

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

JUN 8 1983

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

## 1. Name

historic Lyons, Oscar F., House

and/or common Jensen, Rueben, Home

## 2. Location

street & number Woodenshoe Road \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Peoa \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district

state Utah code 049 county Summit code 043

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A <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 Richard K. Crandall

street & number 1063 Douglas Street

city, town Salt Lake City \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state Utah

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Summit County Recorder, Summit County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse

city, town Coalville \_\_\_\_\_ state Utah

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title No existing survey for Summit County has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_\_\_ yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Oscar Lyons home is a two-story house built of horizontal plank-on-plank wall construction and covered with ship-lap or novelty siding. The house has a common rafter gabled roof and brick gable-end stove chimneys. The symmetrical three-bay facade is characteristic of the central-passage I house vernacular type. Principal decorative features include Gothic wall dormers over the second story facade windows, a gabled portico supported by turned and bracketed posts, and projecting bay windows on the facade at the ground level.

Built c. 1875-1880, the Oscar F. Lyons house is a good example of late nineteenth century vernacular architecture in Utah. The house is one room deep, two stories high, and two rooms wide. It has a central passage containing the staircase and hall. The house has a symmetrical, three bay principal elevation with the tripartite division accentuated by the three, pointed arch wall dormers over the second story windows. A centrally located portico, or porch, is present and is original to the house. The porch has a shed roof and symmetrical gable. The posts here are turned and bracketed. There is decorative scroll-cut trim along the porch frieze. The original wooden porch flooring has been replaced by concrete. To the sides of the porch are found two bay windows, a common feature of late nineteenth century I houses in Utah. The double-hung sash windows have pedimented window heads. The gable-end chimneys are capped with aluminum vents. While the house was originally unpainted, it has recently been painted white (c. 1980). Despite several minor alterations, the Oscar F. Lyons house remains in excellent original condition. However, these alterations are all on the interior and do not affect the unaltered integrity of the exterior.

## 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** 1875-1880 **Builder/Architect** Not known

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Oscar F. Lyons house in Peoa, built between 1875-1880, is significant because it documents a unique building technique in Utah, namely, "plank-on-plank" construction. This method of house construction uses 4" x 8" horizontal planks laid one on top of another to form the structural fabric of the wall. The locally sawn planks are secured with a spiked butt-joint at the corners and vertically stabilized by the framing of the internal passage and by floor and ceiling joists. Plank-on-plank wall construction is found in the eastern United States and Canada,<sup>1</sup> but is nowhere a common house building form. The Oscar Lyons home is the only recorded example of the technique in Utah.<sup>2</sup> Its occurrence here is probably due more to the presence of an individual house builder and the availability of local timber than to the diffusion of the tradition westward with the Mormon settlers. Lyons himself was born in Ireland and would have had no particular experience with plank wall techniques. It seems likely that a local carpenter, perhaps, as local tradition maintains, a Mr. Criddle from nearby Morgan, knowing the method and having at his disposal an abundance of timber and nails, was responsible for this interesting and in Utah, unique, example of nineteenth century building technology. The house design itself, a one room deep, two rooms wide, two stories high, central passage form, is an I-house type found in most Utah communities in the years between 1850-1890. The Oscar F. Lyons house is additionally significant because it remains the best preserved house in Peoa from the town's principal years of growth during the 1880s and 1890s.<sup>3</sup>

Oscar Fitzallen Lyons was born in Ireland in 1838.<sup>4</sup> His parents converted to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the family emigrated to Utah in 1849. Little is recorded of the Lyons' early life in Utah, but it seems probable that the family moved to Peoa in Summit County not long after the town's initial settlement in 1860.<sup>5</sup> Peoa existed through the 1860s as a small fort composed of single-room log cabins. The town's development was temporarily interrupted in 1867-1868 when Indian hostilities forced the Mormon settlers to abandon the site. By 1869, however, Peoa was reoccupied and in that year Oscar Lyons married Maria L. Marchant, the daughter of the town's leading citizen, Abraham Marchant. Residents here continued to live in the log fort during the early 1870s but by 1875 the town was well established and newer, more substantial homes and businesses were being constructed. It was at this time, in the years between 1875 and 1880, that Oscar and Maria Lyons built the large frame I house which is the subject of this nomination. Lyons was primarily a farmer and stockraiser and also served as Peoa's postmaster for many years. He served a proselyting mission to England for the LDS Church and later became a Summit County attorney. Oscar Lyons died in 1908. A subsequent owner and the individual who occupied the house the longest was Rueben Jenson. Jenson was the Federal Trapper for the area. The current

