

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1106

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 McMurdie-White Farmstead

other name/site number Diamond M Creamery, White's Trout Farm, Brook Ranch

2. Location

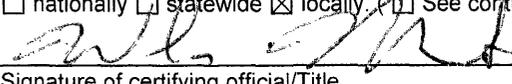
street & town 395 West 9000 South not for publication

city or town Paradise vicinity

state Utah code UT county Cache code 005 zip code 84328

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.)

 Date 5/16/2005

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.)

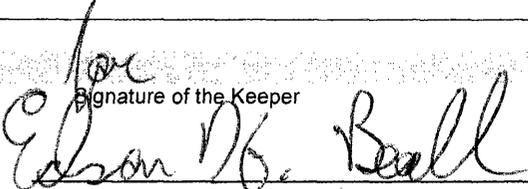
Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that 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 of the Keeper Date of Action 9-28-05

McMurdie-White Farmstead
Name of Property

Paradise, Cache 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	
16	7	buildings
		sites
9	2	structures
		objects
25	9	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

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE: processing, storage,
 agricultural field, animal facility, agricultural outbuilding

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURAL/SUBSISTENCE: processing, storage,
 agricultural field, animal facility, agricultural outbuilding

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: English Barn

OTHER: Improvement Era Dairy Barn

Late 19th century & early 20th century agricultural outbuildings

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE, CONCRETE

walls WOOD: weatherboard, drop siding,
board & batten

roof WOOD: shingle, tin

other concrete block, formed concrete, steel

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

McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

Narrative Description

The McMurdie-White Farmstead is a large-scale production farmstead covering approximately 1,700 acres and located at 395 W. 9000 South in Paradise, Cache County, Utah. Although the farmstead was settled in the 1860s, the period of significance dates from the 1880s (the era from which the earliest extant buildings date), through the transition to large-scale production in the first half of the twentieth century up to 1955. The various primary contributing resources were built in three main phases: 1) c. 1880s to 1895 when the creamery and large barns were built, 2) in the 1930s when trout farming was introduced, and the 1940s and 1950s when production shifted to turkey. The farmstead includes a total of 34 resources, around which the boundaries of the nomination have been drawn. There are sixteen contributing buildings and nine contributing structures, and seven non-contributing buildings and two non-contributing structures. Seventy-six percent of the resources contribute to the history of the farmstead within the period of significance. With the exception of the farmhouse, there has been little or no modification to the buildings and the structures on the farmstead providing excellent integrity to the overall landscape and its resources.

Landscape

The McMurdie-White Farmstead is located near the town of Paradise in the southeast portion of Cache Valley. The acreage of the farmstead begins just west of the Paradise town site plat and slopes westward down to the floodplain of the Little Bear River. The White family owns several large parcels of agricultural land to the west, north and south; but for the purposes of the nomination, the boundaries are drawn around the majority of the historic built resources. From east to southwest, the buildings are grouped in three clusters accessed by paved and dirt roads. The first and largest cluster is located at the east entrance near 9000 South. This group includes the creamery, the dairy (upper) barn, the farmhouse, and several outbuildings. Approximately 500 feet to the west is the second cluster, known as the lower barn with its associated outbuildings. The barns are situated to take advantage of natural slopes in the land in order to access the lower levels. To the southwest and down toward the floodplain of the Little Bear River are located the fish hatchery complex and the trout raceways and ponds. The acreage is mostly open pasture and farmland. There are mature trees near the creamery and the house. There are also a few stands of windbreak trees near the ridge west of the lower barn, and a small grove near the fish hatchery. There has been some newer residential development to the east around the Paradise town site, outside the farmland property, but the farm acreage and floodplain of the Little Bear River remains undeveloped.

Architectural Resources

Below is a list of resources presented in chronological order divided into contributing and non-contributing categories. However, because the type and usage of historic buildings is more easily understood in associated groups, the narrative description of each resource is presented within each cluster moving through the landscape

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McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

from east to west. The construction dates and some descriptive titles for the resources have been gleaned from newspaper articles, county tax records, and interviews with the current property owners. The tax records give a 1951 date for many of the outbuildings and silos. This date has been provided as the best estimate for these resources, but was probably the year of a comprehensive tax assessment with the resources actually constructed before 1951. To simplify and organize the map, letters and numbers were assigned to distinguish between multiple resources of the same type (i.e. shed, shelters and silos), but these designations are arbitrary and have no bearing on the historic or current names or usage of resources.

Contributing Buildings:

1. Lower Barn, circa 1880s to 1895
2. Upper Barn, 1895
3. Creamery, 1895
4. Shed A, circa 1890s
5. Shelter A, circa 1900
6. Shelter B, circa 1900
7. Boiler Room, 1929
8. Scales, 1929
9. Shed B, 1929
10. Fish Hatchery Complex, 1930s-1951
11. Fish Shed, 1930s-1951
12. Greenhouse, circa 1940s
13. Machine Shed, 1951
14. Tractor Shed, 1951
15. Shed C, 1951
16. Shed D, 1951

Contributing Structures:

1. Silo A (concrete), circa 1940s
2. Silo B (concrete), circa 1940s
3. Silo C (concrete), circa 1940s
4. Silo 1 (metal), circa 1951
5. Silo 2 (metal), circa 1951
6. Silo 3 (metal), circa 1951
7. Silo 4 (metal), circa 1951
8. Silo 7 (metal), circa 1951
9. Trout raceways & ponds, circa 1930s-1951

Non-contributing Buildings:

1. Dwelling, 1906 (altered in 1950s, 1990-present)
2. Hay Barn, 1963
3. Shelter C, 1963

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McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

4. Shelter D, 1963
5. Hay Shelter, 1974
6. Cannery, 1983
7. Carport, circa 1990s

Non-contributing Structures:

1. Silo 5 (metal), circa 1980
2. Silo 6 (metal), circa 1980

The McMurdie-White Farmstead is accessed from 9000 South Street. The street is paved with asphalt as it curves from west to north. The farmhouse is located at the north end of the driveway. There is a circa 1980s non-contributing carport (free-standing, metal canopy) west of house. The frame house is non-contributing. It was built in 1906, but has been extensively remodeled and does not resemble the historic house. The first major remodeling occurred in the 1950s and included a semi-attached garage, an addition to the east, siding, windows and dormers. In the past few years, the house has been undergoing more remodeling, which included an extension to the north, new siding and windows. There is a contributing greenhouse (circa 1940s) just northeast of the house. The greenhouse measures 18½ feet by 27 feet. It has a simple gable roof and is constructed of concrete block, wood, and corrugated metal. The landscaping around the house includes lawn to the east and south, several mature trees, and a post & wire fence.

To the west of the asphalt driveway are located the creamery, the dairy (upper) barn, and associated outbuildings. The creamery was built in 1895 and measures 34 feet by 90 feet. It has a simple gable roof, covered in wood shingles, with the ridgeline running north to south. There are several skylights in the roof (date unknown). The foundation is stone laid in random rubble courses. The site slopes to the west. The foundation is not visible on the east elevation, but is nearly a full-story on the west elevation. There is a concrete garage (34 feet by 40 feet, built circa 1950s) attached to the south end of the creamery. The garage has a flat-roof and is not visible on the east elevation. Access to the double garage doors is from a dirt road curving around the south end of the creamery. The creamery building is 1½-stories tall with a full basement. The frame structure is covered with drop-novelty siding. The windows and doors are mostly non-historic replacements, but appear to be similar to the original in size and shape. The entire building is painted red with the exception of the white cupola with Victorian-style louvers and weather vane in the center of the roof. There are also two brick chimneys (one each at the north and south ends). The south chimney may have been a later addition (circa 1920s?). The north chimney is extremely large and tapered. The creamery has an L-shaped addition (cooler) on the west elevation, built before 1941. The addition is built on a concrete block foundation with drop siding on top. The drop siding is similar to the creamery and may have been moved from the west elevation when the addition was built.

The main entrance is on the east elevation, which is sheltered by a full-length roof supported on brackets. The interior of the creamery has been remodeled and reconfigured several times, but the center section of the main floor retains much of the original woodwork. The creamery was used for processing dairy products between 1895 and 1915. It was converted to processing trout in the early 1930s. The basement was always used for

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McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

cold storage and processing. The office is located at the south end and there was an apartment at the north end (date unknown). The upper floor was used for storage. Currently, only the office space and the basement are being used to continue the trout processing. The remaining portions of the building are used for storage.

There are three outbuildings near the creamery. The largest is the non-contributing cannery, located directly west of the creamery. The cannery is a concrete block building built in 1983. It measures 32 feet by 50 feet and has open porches on the west and south elevation. The cannery is also painted red. It has a loading bay on the north elevation. The cannery was used for canning trout. It is currently being used as a community kitchen, which is available for lease as a commercial-grade kitchen. The boiler room is a 1929 concrete block building located northwest of the cannery. The boiler building measures 16 feet by 19 feet and has a flat built-up room. It is also painted red. About 100 feet south of the creamery is a small shed (Shed A). The shed is very old (possibly 1890s) and its shape suggests it may have been a granary. It is dilapidated and no longer used.

North and west of the creamery is the Dairy or Upper Barn and its associated outbuildings. The upper barn was built as a dairy barn in 1895. It was built at an angle to take advantage of a natural slope in the landscape. The northeast corner is at grade, while a full story of the foundation is visible at the southwest corner. The barn measures approximately 60 feet by 86 feet with a small extension at the northwest corner. Classified as an English-style bank barn, the barn is unusually wide and tall (3½-stories). The simple gable roof covered in wood shingles with ventilated cupolas on either end. Like the creamery, the barn is painted red and the cupolas are white. The lower portion of the barn is built of random, rock-faced stone. A concrete foundation was built under the barn's south elevation (circa 1980s) after the stone foundation collapsed. The barn is supported by an internal frame of large rough-sawn timbers and supports. The exterior is covered in drop-novelty siding. The windows are mostly original, although many have missing glass or sash. The doors are mostly sliding with a few human-scale paneled doors.

