one double-hung sash types.

Houses of the period 1910-1940 fall into two distinct types: the bungalow and the period cottage. The bungalow appears frequently in the district; approximately twenty-eight houses in the district are bungalows, or variations thereof. Two variants of the bungalow style, most examples of which were built in the first half of this period, were commonly found in the district: the more popular dark reddish brown brick version with a low-pitched hipped roof and broad front porch embellished with battered concrete columns; and the more modest frame, side gabled dwelling with clipped, or jerkinhead, gables. Both are distinguished by simple, rectangular footprints and wide, low slung eaves. Often both types were adorned with arts and crafts details such as roof brackets and exposed rafters and purlins. A few examples of the Prairie School style of bungalow can also be found in the district. Stylistic features include the wide overhanging eaves, a low hipped roof, horizontal banding, and geometric ornamentation.

Approximately 18 Period Cottage houses built during this period are located in the district. This house type encompasses several different period revival styles. By far the most frequently occurring style of period cottage in the district is the brick Tudor Revival cottage, in which a relatively simple rectangular cottage is elaborated upon by a steeply pitched entrance gable intersecting the side-gabled roofline.

Approximately 29 out-of-period buildings comprise the rest of the properties in the district (Photo 11). These consist of post-WWII cottages and modern ranch houses. Although such out-of-period buildings are found throughout the district, they are compatible in scale and materials with the historic buildings and do not detract overall from the character of the district (Photo 10).

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section No. 7 Page 3

American Fork Historic District, American Fork, Utah County, UT

Outbuildings:

Several historic outbuildings are found scattered throughout the district. These are largely wood frame granaries and sheds and wood frame and brick automobile garages. Many out-of-period outbuildings are also present. Like the out-of-period houses, these outbuildings are compatible in scale and materials with the historic buildings and outbuildings and do not detract overall from the character of the district.

 See continuation sheet

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 4

American Fork Historic District, American Fork, Utah County, UT

Narrative Statement of Significance

The American Fork Historic District is locally significant, both architecturally and historically, because it represents the social, economic and architectural history of American Fork, Utah. The district is significant under Criterion C for its concentration of intact examples of residential buildings built during the major construction periods in the town's history, from 1868-1940. The district accurately represents the wide range of architectural styles, types, and construction materials found in American Fork. The district is also locally significant under Criterion A as a reflection of American Fork's residential settlement patterns and community growth through 1940. Founded by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS, or Mormon church) in 1850, American Fork experienced steady growth as an agricultural community, and later as a commercial center for northern Utah County through the arrival of the railroad in American Fork in 1873. This growth has continued into the twentieth century and up to the present.

Mormon Settlement 1850-1867

The site of American Fork was first considered as having potential for settlement by two early pioneers, Arza Adams and Stephen Chipman, who camped in the vicinity while traveling to Provo in the summer of 1850. Favorably impressed, Adams and Chipman asked permission from Brigham Young to establish a cattle ranch in the area, but instead were instructed to undertake a survey. Two sections of land were laid out in what was known as the "Big Survey," encompassing the early townsite and the riparian area along American Fork Creek. The town of Lehi, a few miles northwest, had recently been surveyed, and this was used as the baseline.

Three aspects of the community's inception differ from that associated with traditional Mormon settlement, two of which are noted by Lowry Nelson in The Mormon Village. First, the intention of Adams and Chipman to establish a large ranch was a departure from the usual pattern of Mormon settlement in which land was subdivided into small tracts. Second, many families constructed a house and lived on their farms, rather than reside in the village and travel to their land. Finally, settlers first lived on along the creek, where they had proximity to water, rather than in the orderly lots laid out in even blocks that characterized Mormon villages.²

²Lowry Nelson, The Mormon Village, (Salt Lake City, Utah: University of Utah Press, 1952), 179.

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American Fork Historic District, American Fork, Utah County, UT

The threat of unrest between the settlers and the Indians in 1853 ended any dissimilar patterns. Residents were instructed to construct a fort and move within its walls.³ The pioneers' log homes were moved within the fort but as the Indian danger dissipated, enthusiasm to complete the fort faded and it was never completed. From 1853 on, settlement was less dispersed and the plan of the village followed that of the fort.⁴

During the 1850s and 1860s life in American Fork centered on survival. Farming and raising livestock was the basis of the economy. Small businesses and stores, such as the glass and crockery store established by Richard Steele in 1851 existed, but the exchange of goods transpired through trade and little cash was used.⁵ These decades were spent in building the community's economic and physical infrastructure, and establishing the institutions that the settlers had known elsewhere. George Shelley describes the early accomplishments:

Among these were the gathering of the people together from their various locations along the creek into a compact community surrounded by a wall, the assuming of the distribution of the irrigation water ... the allotment of land to the settlers, the making of roads and bridges...⁶

The subsistence standard of living, the lack of materials and sophisticated tools and the isolation from national markets affected the community's architecture. The first homes were constructed of logs, (some of hewn-log construction), chinked with chips and covered with mud mortar.