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Echoes of Yesterday: Summit County Centennial History, Summit County: Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, 1947.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property ca. 2 acres

Quadrangle name Kamas, Utah

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 

1	2	4	7	1	3	4	0	4	5	0	7	9	1	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** All of Lot 3, Block 4, Peoa Townsite Survey, except the following parcel: Beginning at the southwest corner of Lot 3, in Block 4 of the Peoa Townsite Survey; and running thence North 27'00" East 45.00 feet, more or less, to the Southerly boundary line of said Lot 3; thence running along the Southerly boundary line of

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

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
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state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Carter/Architectural Historian

organization Utah State Historical Society date October 1982

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 5-23-83

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Beth Grosvenor date 7/14/83  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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owner of the home, Richard Crandall, has rehabilitated the home and it stands today in excellent original condition.

<sup>1</sup>See Fred Kniften and Henry Glassie, "Building in Wood in the Eastern United States: A Time-place Perspective," Geographical Review, 56:1 (1966), pp. 48-49, and John I. Rempel, Building With Wood and Other Aspects of Nineteenth Century Building in Central Canada (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1967), pp. 173-188.

<sup>2</sup>Plank-on-plank construction was used during the early 20th century and later, during the Depression Years, for building farm outbuildings (granaries and barn stables primarily) and some small houses. The Lyons house is the earliest and most monumental example of the construction technique documented to date in Utah.

<sup>3</sup>Several frame buildings from the late nineteenth century remain in Peoa today, but these structures have been significantly altered and lack the integrity for National Register consideration.

<sup>4</sup>Biographical information found in Frank Esshom, Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah (SLC: Western Epics, 1966), p. 1017.

<sup>5</sup>Peoa history is treated in Echoes of Yesterday: Summit County Centennial History (Summit County: Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, 1947), p. 209.

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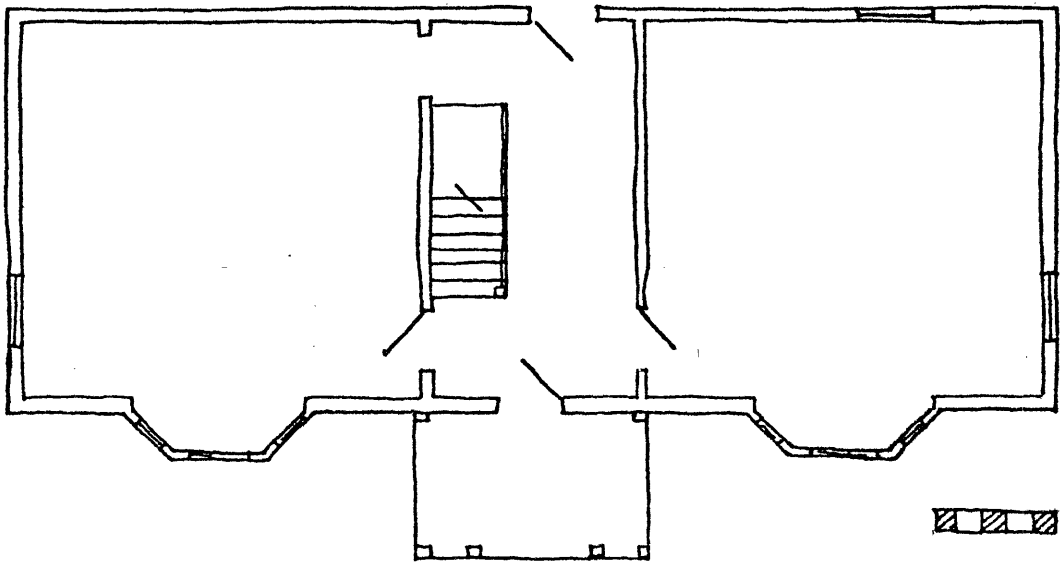
Item number

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said Lot 3; South 63'45' West 140.00 feet to the place of beginning.



Floor plan of Oscar F. Lyons House