The upper barn is a specialized dairy barn with access to different levels from opposing slopes, and each elevation is distinctive. The north elevation is at grade. It features large openings at the center and south end, and smaller openings at the west end. On the south side of the second level is a large hay door with a hay mow and Jackson fork. A second Jackson fork is located under the hay hood at the third level. The opening under the hay hood is filled with vertical multi-light wood-sash windows (probably later than 1895). The ribbon of windows on the second level has horizontal lights (circa 1930s?). The south elevation has no grade-openings. There are four one-over-one, double-hung windows above the concrete foundation. The siding is missing where a platform was attached to the main floor level (circa 1950s). The platform was damaged when the foundation collapsed and was removed (circa 1980s). Above the missing platform level are three window openings (the most intact has six-over-six lights), and two door openings (one with original panel door). Above this level is a bank of vertical windows (now mostly missing) and a hay door with Jackson fork on the west. Under the apex of the gable are two more windows (possibly owl openings). The lower portion of the east elevation has doors to the south and in the center. There are also several multi-light windows. The west elevation has similar openings, although the south opening has been blocked (date unknown). The one-story extension at the northwest corner appears to have been an office.

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McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

The barn is currently used for storage. Originally the milking area was in the basement where concrete troughs (circa 1915) are located. The cows likely entered from a concrete runway on the west side. There is a large storage room at the south end. The upper level is an open space designed for hay storage. Calving pens are located along the east wall with an inclined boardwalk (for the calves) leading down to an opening in the north elevation. When the barn was converted for raising turkeys (circa 1950s), the upper floor was covered with concrete. A circa 1940s concrete silo (poured in ring sections) is attached to the barn on the east elevation. Near the upper barn are two loafing shelters (also called loafing sheds or barns) for the dairy cows. The tax records date them around 1900. Both shelters have three sides covered in drop-novelty siding, corrugated metal roofs (later), and open elevations to the south. The largest (designated Shelter A) measures approximately 31 feet by 110 feet, and is located west of the farmhouse. The interior rafters of this shelter are round logs with intact bark. Shelter B is located just northwest of the dairy barn and measures 32 feet by 50 feet. Near the northwest corner of this shelter is Shed B. Shed B was built in 1929 and measures 19 feet by 21 feet. It is constructed of corrugated metal and was probably used for equipment storage.

Along the dirt road between the upper and lower barns are several more outbuildings. On the north side is a tractor shed built circa 1951 from World War II surplus materials. It measures 20 by 20 feet, has wood walls, and a metal roof. It is open to the south. West of the tractor shed is a scale house (weigh station). According to the tax cards, this small frame building was built in 1929. It is covered in narrow clapboard siding and the scales are still inside. On the south side of the road is a completely open shelter with a metal roof. This shelter (Shelter C) was built circa 1963 and is a non-contributing resource. A small wood shed (Shed C), built circa 1951, is located west of the shelter and was probably used for tool storage. The tallest structures on the property are the two concrete silos (Silos B-C) located just east of the Lower Barn. These silos were noted, but not dated on the tax cards, and were probably built in the 1940s. The two silos were constructed of poured concrete and built up in rings. They are connected and feature projecting concrete chutes on the north side. North of the lower barn are two circa 1951 round, steel, Sioux-brand silos (Silos 1-2). Like the concrete silos, these are contributing structures. North of the silos is another non-contributing shelter (Shelter D). This long, low shelter measures 12 feet by 200 feet and has a tin roof. It was built in 1963 and is completely open except at the south end where there is a storage room. The non-contributing hay barn on the slope to the west was also built in 1963. It has a concrete base with an opening on the west side. The roof is metal on the south end and appears to be missing from the north end. There are two newer metal silos (Silos 5-6) that were built circa 1980s and are non-contributing structures located north of the hay barn. Two other contributing silos (Silos 3-4) are similar to Silos 1-2 and attached to the west side of the lower barn.

The lower barn was a multi-use barn, used mostly for servicing the many teams of horses needed to run the farm. It is currently being used for storage. The lower barn is also a circa 1895 bank barn, but may have been built in two phases. The center portion appears to be an older English-style barn with a simple gable roof. The foundation is random, rock-faced stone similar to the Upper Barn, but there is a section of different stone (smooth rocks in rubble courses), which may indicate the foundation of an older barn was incorporated into the larger barn. Family tradition states the barn was built in the late 1860s, but the physical evidence suggests a slightly later date, perhaps 1885 when the owner obtained a large loan for expanding the farm's capacity. The center portion of the barn features board & batten siding. The interior timbers feature mortise & tenon and

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McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

tongue & groove joinery. The barn has a simple gable roof, but was asymmetrical with the larger portion on the western (sloped) side. The barn was expanded in 1895 with a lean-to on the east elevation making it appear more symmetrical. It was also extended to the south. The additions give the barn the appearance of an Intermountain-style barn.¹ The additions feature horizontal drop-novelty siding similar to the Upper Barn. There is also an extension on the west elevation (shed, circa 1910s). Each elevation of the barn has one or more drive-through openings. Projecting gable wings were added to broad sides to shelter the entrances. The doors include both sliding and hinged varieties (various dates). The windows are mostly multi-light, wood sash. There is a cupola covered with board & batten in the center of the roof. The cupola is tall with large windows and is accessible. Family tradition suggests it housed a look-out lantern. The barn roof is covered in corrugated metal panels with some skylight openings (circa 1950s). This barn is also painted red with white highlights. The basement level of the barn is mostly open and accessed from the west elevation. The main floor is open, although divided into bays by the timber supports. The upper level was originally for hay storage, but partitioned into pens when turkeys were raised in the barn (circa 1950s).

