## **Utah State Historical Society**

Property Type:

## Historic Preservation Research Office

Site No	•

## Structure/Site Information Form

Street Address:

Off Utah Highway 35

near the Diamond Bar X Ranch, Wasatch County, UTM: 12 489380 4491920

Woodland **IItah** 

Name of Structure: Charles B. Stewart Ranch House

T. 3 S

R. 7 E

**S**. 11

Present Owner:

Romney Stewart

1463 Calle Redonda Lane

Owner Address:

Escondido, California 92026

Year Built (Tax Record):

**Effective Age:** 

Tax #:

Legal Description

Kind of Building:

Beginning S 377.05 ft. and E 211.45 ft from NW corner of Sec 11 T3S R7E Salt Lake B&M, thence N 25 15' E 191 ft, S 64 44' E 136.94 ft, S 25 16' W 191 ft, N 64 44' W 136.94 ft to beginning.

0.60 acres

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DOCUMENTATION &

**IDENTIFICATION** 

Original Owner:

**Building Condition:** 

Charles B. Stewart

Construction Date: 1918-19

**Demolition Date:** 

Original Use:

residence

Present Use: residence

Final Register Status:

Integrity:

Preliminary Evaluation:

□ Excellent X Good

Site ☐ Ruins □ Unaltered

□ Contributory ☐ Not of the

□ National Landmark □ National Register

☐ District ☐ Multi-Resource

□ Deteriorated

X Minor Alterations □ Major Alterations

□ Not Contributory

**Historic Period** 

☐ State Register

□ Thematic

Photography:

Date of Slides: 1982, '84

Slide No.:

Date of Photographs: 1982, '84

Photo No.:

Views: ☐ Front ☐ Side ☐ Rear ☐ Other

Views: ☐ Front ☐ Side ☐ Rear ☐ Other

Research Sources:

X Abstract of Title

X Plat Records / Map X Tax Card & Photo

□ Building Permit

□ Sewer Permit

□ City Directories

□ Sanborn Maps

☑ Obiturary Index

M County & City Histories

M Biographical Encyclopedias

□ Newspapers Utah State Historical Society

□ U of U Library □ BYU Library

 Personal Interviews □ LDS Church Archives

□ LDS Genealogical Society

□ USU Library

☐ SLC Library □ Other

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Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

"The Settlement of Pine Valley and Historical Roots of the Stewart-Epperson, David H. Hewlett Ranch." Unpublished report, 1985. Available at Utah State Historical Society Library.

Christensen, Marlene Stewart Hewlett. "Charles Biekley Cabin, Pine Valley, Utah." n.p. n.d.

Architect/Builder: none/Mr. Howard and Mr. Wells - frame; Mr. Swift - masonry

Building Materials: 10q

Building Type/Style: Bungalow variation

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features: (Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

The Charles B. Stewart Ranch House is a 50-foot square, one-story log house on a concrete foundation. A pyramid roof tops the central section of the house, which is surrounded on three sides by enclosed "porches," the roofs of which are gentler pitched extensions of the main roof. The porch sections along the north side and the northern half of the east side are screened in and serve as porches, while the remaining sections on the west and east sides are more substantially enclosed and serve as bedrooms and a kitchen, respectively. The exterior and interior walls are constructed of whole pine logs which have, for the most part, been stripped of their bark. The logs are joined at the corners by lap notching. Rows of adjoining screened windows span the porch sections, except for in the kitchen area. The house is in virtually original condition, and no alterations of note have been made.

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: 1918-19

Built in 1918-19, the Charles B. Stewart Ranch House is one of eight significant buildings on Stewart Ranch, a well preserved turn-of-the-century "recreational ranch" that served for over 50 years as both a working ranch and a recreational summer retreat for its owners, prominent business and professional men from Salt Lake City. Stewart Ranch is probably the best preserved of the recreational ranches that were established on the western edge of the Uinta Mountains, a popular location for such ranches because of both its wilderness appeal and its proximity to Salt Lake City, only about sixty miles away. The ranch was established c.1902 by four Stewart brothers-William M., Samuel W., Charles B., and Barnard J.,--who maintained their homes and professions in Salt Lake City while supervising and, to various degrees, participating in the operations of the ranch.