The next phase of construction was characterized by the use of adobe bricks. Residents found a good quality of clay in the wetlands southwest of the community and constructed an adobe mill. Adobe provided a more comfortable dwelling and allowed for stylistic forms and embellishments. In 1860 a new meetinghouse was built out of adobe with a granite foundation; later photographs indicate that the building had the moderately-pitched gable roof and cornice returns associated with the Greek Revival style in Utah. This building also served as a school.⁷

³The fort boundaries encompassed 37 acres, and included the northern section of the district (the area roughly between Main Street and 100 South, and 100 West and 100 East), although most of the fort was north of the present district boundaries. See Wanda Snow Peterson, Pioneer Stories of American Fork, The Hub of North Utah County. (Privately published, 1994), 7.

⁴Nelson, The Mormon Village, 180.

⁵George Shelley, Early History of American Fork..., (American Fork: American Fork City, 1945), 112. See also Nelson, The Mormon Village, 181.

⁶Shelley, 22.

⁷The building was situated on Church St., just north of Main Street, and has since been demolished. See Shelley, 132.

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Section No. 8 Page 6

American Fork Historic District, American Fork, Utah County, UT

Stability and Growth, Construction of Railroad through American Fork, 1868-1880

By the late 1860s life in American Fork was stable enough for residents to strengthen municipal institutions, support mercantile trading, and create more substantial and style-conscious structures. In 1867 the Deseret Telegraph Company opened an office in American Fork, providing access to communication on a national scale. Also in this year territorial legislation was passed giving local governments the right to maintain free public schools through taxation; this bill was sponsored by Leonard Harrington, American Fork's first mayor, LDS bishop and Utah County legislative representative. After the bill passed, American Fork residents voted in favor of this option and became the first community in the territory to fund public education. A road and a narrow gauge railroad were constructed in the 1870s in American Fork Canyon to service mining activity. This, along with the construction of a mill with a circular saw at the mouth of the canyon, provided a much greater supply of lumber. Mining also brought in an influx of cash and helped the growing mercantile base in the town. Most significantly, the Utah Southern Railroad Company opened transportation through American Fork in 1873.

These developments affected the architecture and the physical appearance of the town. Residential architecture began to reflect national trends. Although the Greek Revival style, which had died out nationally by 1840, remained popular in American Fork and throughout Utah through the 1880s, the Victorian Eclectic style was used in American Fork by 1875. The William-Abner Chipman House at 269 S 100 W (c.1875) is a prime example of the Victorian influence. Homes in this style exhibited cross-wing, side-passage and central block plans. Adobe continued to be used but fired brick became the predominant material.⁸ An example of adobe house remaining in American Fork is the Greek Revival George & Mary Spratley House (c.1875) at 29 E 100 South. These trends are reflected in the surviving buildings of the district.

Two new schoolhouses, serving the neighborhoods east and west of the creek, were constructed. The 1860 adobe church was expanded in 1877 by a 30 x 50 foot addition and was thereafter known as "the Science Hall." Bate Hall, a community recreation center, was built out of rock in 1876. A Gothic Revival Presbyterian Church was constructed the next year.⁹

Post-Railroad Growth, Maturation of Municipal Institutions, 1880-1910

⁸For a thorough discussion of the Victorian styles in Utah, see Thomas Carter and Peter Goss, Utah's Historic Architecture, 1847-1940, (Salt Lake City, Utah: University of Utah Graduate School of Architecture and Utah State Historical Society, 1988), 110-131.

⁹All of these buildings were located outside the district boundaries. With the exception of the Presbyterian Church at 75 N. 100 East (listed in the National Register in 1980), all have been demolished.