The dirt road passes the lower barn moving southwest down the slope toward the Little Bear River. As the road curves south, there are several more outbuildings. On the east side is another shed (Shed D). Shed D is similar to the tractor shed and was also built circa 1951. It measures 18 feet by 20 feet, is covered in wood siding, and has a metal roof. East of the shed is a large hay shelter. It is a two-story completely open shelter measuring approximately 34 feet by 210 feet. The roof has partially collapsed. It was built in 1974 and is a non-contributing resource. On the west side of the road is the contributing machine shed. The machine shed was built circa 1951 from World War II surplus ammunition boxes. The center section is a closed space where the walls are visible as stacked ammo boxes on a concrete foundation. To the north and south are open sheltered areas. The east and west ends are covered in plywood and the roof is corrugated metal. This shed is currently used as a brooder coop. North and west of the machine shed is another contributing round metal silo (Butler-type, circa 1951).

The road continues to the south and down into the floodplain. At the bottom is a loop where the fish hatchery complex is located. According to the tax record, the main building is actually complex of two contributing buildings, built before 1951, probably in the 1930s. The buildings are frame and covered in a combination of drop siding and ship-lap siding. The windows are multi-light wood-sash windows. The one-story section is to the south and was used for incubating and hatching the rainbow trout fish eggs. The 1½-story section to the north was probably the office. There is a small shed north of the hatchery (circa 1930s) that was probably used for grinding meat for fish food. The fish hatchery buildings are also painted red and white. The concrete-lined trout raceways and ponds are located to the south and west of the hatchery complex. The raceways were built

¹ Intermountain style barns are a regional type with the basic form of an English style barn. However, the main opening is located at the gable end rather than the broad side. This makes it possible to make full-length shed-roof additions on both of the broad sides without blocking the primary entrance.

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McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

between the 1930s and 1950s, and are considered a contributing structure. The property continues to the west to the Little Bear River where several cabins have been built for the recreation fishing patrons. These buildings are of recent construction and do not contribute to the historic resources of the farmstead. They have not been included in the nomination boundaries. Under the ownership of the White family, 1,563 acres of the farmstead (the acreage west of the house, creamery, and barns) was placed under a conservation easement in September 2003, so that in the future, the land will continue its agricultural uses.

McMurdie-White Farmstead
Name of Property

Paradise, Cache County, Utah
City, County and State

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.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

- AGRICULTURE _____
- INDUSTRY _____
- ARCHITECTURE _____
- ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

1880s-1955 _____

Significant Dates

circa 1880s, 1895, 1905, 1932 _____

Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A _____

Cultural Affiliation

N/A _____

Architect/Builder

Samuel McMurdie (builder) _____

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

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McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

Narrative Statement of Significance

The McMurdie-White Farmstead, with its barns and outbuildings, was constructed in phases between the 1880s and 1955, and is significant under Criteria A and C. Under Criterion A the farmstead is significant for its association with the dairy and farming industry of northern Utah and the development of the city of Paradise as a farming community. The McMurdie family settled in the area in the mid-1860s just a few years after the settlement of Paradise. By 1895 Samuel McMurdie had expanded the production capacity of his farm, and the Diamond M Creamery was the first large-scale creamery in Cache Valley. The White family took over the farmstead in 1905 and continued the dairying operations. However, as the economic realities of the Cache Valley changed, the White family adapted the farmstead and moved from dairy to trout farming (1930s) to raising turkeys (1950s). Today the farmstead is used for recreational trout fishing, raising cattle and pheasants and hay and grain cultivation. The McMurdie-Farmstead is one of a diminishing number of historic large-scale production farms that has been in continuous use since its inception. It is also one of only a few large holdings that has not been subdivided and developed in the Cache Valley. Because of its uniqueness in the area, the farmstead, with its large collection of buildings and structures, particularly the barns and creamery, is architecturally significant under Criterion C. While the circa 1906 house has been altered and no longer retains its integrity, the large English style barns and nearly all associated outbuildings remain historically intact. The barns were used for dairy production, horses, and raising turkeys. The creamery was adapted as a trout processing plant in the early 1930s and continues this usage. The circa 1930s fish hatchery complex and trout raceways are also intact. The McMurdie-White Farmstead is an extraordinary collection of resources that contributes to the history of Paradise and the Cache Valley.

History of the McMurdie-White Farmstead

On July 24, 1847, a small contingent of members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS or Mormon Church) entered the Salt Lake Valley under the direction of Brigham Young. Within a few years, the entire Salt Lake Valley had been settled by thousands of Mormon pioneers. In 1860, four men who had been living in Draper, Utah, a settlement in the southeast corner of the Salt Lake Valley, decided to explore Cache Valley in northern Utah to find suitable grazing land. On April 1, 1860, one of the men, Barnard White drove the first wagon and team of mules into what would later be called Paradise at the south end of the Cache Valley. They filed for rights to water in the nearby canyons for stock watering purposes. Barnard White built the first cabin in Paradise and by May 1860, he and the others had relocated their families to Paradise. These first settlers were joined by twelve other families in the summer of 1860. They planted crops on the east side of the Little Bear River, and built a fort of connecting log cabins. The original town site was platted in 1864, but the settlers moved to a location three miles north because the first site was too near a Shoshone Indian trail, with which early Utah settlers often had skirmishes. Today the old town site is known as Avon (or Old Paradise). The new town site was platted in 1867. Paradise was incorporated on April 16, 1907. Since the 1920s, the

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McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

town has had a stable population of around 500, and continues to be a thriving agricultural community in southern Cache Valley.