The formation of Stewart Ranch began in 1900 when William M. Stewart purchased 160 acres of land in the northern end of Pine Valley and encouraged his three brothers to also purchase property in the valley. Eventually, virtually the entire valley and much of the surrounding land was bought by the Stewart brothers and incorporated into Stewart Ranch, which, at its peak, totalled 2262 acres. Cattle and sheep were raised on the ranch, as well as hay and grain for feed, and a ranch foreman was hired to manage the operations since the Stewarts had homes and occupations in Salt Lake City and were away from the ranch most of the year. Although Stewart Ranch was a working ranch and a business venture, for the Stewarts it served perhaps more importantly as a recreational retreat to which they could bring their families in the summer.

Although the four brothers were initially equal partners in the ranch corporation, Barnard eventually took over the bulk of the responsibilities and by 1920 had assumed complete control of the ranch operations and purchased from his brothers all of the ranch property except a 15-acre parcel surrounding Charles' home. By that time William had died (1913), Charles had

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Charles B. Stewart Ranch House History Continued: p. 2

become involved in numerous other business activities and had moved to California (1920), and Samuel had ceased being involved in the ranching activities. After Barnard's death in 1931, most of the ranch was purchased by Lester Hewlett, a son-in-law of Charles, and his brother Vern Hewlett. They launched the ranch into a relatively successful 24-year period of operation as a dairy and sheep ranch. The Hewletts, like the Stewart brothers, lived and worked in Salt Lake City, and, having built summer homes on the ranch in 1929, used the ranch as a recreational retreat as well.

For several years after the four Stewart brothers established the Stewart Ranch in Pine Valley, they continued to use the older homes that had been on the property when they purchased it. Barnard was the first to have a new ranch house constructed in 1900, followed by Samuel c. 1913, and by Charles in 1918-19. William, who died in 1913, never had a newer nouse built on the ranch.

Charles B. Stewart and his wife, Katherine Romney Stewart, drew the rough plans for the house themselves; no architect was involved. They hired a Mr. Wells and a Mr. Howard, contractors from Salt Lake City, to construct the house, which was completed in about four months. The logs used in its construction were dragged by horses driven by Alec Murphy from Norway flats, some miles north of the home, at a cost of \$1.25 per log delivered to the site. Logs were used on the exterior walls and on the interior to partition off the living room and dining room, as well as the five bedrooms located on the west side of the structure. Logs also separate the living room from the screened porch on the north and east sides of the home. A large central fireplace is built entirely of rocks which were individually selected by the mason, Mr. Swift, in the area around the cabin. The fireplace has an opening both in the dining room and the living room, and the draft is such that both fires can be burning at the same time without any problem.

Originally, the cabin was lighted by coal oil (kerosene) lamps, and later Coleman gasoline lamps. A number of years later, electric wiring was installed throughout the house and an electric apartment stove replaced the old wood stove in the kitchen. Water also was piped into the cabin for use in the kitchen, but there is no inside bathroom.

Charles B. Stewart was born July 20, 1870, in Draper, Utah, to Isaac M. and Elizabeth White Stewart. He was educated in the public schools of Draper and attended Deseret University (now University of Utah) in 1888-89. He taught school for a time in Draper, then graduated from law school at the University of Michigan in 1893. He and his two brothers, Samuel and Barnard, practiced law together for twenty years in Salt Lake City. He married Katherine Romney on September 30, 1896. In addition to his law practice, first in Utah then California, Charles was involved extensively in the wool-growing and marble industries in Utah, serving for a number of years as secretary of the Utah Woolgrowers Association and helping open up marble quarries in the state. He also served as vice-president of the Farmers and Stockgrowers Bank, director of Pioneer Book Publishing Company, and, with his experience in the livestock industry, was instrumental in settling the serious disputes between cattlemen and sneepmen along the Green River in Wyoming.

Katherine Romney Stewart was born in Salt Lake City on March 18, 1875 to George and Margaret Thomas Romney. She spent her childhood and teen years in Salt Lake City, where she became a very prominent musician. She was the first woman organist for the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

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Charles B. Stewart Ranch House History Continued: p. 3

The house most closely associated with the lives and careers of both C.B. and Katherine Romney Stewart is located in Salt Lake City at 217 S. 1200 East. They lived there from 1904, when the house was built, until 1920, when they moved to California.