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American Fork Historic District, American Fork, Utah County, UT

Once American Fork had rail access, its history and architecture were very much in keeping with the rest of Utah and the nation. Its location, between Provo and Salt Lake City, meant that it had a steady stream of travelers and access to outside markets and culture. The community continued to mature during the 1880s and through the first decade of the twentieth century. In 1883 rail service expanded with the extension of a Denver and Rio Grande Railroad line through American Fork. In the early 1890s municipal services improved: new streets were opened, a new survey was undertaken, city government became more structured and uniform city ordinances were established. Electric street lights were installed in 1901, the houses were numbered in 1905, and a fire station was constructed on Main Street in 1913. In 1899 the American Fork Co-op built "a commodious brick store" on Main Street, contributing to the town's prosperous appearance. The Co-op was established in 1873 as part of Brigham Young's efforts to keep mercantile business in Mormon hands. Closing in 1930, it had outlasted other co-ops in the state. In 1892 the Chipman Mercantile company was founded and became the largest retail operation in Utah County.¹⁰ The opening of the sugar beet factory in Lehi in the 1890s augmented the agricultural base in the county. This commercial growth in American Fork is reflected in the homes of the district. There are many large homes from this period still extant on Main Street including the Victorian Eclectic J. Chipman, jr. House (c.1893, 121 W Main), the Greek Revival Emeline Sykes House (c.1905, 184 W Main), and the Queen Anne Vance/Walton House (c.1902, 195 W Main). Many homes built in the district were by families newly prospering from the City's commercial growth.¹¹ Often these owners were members of established American Fork agricultural families branching out into new commercial and industrial interests.

In 1901 a general reorganization of the LDS Church in Utah County took place. The original Utah Stake of Zion, (the LDS "stake" is equivalent to a diocese) which once encompassed Mormon wards (equivalent to parishes) in all of Utah County, was divided into three Stakes. American Fork became part of the new Alpine Stake. The single ward in American Fork was divided into four congregations, necessitating four new chapels.¹² All four, two of which were in the district, were of built of brick in a Gothic Revival style.¹³ The Alpine Stake Tabernacle, found within the district boundaries at 110 E. Main St., is another significant LDS structure of this time. It reflects a new era of church building in a variety of revival and modern styles.

¹⁰Shelley, 114.

¹¹These include, among a number of good examples that have been researched through the Intensive Level Survey process, the Brown House at 51 S. 100 East, the Elsmore House at 64 E. 100 South, and the Crandall House at 186 W. 100 South. See Historic Site Forms and Accompanying Documentation on file at the Utah State Historic Preservation Office.

¹²The district area became part of the new Second Ward, and a chapel was built in 1903 at 130 W. 100 South.

¹³Only two remain: the Second Ward meetinghouse at 130 W. 100 South was listed on the National Register in 1993 but the Third Ward, located outside of the district, has suffered incompatible alterations.

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Section No. 8 Page 8

American Fork Historic District, American Fork, Utah County, UT

In 1914 Jesse M. Walker began raising white Leghorn hens for egg production on a commercial scale, marking the beginning of a prosperous poultry industry for American Fork. This seems to have had a great effect on the town, both economically and physically, as it was an enterprise that many people could participate in because it did not involve a large capital investment. The large lots of 1.25 acres (eight to a block) were conducive to the growth of this industry; Lowry Nelson writes that the space provided in this area was often sufficient for a poultry business large enough to supply a family's livelihoods.¹⁴ This resulted in an expanded agrarian overlay to a community in which keeping livestock on property within the city was not unusual. Even today many henhouses and outbuildings associated with the poultry business are extant.

Progressive-Era Ideals and Economic Depression, 1900-1940

Beginning about 1910, domestic architecture moved away from the prevailing Victorian Eclectic style and bungalows became popular. The 1987 architectural survey indicates that this house type was used as early as 1901 but had become very popular in the next decade. Bungalows in American Fork are generally simple brick structures with a rectangular form and a hipped roof; more elaborate examples have Prairie School and Arts and Crafts elements. A few larger, Prairie style foursquare plan houses were also constructed in American Fork during this time, including the Chipman/Firmage House at 6 S. 100 West, and the Chipman/Robinson House at 208 W Main Street (Photo 4). Frame Craftsman bungalows, with brackets, clipped gables, and clapboard siding, offered an alternative for a small, modest house. Period Revival cottages of English Tudor styling were built beginning in the teens and through the 1930s and 1940s.¹⁵

American Fork continued to benefit from the progressive ideals characteristic of the turn of the century. The city purchased land for a city park in 1920 and received a grant from the Carnegie Foundation and constructed a library designed by Ware and Treganza in 1923.¹⁶ School consolidation occurred in 1915. In 1929 state legislation was passed establishing several institutions assisting the mentally and physically disabled; American Fork was chosen as the site for the State Training School for mentally retarded citizens. By 1945 the school had 659 students and 86 full-time employees -- a boost for the local economy.