Barnard White was born November 9, 1839, in London, England. He joined the LDS Church in 1854 and immigrated to Utah in 1856. He settled in Draper, but resolved to settle in the Cache Valley as soon as he acquired a team. Barnard White stayed in Paradise until the death of his first wife, Elizabeth Walters (1843-1868). He traded his holdings in Paradise for land in the city of Ogden, Utah, which he envisioned as a business center as soon as the transcontinental railroad was completed. He later married Diana Mary Williams (1841-1886) and Sarah Jane Fife (1855-1932). He had fourteen children, nine of whom grew to maturity. Barnard White died a successful businessman and respected community leader in Ogden on March 8, 1912. During his later years in Ogden, he retained strong ties with his neighbors from Paradise, particularly his friend, Samuel McMurdie, his partner in a sawmill enterprise. In 1885, Barnard White cosigned a loan for Samuel McMurdie. Unable to make his payments, Samuel McMurdie had to mortgage his farmstead to Barnard White in 1898. White eventually bought the property in 1905, and asked his son Joseph H. White to move to Paradise to run the farmstead.

Samuel McMurdie was born on September 24, 1830, in Lambeth, England. He was baptized into the LDS Church in December 1851 and immigrated to Utah with his parents in 1853. After a short time in Salt Lake, Brigham Young called the family to help colonize Southern Utah. He met Sarah Ann Kay in Cedar City, Utah. They were married on March 20, 1857. Sarah Ann Kay was born on July 2, 1841, in Lancashire, England, and immigrated to Utah with her family in 1850. While living in Cedar City, Samuel McMurdie participated in the infamous massacre of the adult members of an immigrant wagon train en route through Southern Utah to California. The Mountain Meadows Massacre, as it is known, occurred in September 1857. To protect the family from reprisals, the McMurdie family moved to Cache Valley in 1859. They spent five years in Wellsville before moving with several other families to settle the fields northwest of Paradise.² The memories of the massacre tormented Samuel McMurdie for the rest of his life. McMurdie testified at the 1876 trial of John D. Lee, the only man tried and executed for the murders. In 2003, Jon White, the current owner of the property, was visited by a descendant of John D. Lee who was told by her elderly father that Samuel McMurdie scavenged metal objects from the massacre site, which he brought to Paradise and used to construct a barn on his property. She took several photographs of the lower barn to show her father.³

Samuel and Sarah McMurdie settled on twelve acres of land west of Paradise (first known as Petersburg and later absorbed into Paradise). They had thirteen children, ten of whom live maturity. As he became more prosperous, Samuel McMurdie obtained additional land (from patents and his father Robert McMurdie) until he had a large holding extending west from the edge of the Paradise town site to the hills, including a portion of the Little Bear River and the area still known today as McMurdie Hollow. Lumber from his sawmill was used in

² Between 1859 and 1862, Samuel McMurdie briefly had a polygamous wife, Mary Jane Jenkins (1845-1919). They had no children. Mary Jane later married John Hawkins (1839-1906) in Salt Lake City.

³ Jon White, interview by Lisa Duskin-Geode, 2003. No physical evidence observed at the lower barn supports this claim, but it is possible that scavenged tools were used to construct the barn.

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McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

building many barns and homes throughout northern Utah. Some time in the late nineteenth century, Samuel McMurdie established a creamery in Paradise, reputed to be both the first and largest in the Cache Valley.⁴ In 1895, when McMurdie built the new creamery building, his Diamond M Creamery was undoubtedly the first modern, large-scale production creamery in the Cache Valley. Milk from farms throughout the surrounding area was processed into butter and cheese. Sarah Ann McMurdie delivered the dairy products to Logan in a buggy, and also shipped the processed milk.

According to family tradition, the lower barn was built in the late 1860s. While the physical evidence suggests a later date, there may have been an early barn on the site in the 1860s. In 1885, McMurdie went east with Barnard White. While in Dubuque, Iowa, he negotiated a loan with A. A. Cooper, who stipulated White cosign the loan. Samuel mortgaged all of his property including livestock and machinery as collateral. The center portion of the lower barn may have been built around the time the loan was negotiated, and later expanded in 1895. According to family tradition, the lantern (cupola) on the barn was a lookout, possibly for Indians. However, since the settlers had very little conflict with the native population after the 1860s, it is more likely the lookout was used to help shield polygamists from federal prosecution in the 1880s. McMurdie had a cabin (not extant) on the west side of his property that was used as a refuge for polygamists hiding from federal marshals. The cabin was known as Camp Lookout and the top of the barn provided a commanding view of the countryside.

