

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCERS use only
received JAN 6 - 1982
date entered FEB 11 1982

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

1. Name

historic Thomas Forsyth House
and/or common

2. Location

street & number _____ not for publication
city, town Toquerville _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 02
state Utah code 049 county Washington code 053

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Carl Nyman
street & number 5515 Riley Lane
city, town Murray _____ vicinity of _____ state Utah 84107

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office, Washington County Courthouse
street & number _____
city, town St. George state Utah

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Utah Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date Winter 1980 federal state county local
depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society
city, town Salt Lake City state Utah

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 Thomas Forsyth house in Toquerville is a 1-1/2 story stone vernacular building. The front section of the house has an asymmetrical hall and parlor floor plan hidden behind a three opening symmetrical facade. There is a steeply-pitched wall gable placed centrally on the front which contains a second-story door. This door originally led out to a porch which spanned the entire length of the house and was also used to convey large pieces of furniture and other bulky items to the attic level. A lean-to extension occurs to the rear and appears to have been part of the original construction. The kitchen and staircase to the upstairs rooms were located in this one-story rear section.

The thick (1-1/2') stone walls are uncoursed rubble with cut-stone reinforcing quoins on all corners. The stone itself was collected (gathered not quarried) by family members from a nearby hill. The fieldstone pieces are small and but for their irregularity would almost be considered cobblestone. Large stone fireplaces are found in both front rooms. A third fireplace served the kitchen but it has now been removed. External decorative features are minimal and confined to a classically inspired entablature under the eaves.

The Thomas Forsyth house retains its historic character. The major alteration is situated unobtrusively on the back of the house in the form of a modern bathroom. Minor alterations are found in the removal of the original 6 over 6 light double-hung sash windows and the punching of a new window in the south wall of the lean-to.

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 ca. 1868 **Builder/Architect** Thomas Forsyth

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Thomas Forsyth House, built in Toquerville about 1868 is significant as the home of an early and enterprising Washington County settler and because it is one of the few remaining homes in Toquerville, indeed, all of Washington County, from the pioneer period. The Forsyth home is architecturally noteworthy as an early and well preserved vernacular house type associated with the first effective settlement of Utah's Dixie.

Thomas Forsyth was born September 20, 1813 at Kelso, Roxburyshire, Scotland. In April of 1839, Thomas was married to Isabella Donald and came to the United States, settling in Port Huron, Michigan. On August 4, 1844, Thomas was baptized a member of the LDS Church. It was shortly after his baptism that the family moved to Nauvoo. The family migrated west with the Steven Markham Company and arrived in the Salt Lake Valley in 1850. In December, 1852, Isabella died at Salt Lake City. Thomas married Mary Browett Holmes on August 20, 1854, in Salt Lake.

By 1865, the Forsyths had moved to Washington County where Thomas operated a shingle mill and a saw mill. The mills were located at the foot of the Pine Valley Mountains, in Forsyth Canyon. It was at the shingle mill that shingles were made for the cotton factory at Washington. The family eventually settled in Toquerville about 1868.

The town of Toquerville was established in the spring of 1858 under the direction of Joshua T. Willis. The area had been explored in 1852 and again in 1857 to determine possibilities of settlement in the area. Willis led a group of settlers from Fort Harmony and settled in the area. The town was named after Chief Toquer, who befriended the early settlers and resided in the area. The word "toquer" meaning black, adequately fit the name of the new town in that it was located at the foot of a large volcanic rock mountain. The town included the first cotton gin in the state and the area was also noted for its ideal climate for growing fruits and vegetables.

Shortly after the family arrived in Toquerville, which was then the county seat of Kane County, Thomas commenced work on the house. Stone for the house was gathered from the large volcanic rock mountain near Toquerville. Lumber for the building was cut near Pine Valley and milled at Forsyth's Mill. When the house was completed it included a wine cellar under the porch and a balcony and rail across the front part of the house. The balcony was removed from the building about 1915.

Thomas remained in the house until his death in 1898. At that time, his youngest child Benjamin Henry acquired and moved into the house. Prior to Thomas's death, Benjamin and his wife, Barbara Ann Lamb, had lived in a small

9. Major Bibliographical References

Washington County Records
Personal Interview with Mrs. Lola Beatty Campbell, 2-17-81.
LDS Genealogical Records, Salt Lake City, Utah.



10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than one
Quadrangle name New Harmony, Utah

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A

1	2	2	9	7	4	0	0	4	1	2	5	0	0	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

B

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D

Zone			Easting					Northing						

E

Zone			Easting					Northing						

F

Zone			Easting					Northing						

G

Zone			Easting					Northing						

H

Zone			Easting					Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

Beg. SE cor lot 2 Blk 12 Plat A, E 50', SW 85', SE 50', NE 85' to beg.

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 Tom Carter, Architectural Historian/Fred Aegerter, Historian

organization Utah State Historical Society date Winter 1980

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

city or town Salt Lake City state Utah 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 December 18, 1981

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>[Signature]</u>	date <u>2/1/82</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 2 1982
DATE ENTERED FEB 11 1982

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

house located behind the rock house. Benjamin lived in the house until his death in 1948, except for a short time when he moved to California after the death of his first wife. The house was sold to Lawrence Kleinman in February, 1949. Kleinman sold the house to Chester Adams in April 1949. Brett Blackburn purchased the house from Adams' in 1979 and sold the house to the present owner, Carl C. Nyman, in 1980.