¹⁴Nelson, 195.

¹⁵Examples of brick bungalows in the district include the Bezzant House at 163 S. 100 West, the James & Nan Chipman House at 141 W. Main St., and the John & Cora Chadwick House at 45 S. Center St. Frame Bungalows include Bernard & Maud Christensen House at 154 S. 100 West. Period Cottages include the James S. & Elva Chadwick House at 40 S. Center St., the Richards House at 50 S. Center St., the Chipman Bate House at 135 W. Main St., and the Devey House at 154 W. Main St.

¹⁶Both the park and the library site (the building has since been demolished) are located on the southwest corner of Main and 100 East Streets, just outside of the district boundaries.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 9

American Fork Historic District, American Fork, Utah County, UT

During the 1930s American Fork experienced the hardships of the Depression but received some relief through the Works Progress Administration. WPA projects within the district included the improvement of City Central Park and graveling and hard-surfacing the streets. Outside the district boundaries, an amphitheater and wall at the State Training School, a stone wall around the cemetery, and an addition to the Harrington School designed by Provo architect Joseph Nelson of Nelson and Ashworth were all WPA projects that had a lasting influence on the physical fabric of the city.

Recent Development and Influences, 1940 -- present

In the early 1940s the Geneva Steel plant was constructed to meet the demands of World War II. Several large subdivisions, including Columbia Village, Thornwood and Richland Park, were constructed to meet the related housing demand. Although located outside the district boundaries, these subdivisions had a lasting impact on the physical surroundings comprising the setting of the district area, and diminished the surrounding farmland that many residents of the district once owned as farmland.¹⁷ Architecturally these subdivisions represent one of the state's "Levittowns," in the sense that the homes were almost identical and small with compact floor plans. Their design lent them well to cost-effective and speedy construction. These subdivisions, along with those more recently constructed, have disrupted the pre-1940s layout and appearance of American Fork.

Probably the most significant post-World War II change to the physical character of this community was the construction of an interstate highway along the western edge of the city during the early 1960s. The resulting bypass of traffic has negatively affected Main Street businesses, as have the more recent construction of regional shopping malls. American Fork is no different from all communities along the Wasatch Front, in that maintaining a distinct identity, rather than acting as a bedroom community for Provo, Orem and Salt Lake, has become difficult.

The American Fork Historic District is an important historical resource because it represents the settlement and development of American Fork, Utah. The district is locally significant as a physical reflection of the residential architectural and historical development. The houses and outbuildings within the district provide a complete representation of the wide range of architectural styles and plans popular in the city between 1870 and 1940.

The district excludes the downtown commercial district including a city hall, a school, the old dance hall and more because of their lack of integrity.

¹⁷See Nelson, The Mormon Village, 191-193.

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E 1/2 4/3/2/5/0/0 4/4/6/9/6/6/0 F 1/2 4/3/2/6/6/0 4/4/6/9/4/8/0

G 1/2 4/3/2/6/5/0 4/4/6/9/4/4/0 H 1/2 4/3/2/5/0/0 4/4/6/9/2/6/0

I 1/2 4/3/2/2/6/0 4/4/6/9/2/0/0 J 1/2 4/3/2/0/7/0 4/4/6/9/0/2/0

K 1/2 4/3/1/8/6/0 4/4/6/9/4/6/0 L 1/2 4/3/1/7/7/0 4/4/6/9/4/9/0

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American Fork Historic District, American Fork, Utah County, UT

Common Label Information:

1. American Fork Historic District
2. American Fork, Utah County, Utah
3. Photographer: Nelson W. Knight
4. Date: April 1998
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO.

Photo No. 1:

6. South side of Main Street between 200 West and 100 West. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 2:

6. 174-166-154 West Main Street. Camera facing northeast.

Photo No. 3:

6. North side of Main Street between 200 West and 100 West. Camera facing west.

Photo No. 4:

6. 208 W. Main Street. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 5:

6. 194 West Main Street. Camera facing north.

Photo No. 6:

6. 40-26-18 South 200 West, 201 W. Main Street. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 7:

6. 83 S. 100 East. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 8:

6. Non-contributing building. 105 S. 100 West. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 9:

6. 41 W. 100 South. Camera facing south.

