

PH 0671479

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED MAR 25 1977  
DATE ENTERED AUG 18 1977

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC **\*\*** Morten Rasmussen Home House

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
417 West Main

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
01

CITY, TOWN  
Mt. Pleasant

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE  
Utah

CODE  
049

COUNTY  
Sanpete

CODE  
039

## 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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
Mrs. Esther R. Christensen

STREET & NUMBER  
417 West Main

CITY, TOWN  
Mt. Pleasant

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE  
Utah

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Sanpete County Courthouse, Recorder's Office,

STREET & NUMBER  
Main Street

CITY, TOWN  
Manti

STATE  
Utah

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE  
Utah Century Register of Historic Sites

DATE  
June 2, 1971

\_\_\_ FEDERAL  STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
Utah State Historical Society, Preservation Office

CITY, TOWN  
603 East South Temple, Salt Lake City,

STATE  
Utah

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

By the time Utah had become sufficiently settled and technologically developed to build fine homes, the Federal period of architecture had declined in the eastern United States. The few Federal-influenced designs in Utah, therefore, were not close replicas of specific models but retained the general forms, plans, and detailing of buildings seen and remembered in the East. The Morten Rasmussen Home is considered an excellent Utah example of regionally adapted Federal styling.

The two-story, T-plan residence was constructed of red brick made (according to family tradition) in a kiln on the property. The front facade is symmetrical with each level having a central door flanked by two windows on either side. All windows in the home are 6 over 6 double-hung wood sash type with Federal lintel caps. The porch around the front door has square posts and a bracketed, moulded cornice. A similarly detailed porch, only roofed, exists along the trunk of the "T" on the east. At the western vexus of the "T" is a one-story kitchen. A carport, using detailing taken from the porches, has been added to the south of the home.

The cornice of the Rasmussen Home is boxed, moulded, has a plain frieze and paired brackets and returns slightly across the gables. The chimneys which were built on the gabled ends and at the crossing of the ridge have been removed but the original southern gable chimney remains. The roof pitch is approximately 12/12.

The double-depth, I-form wings contain spacious rooms with high ceilings. The original floor plan is intact and no partitions have been removed, nor have any new partitions been added. Heating, plumbing, and electrical systems have been updated, the original floor has been covered with a hard wood floor and some small closets have been added. The main floor contains a living room, dining room, parlor, kitchen, and stiarway. Upstairs are bedrooms. One bedroom has been preserved without change since initial construction. It features a hand-stenciled canvas ceiling, stenciled ceiling cornice, wide pine board floors, and simulated oak-grain trim. The fabric of the home is in excellent condition and the present owner, Mrs. Esther Rasmussen Christensen, a granddaughter of Morten Rasmussen, is determined to maintain the home in its historic appearance.

# 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 checked="" 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 1875

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Morten Rasmussen

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Morten Rasmussen Home, a two-story, red brick residence built in 1875 by the owner, is a significant example of Federal residential architecture in Utah. Morten Rasmussen, a prominent builder, was a member of the original group of Mt. Pleasant settlers and played an important role in the community's earliest history.

## HISTORY

Morten Rasmussen was born at Brendekilde, Odense, Denmark, October 27, 1834. After his conversion to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1851 he immigrated with his uncle Lars Jensen's family to Ephraim, Utah. On April 1, 1859, he married Karen Marie Christiansen, also from Denmark. The Rasmussens were part of the original group of Mormons called to colonize Mt. Pleasant in 1859. Rasmussen was a construction superintendent in building the fort where his family lived for two years prior to moving into a two-room saltbox house on the property where the big brick house was built in 1875. The second Rasmussen home was a three-room adobe structure with an upstairs. The 1875 house was the third and last built for the Morten Rasmussen family.

All of the family assisted in building the "big brick house." The boys hauled 30 loads of cedar wood from nearby hills to build the fire needed to make the bricks. The bricks were fired on in a kiln built on the property. Rasmussen was a prominent building contractor but it is not known whether he personally designed the home. The Rasmussen Home is remarkably similar to the Canute Peterson Home (National Register nominee) erected in 1869 in Ephraim, Rasmussen's former place of residence. Canute Peterson was Ephraim's leading religious and civic figure for several decades and would have had access to the Mormon architects employed on church projects in the region. Whether one of these architects or Rasmussen himself designed the two homes is conjectural.

In any event, both the Rasmussen Home and the Peterson Home are fine examples of a regional variation of Federal styling. The Rasmussen Home is a 4/4, double-depth, I-form residence and has a T-plan. Its symmetrical northern facade features pairs of 6/6 windows flanking central doors on both stories. The roof pitch, bracketed cornice, lintel caps and porch detailing, as well as certain aspects of the plan reflect subtle Federal influences carried to Utah from the Eastern United States. The home has experienced only minor modification and is well maintained by Mrs. Esther Rasmussen Christensen, Morten's granddaughter. Excellence in craftsmanship and design is apparent throughout the house.

Morten Rasmussen was one of Mt. Pleasant's earliest citizens of prominence. Like most Mormon colonists, his primary occupation was farming, but his construction skills led him to take an active role in developing the industry of providing building materials. He engaged in lumbering and helped establish the first local sawmill. Rasmussen was also instrumental in developing the earliest brick kilns in Mt. Pleasant.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Morten Rasmussen and Karen Marie Christiansen, History of, by Howard W. Hunter.  
 Lever, W. H., History of Sanpete and Emery Counties, Ogden, 1898.  
 Olsen, Telda Rasmussen, diary.  
 Christensen, Esther Rasmussen, "Morten and Karen Marie Christiansen Rasmussen."

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one.

UTM REFERENCES

460-240			4377-320					
A	1,2	4,4,9,5,3,0	4,3,5,6,6,9,0	B				
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	
C				D				

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Allen D. Roberts, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Utah State Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER

603 East South Temple

CITY OR TOWN

Salt Lake City

DATE

January 11, 1977

TELEPHONE

(801) 533-5755

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Michael T. Miller*

TITLE Michael T. Miller, State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

Mar. 17, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Wm. M. ...*

DATE

*8/18/77*

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

*Charles ...*

DATE

8-16-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Morten Rasmussen took an active part in the Black Hawk War and also served terms on the City Council and the Board of County Commissioners. He was a director of the Sanpete County Co-op Store, played in the Brass Band and was first president of the Birch Creek Irrigation Company. An active Latter-day Saint, Rasmussen served as a missionary in Denmark from 1881 to 1883. He died in 1885 and was survived by his wife and twelve children, many of whom became prominent Mt. Pleasant citizens. The current owner, Mrs. Esther R. Christensen, is the daughter of Daniel, son of Morten Rasmussen.