The 1885 loan helped Samuel McMurdie realize his plan to import purebred animals and expand his operations. By 1895, his goals had been accomplished. In an article printed in the June 2, 1896 edition of the *Logan Herald Journal*, an observer recorded the following description of the "Stock and Creamery Buildings of Samuel McMurdie:"

I also took a look around the mammoth barns and the new creamery of Samuel McMurdie, Esq. They are immense; thousands of dollars have been expended in these structures and I question if there are any better to be found in the State. The creamery is a model of beauty and cleanliness, everything is of the best, and I would like you Mr. Editor, when you go to Paradise to visit the premises of Mr. McMurdie and when you see the buildings, the imported animals, pigs—bless your soul they are wonders. Just like the pictures in agricultural books. You would find material for many an editorial and many suggestions would occur to you to offer in support of your recent good advice to the farmers of Cache County.⁵

The expansion of the farm's production facilities strained Samuel McMurdie's resources and he became delinquent in his interest payments to Cooper and other creditors. When Cooper demanded payment, Barnard White was compelled to pay off the debt. In 1898, Samuel and Sarah McMurdie mortgaged the property and livestock to Barnard White. McMurdie continued operating the creamery, but by the early twentieth century, competition was greater and many farmers were sending their milk to be processed in other parts of Cache County, for example, the modern condensed milk factory in Richmond. In 1905, Samuel and Sarah sold the

⁴ Several communities claim to have had the first creamery in Cache Valley, including Richmond, which claims it had two before any other settlement.

⁵ *Logan Herald Journal*, June 2, 1896.

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creamery, barns, and most of the farm acreage to Barnard White. After the final settlement of the property, Samuel and Sarah McMurdie were left with their home and original twelve acres.

The McMurdie family was well respected in Paradise where they spent the last sixty years of their lives. Sarah Ann Kay McMurdie was known for making fine muslin and patchwork quilts. In addition to her duties delivering milk and cheese, she cooked for the many hired men who worked on the ranch. Sarah McMurdie learned the Shoshone language and was very charitable to the Native Americans in the area. One biographical account states that "The Indian women would jump off their horses and run and hug Sarah."⁶ Sarah McMurdie died on February 16, 1917. Sam McMurdie was a well-educated and devoted much of his time to reading. He died at this home in Paradise on June 4, 1922, at the age of 93. His obituary in the *Deseret News* noted his great service to the community "in importing pure bred animals and fowls of every sort and building one of the first modern creameries in [Cache] county."

After 1900, the Utah State Gazetteers list Barnard White as proprietor of the Diamond M Creamery, but he remained in Ogden. Because of his poor health and unhappiness over his estrangement with Sam McMurdie, Barnard did not take much interest in the ranch. He asked his son, Joseph B. White, who had been working for Utah Power and Light Company, to run the ranch in Paradise, which was dilapidated and losing money. Barnard White incorporated the property under the name Paradise Land & Livestock Company, and gave his son stock in the ranch. Joseph B. White moved to Paradise and became manager of the ranch. He built a home on the farmstead in 1906.

Joseph Barnard (J.B.) White was born on January 15, 1882, in Ogden, Utah. He was the third child of Barnard and Sarah Jane Fife. He learned farming and business from his father while living in Brigham City and Ogden. He married Rachel Hubbard on September 4, 1907, in Logan, Utah. Rachel Ann (Rae) Hubbard was born in Willard, Utah, on September 27, 1884. She graduated in 1905 from a Normal Course at the University of Utah (then the University of Deseret). She taught school in Willard between 1905 and 1907. Joseph and Rachel had seven children, four boys and three girls. Through Joseph's hard work, the creamery and ranch, which also had hogs and sheep, began to make a profit. The 1910 census lists Joseph as a farmer. The White had one boarder living with them at the time, John Toone, probably a hired hand. During this period the creamery was turning out approximately five-hundred pounds of first-class butter per day, but the competition from the condensed milk and oleomargarine factories proved too great and the creamery closed in 1915.⁷ The sheep industry also suffered during this period and the ranch stopped sheep operations. In the 1924 city directory entry for Paradise, Joseph B. White was listed only as the operator of a saw mill.

But J. B. White was a flexible and aggressive farmer. In the early 1930s, he drained and cleared some of his less productive bottom land. He also constructed fish raceways, ponds, and the hatchery buildings. In 1932, White's Trout Farm was established to produce trout for commercial purposes. Trout was processed and shipped to locations throughout the western United States. The farm produced both fresh and frozen trout, as well as a canned trout product. Paradise Land & Livestock Company was reorganized as White's Incorporated

⁶ *Pioneer Women of Faith and Fortitude*, Daughter of Utah Pioneer, 1998.

⁷ This corresponds to the time Joseph White served a mission for the LDS Church in Great Britain between 1913 and 1915.

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McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

in the late 1930s. After the death of Joseph B. White, the trout farm was managed by his son, Clark White (1916-1987). The farm raised several hundred thousand pounds of trout per year. The farm supplied the Utah Fish and Game department until 1970. The White farm also shipped high-quality trout eggs all over the country. The White family operations in trout raising and processing employed a number of people in the area and was very important to the local economy. There is some record that a few private fish hatcheries supplied fish for the state in the late nineteenth century, but large-scale production did not begin until the early twentieth century. The state of Utah had twelve hatcheries. The various counties of the Wasatch Front had between three and four private hatcheries during this period. According to Ron Goede, a fish pathologist/nutritionist for the Utah Department of Fish and Game, "Private aquaculture developed into a significant industry in Utah and a number of these developed national markets. White's Trout Farm had been a major component of all of this for many years."⁸ Although shut down by whirling disease⁹ in 1993, the trout farm recovered and continues to process trout today. Recreational trout fishing is also available along the Little Bear River. Today the enterprise is owned and operated by Grant White.

