

**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

For HCRS use only

received MAY 20 1980

date entered JUN 24 1980

1. Name

historic Young Block

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 3 to 17 South Main St. _____ not for publication

city, town Richfield _____ vicinity of congressional district 01

state Utah code 049 county Sevier code 041

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 checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 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 Frank L. Jackson "trustee"

street & number 40 East Center

city, town Richfield _____ vicinity of state Utah

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Sevier County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Richfield _____ state Utah

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Sevier County Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date Summer 1979 _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town SLC _____ state UT

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Young Block, a two-story brick building on the corner of Main Street and Center Street, has retained significant integrity and exhibits characteristics not found in any other commercial building in Richfield. The rectangular plan includes a corner tower. Commercial tenants occupy the ground floor, while the second floor houses apartments, following the original uses of the structure.

Entrance to the main commercial space on the ground floor is a corner indentation marked by classically derived pilasters. Identical pilasters flank the entrance to upper apartments on the west, and a single pilaster visually completes the southwest corner which adjoins another commercial structure. The Main Street facade is glazed to provide display area for the ground floor tenants. A cornice separates the first and second stories on the west facade and wraps around the corner tower as a curvilinear element.

The second story level exhibits coupled double hung sash windows with massive stone lintels and continuous sills which form a stringcourse. The flat roofline is distinguished by a combined corbelled cornice and applied, pressed metal cornice.

The square corner tower is an extension of a corner pavilion and entrance configuration. The effect of the tower takes advantage of the building's corner location and the scale of the other buildings on Main Street. Four brick piers with a brick and frame balustrade between, designate an open space and support a roof and cornice. Above this, molded woodwork reflects the supporting piers and the corbelled brick of the upper story cornice.

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1907

Builder/Architect Archibald Graham Young

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Young Block was assessed in a county-wide survey to be the most architecturally significant commercial building in Sevier County and one of the more commercially significant buildings in Central Utah. The Young Block is one of the very few commercial structures of the earlier period in Richfield retaining its original integrity. Occupying a key position in the Central Business District at the corner of Center and Main Streets, it is the only structure on this intersection whose original character has been preserved. The unique corner tower makes the Young Block a distinctive local landmark. It was erected by Sevier County's most famous contractor, Archibald Graham Young. The Young Block signifies the transformation of Richfield from a settlement to the economic center of Central Utah.

Richfield was first settled by Mormon pioneers as Warm Springs in 1864. After the cessation of Black Hawk Indian hostilities in 1870, the local residents returned, renaming the settlement, Omvi Point. Eight years later the town was incorporated as Richfield. The community had been selected by Mormon church leaders to be the seat of the Sevier County government and the home of the Sevier County stake. The boundaries of the latter included Piute, Wayne, and Garfield counties as well as Sevier. Richfield became the "jumping-off" point for further colonization of regions to the east and south.

The centralized location of the new agricultural community eventually transformed it into the economic capital of Central Utah. Yet as late as 1890 Richfield still had not assumed this economic role. The arrival of the San Pete Sevier branch of the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad in 1896 changed all that as the settlement began to visually evolve into a city. The population increased, individual wealth increased, and Main Street began to attract some commercially significant businesses.

The construction needs for housing these new enterprises was different from those businesses which had preceded the railroad boom. Local contractors continued to do much of the work, but the buildings themselves became better designed and built and more cosmopolitan in style. This new sophistication represented improvement in local building skills and technology, as well as the growing economic importance of Richfield that was signified by the new buildings.

Archibald Graham Young, a Scottish Mormon immigrant, settled in Richfield in the early 1870's. At first he, like most of the early settlers, farmed and then practiced what other skills he might have possessed. A.G. Young was a

9. Major Bibliographical References

Jacobson, Pearl ed., Golden Sheaves from a Rich Field: A Centennial History of Richfield, Utah. (Richfield: Richfield Reaper, 1969).
Warnock, Irwin L., Our Own Sevier: A Centennial History 1865-1965 (Richfield: Richfield Reaper, 1965).

10. Geographical Data UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property .24
Quadrangle name Richfield ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>2</u>	<u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>5</u> <u>8</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>3</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>	B					
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing		
C				D					
E				F					
G				H					

Verbal boundary description and justification

Beg 119.5 ft E. and 44.75 ft S. of NW cor lot 3, blk 28, Plat A, Richfield City Survey. N. 44.75 ft, W 119.5 ft, S 58.5 ft, E 100 ft., S 118 ft, E 14.5 ft, N. 127.833 ft to beg.

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert V. Hugie/Historian

organization Utah State Historical Society date Feb 1980

street & number 307 West 200 South telephone 533-6017

city or town Salt Lake City state UT 84101

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 5/5/80

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

W. Ray Luce date 6/24/80
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: William H. Graham date 6.16.80
Chief of Registration

for
Atty.

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Continuation sheet

Item number

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carpenter and by 1900 he had started a building partnership with Hans Hansen. In 1902 he obtained a contract to erect a new jail, and along with some of Richfield's more prominent citizens shared the construction of the Sevier County Courthouse. This project was one of the first on the long list of important contracts that Archibald Young was to get during his distinguished building career. The Richfield elementary school, the Fillmore School, the Post Office and Library in Richfield, and the Sevier Stake Seminary do not exhaust the list of Young built buildings. So as not to be limited to the erection of structures, Young contracted to lay Richfield's culinary water system and in 1920 he started a highway construction company.

The Young Block was built by and named after this locally famous individual. A.G. Young at first shared ownership of the property with Morten Jensen, another prominent Richfield citizen. They had purchased the corner lot from Lars Peterson in 1905. In 1907 the property was mortgaged to finance the construction of what was to be Richfield's largest and most stylish commercial building. Young began building that same year. The brick was purchased from George Christersian's Brick and Tile factory in Richfield.

The finished structure had apartments upstairs and commercial space downstairs. Many of Richfield's businesses have at one time or another leased space in the Young Block. For example: a cafe, two furniture stores, a jeweler and a car showroom to name a few have occupied this building. In addition to these commercial establishments, the Young Block has been host for the Richfield Opera and the first Lyric Theatre. Leasing the first floor apparently was never difficult as there was always a business ready to replace the one that either folded or had moved out.

The continued decline of prices for agricultural goods during the 1920's affected many of Richfield's commercial establishments, which in turn affected the financial success of the Young Block. In 1931 A.G. Young was ordered by the County Court to sale the building to his major creditor, the State Bank of Sevier. Nine years later he was dead but his son, L.A. Young, continued building in and around Richfield. As for the building, no further transactions were discovered by researchers until a 1946 quit-claim action on the property by W.D. Jackson against the State Saving and Loan Association. Jackson is the current owner of the Young Block and he continues to rent rooms upstairs and shop space downstairs. The building is still one of Richfield's more important commercial structures.