Photo No. 10:

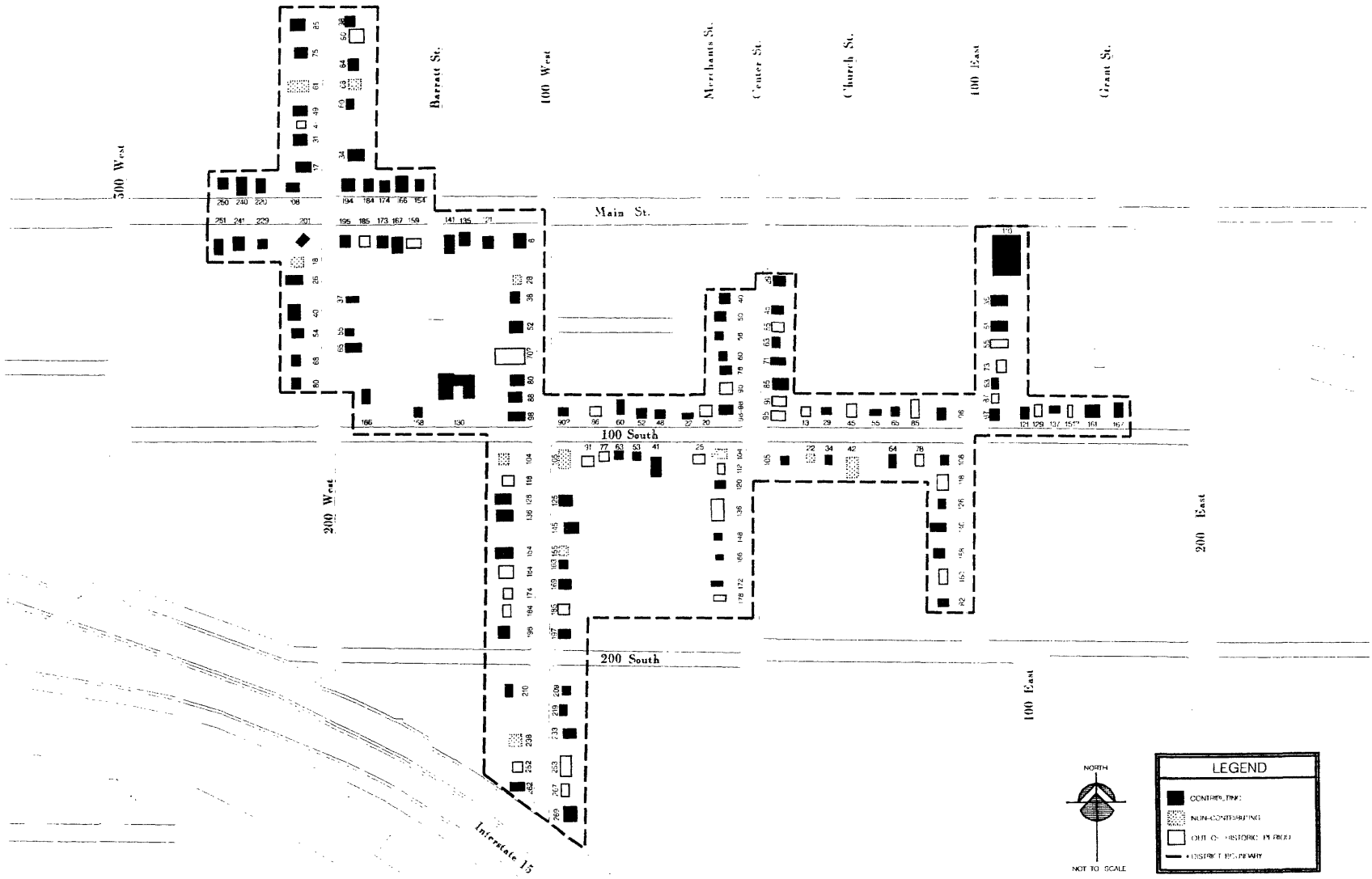
6. Out of Period, noncontributing

Photo No. 11:

6. Out of Period, noncontributing

Photo No. 12:

6. Outbuildings. 64 E 100 S. Camera facing southeast.



LEGEND	
	CONTRIBUTING
	NON-CONTRIBUTING
	LOT IN HISTORIC PLAT
	DISTRICT BOUNDARY