The White family, along with many of their neighbors in southern Cache Valley, also took advantage of the urgent need for turkeys during World War II. The haylofts in the two large barns were reconfigured to hold turkey brooders and pens. Many of the modifications to the structures, such as the concrete floors and skylights, were installed during this period. A number of outbuildings were also added sometime before 1951. By 1955, the farm was processing turkeys under the name of White's Turkey of Paradise. The company had a reputation for producing a very high quality product. When the turkey market was saturated, the White farm continued to produce grain, cattle, hogs, trout and pheasants.

J. B. White held a number of church and community positions. He served on the Paradise Town Board and was mayor for two terms. He served on the board of trustees for the Brigham Young College (Logan) and the Utah State University. J. B. White was president of the Cache Valley Turkey Growers Association, and had served on advisory boards for the Wool Growers Association and the Utah State Livestock Association. In addition to raising a family of seven, Rae White prepared meals for the hired hands and maintained the company books for the farmstead. She died on July 5, 1963. J.B. White died on July 27, 1970.

In July of 1949, Joseph and Rachel White deeded a portion of the farmstead property to their youngest son, Barnard (Barney) Ray White. After Joseph's death, Barney was able to obtain the remaining acreage from his siblings, and the farm was remained intact. Barney White was born on January 23, 1924. He stayed in Paradise to help run the family farm after his marriage to Jacqueline Wright in 1945. He earned a degree from Utah State University in zoology. Barney and Jackie White had five children. With the help of his two sons, Jon and Grant, Barney White continued to run the family farm. Like his father before him, Barney White served as Mayor of Paradise. He held leadership positions in a number of organizations, including the Paradise Irrigation Company, the Porcupine Reservoir Company, and the Little Bear River Association. Barney White was deeply concerned with land conservation. He applied for Greenbelt status for the farm in 1975. He was Director for the National Association of Conservation Districts and was voted as Utah Forest Land Owner of the Year in

⁸ Ron Goede, [White's Fish Production], TMs, 2005: 1.

⁹ Whirling disease effects large populations of trout, causing them to continuously swim around in circles.

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1996. He died on December 27, 1997. Jon White, with his wife, Vickie, bought his father's and brother's share of the property in 1994. Jon and Vickie lived in the family farmhouse after the death of Joseph B. White. Jon White also served as Mayor of Paradise and continued his father's interest in conservation issues. The White family cultivates hay and barley, and raises Angus cattle and pheasants on the ancestral farmstead. Jon's brother, Grant White, retained 200 acres including the creamery and acreage around the Little Bear River where he provides recreational fishing opportunities. Today the farmstead is known as the Brook Ranch, and the trout portion operates under the name Trout of Paradise.

Architecture of McMurdie-White Barns

The numerous and varied architectural resources of the McMurdie-White Farmstead represent a long period of development from nineteenth-century subsistence agriculture to early twentieth-century specialized agriculture. The farmstead's lower barn was built in phases and is essentially an architectural hybrid of the English-style bank barn and the Intermountain Barn. The English-style barn was the most common barn-type in the early settlement period of Utah. The lower barn, as originally constructed, with the exception of the asymmetry, is a typical example: built on a sloped site with doors on each of the broad side. During the 1895 expansion of the barn, it took on the characteristics of an Intermountain barn with large lean-tos on the east and north elevations. The Intermountain barn had a central space for hay and a lean-to for the animals. The Intermountain-style barn was developed in Utah between 1890 and 1910. Typically the Intermountain barn had doors in the gable ends, where there was less chance of snow sliding off the broad sides. In 1895, the lower barn had doors added to the gable ends as well as projecting wings to shelter the broadside openings. It is not known if there were dairy operations in the lower barn before 1895, but after the construction of the upper barn, the lower barn was used only for hay storage and horse shelter. It is estimated that the farm was using between twenty to fifty teams of horses during the heyday of its operations, with much of the workload devoted to raising the grain to feed the horses.

In contrast, the upper barn was built in 1895 as a specialized dairy barn. Around the turn of the twentieth century barn usage and design began to change. Increased urban populations meant fewer family farms, and a larger demand on dairy sales. Along with this demand came regulation requiring greater sanitary conditions. As a result, many older barns were modernized with concrete floors for better sanitation and ease of maintenance. Separate milk parlors were replaced by a larger barn where the entire operation took place under one roof, meaning greater efficiency and comfort to both the farmer and his stock. The stanchions, troughs, calving pens, etc. in the barn's interior, were used during the period of significance and have not been altered or removed. In addition to the dairying features, the upper barn has three extant Jackson forks, and represents how that relatively new technology made the gathering and securing of hay more efficient in the early twentieth century.

The Diamond M Creamery building was more than an adjunct to the dairy operations. For many years, the creamery had been a great economic benefit to the southern end of Cache Valley. Many older people and widows were able to make some money each month by selling milk to the creamery, even with only one or two

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cows. Much of the equipment used in the creamery building (e.g. vats and coolers) is still intact. The creamery building also illustrates how the farmstead adapted to changing economic realities of agriculture in Utah in the twentieth century.

After the creamery was shut down because of competition from condensed milk and oleomargarine factories, the building was adapted for use as a trout processing plant. In the early 1930s, the fish hatchery complex and the trout raceways were constructed. The adaptive reused of the farm's resources allowed it to survive the depression years. The White Trout Farm was an important producer of trout stock from the 1930s to the 1970s. The eggs were incubated and hatched in the hatchery building. The young trout were started on feed and kept in troughs fed by cold spring water. When large enough they were moved to the cement raceways, then later to the larger raceways and ponds. The small shed was used to store ice. Part of the complex was probably used for grinding meat from dead animals (obtained by advertising in the local papers) when the fish were fed a "wet" diet of meat and cereals. Dry fish food pellets were introduced in the 1960s. The White's Trout farm was one of the largest and most successful commercial hatcheries in the state during its heyday.

The barns were adapted for raising turkeys in the 1940s and 1950s, with many of the modifications taking place during this period. The turkeys were an important part of the local economy of southern Cache Valley, and for many years, Cache County was second only to Sanpete County in turkey production in the state. The White farm operated until the 1960s when the market became saturated and competition from other areas of the state proved too great, especially from Sanpete County where turkey production continues to be a major part of the local economy. The various animal shelters, granary silos, machine and tool sheds built during this period also contribute to the historic integrity of the landscape.

The rural landscape and historic resources of the McMurdie-White Farmstead represents several generations of farmers in Paradise. The farmstead also made a significant contribution to the economy of Cache County in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The Cache Valley developed into a major supplier of agricultural and dairy products for the state the 1880s. Advances in dry farming techniques, canal and reservoir construction, and the building of grain silos, contributed to the prominence of the county in agricultural production in the early twentieth century. Even though production has declined, today Cache County is still the state leader in dairy products and a major supplier of hay, alfalfa, and grains. The evolution of the McMurdie-White Farmstead has mirrored the development of Cache County economy during the farm's period of significance. The farmstead achieved state and national recognition with the addition of the trout production facilities. The architectural resources of the McMurdie-White Farmstead have excellent history integrity and represent agricultural production in Utah at several levels of significance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

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McMurdie-White Farmstead
Name of Property

Paradise, Cache County, Utah
City, County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 75 acres

UTM References

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

A 1/2 4/2/9/2/4/0 4/6/0/2/4/4/0
Zone Easting Northing

B 1/2 4/2/9/7/6/0 4/6/0/2/4/4/0
Zone Easting Northing

C 1/2 4/2/9/7/6/0 4/6/0/1/9/6/0
Zone Easting Northing

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

E 1/2 4/2/9/4/2/0 4/6/0/1/7/0/0
Zone Easting Northing

F 1/2 4/2/9/2/4/0 4/6/0/1/6/8/0
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

See map for boundaries.

Property Tax No. 05-042-0037; 05-042-0038; 05-040-0014; 05-042-0040

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of the nomination are within the boundaries that were and continue to be associated with the farmstead. The nomination boundary does not include the entire 1,563 acres of the farm, but includes the land surrounding the cluster of historic buildings, and a portion of the fields, pasture lands, trout raceways, etc., which add to the historical context and integrity of the site.

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Korral Broschinsky and Lisa Duskin-Goede
organization _____ date June 16, 2005
street & number PO Box 58766 telephone 801-913-5645
city or town Salt Lake City state UT zip code 84158

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 Jon & Vickie White; also Trout of Paradise Inc. (Grant White, owner)
street & number 395 W. 9000 South telephone 435-245-3707
city or town Paradise state UT zip code 84328

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.

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Section No. PHOTOS Page 1

McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

Common Label Information:

1. McMurdie-White Farmstead
2. 395 W. 9000 South, Paradise, Cache County, Utah
3. Photographer: Korral Broschinsky
4. Date: Spring 2005
5. Negatives on file at Utah SHPO.

Archival Photographs

Photo No. 1:

6. South elevation of Upper Barn. Camera facing north.

Photo No. 2:

6. East elevation of Creamery. Camera facing northwest.

Supplemental Photographs

Photo No. 3:

6. Fish Hatchery complex. Camera facing northeast.

Photo No. 4:

6. South & west elevations of Lower Barn with silos. Camera facing northeast.

Photo No. 5:

6. East elevation of Lower Barn. Camera facing west.

Photo No. 6:

6. East elevation of Lower Barn, detail. Camera facing west.

Photo No. 7:

6. South & east elevations of Lower Barn. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 8:

6. West elevation of Upper Barn with Shelter B & Shed B on left and Creamery on right. Camera facing east.

Photo No.9:

6. South & west elevations of noncontributing house. Camera facing northeast.

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Section No. PHOTOS Page 2

McMurdie-White Farmstead, Paradise, Cache County, UT

Photo No. 10:

6. South & east elevations of Shelter A with view of Lower Barn complex to the left. Camera facing west.

Photo No. 11:

6. North & east elevations of Upper Barn. Camera facing southwest.

Photo No. 12:

6. East elevation of Upper Barn. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 13:

6. South & west elevation of Creamery. Camera facing northeast.

