

Property Type:

Historic Preservation Research Office

**Structure/Site Information Form**

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: Rear, 537 West 200 South

UTM: 12/423540/4512800

Name of Structure:

T.                      R.                      S.

Present Owner: O.W. Brown  
550 West 2nd North

Less than one acre

Owner Address: Salt Lake City, Utah

Year Built (Tax Record):  
Legal Description

Effective Age:  
Kind of Building:

Tax #:

Com at NW Cor Lot 6 Blk 63 Plat A SLC Sur, E 3 Rds S 10 Rds W 51.5 ft N 10 Rds E 2 ft to Beg

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Nicholas P. Stathakos

Construction Date: ca. 1910      Demolition Date:

Original Use: commercial

Present Use: vacant

Building Condition:

Integrity:

Preliminary Evaluation:

Final Register Status:

- |  |                                |   |   |                                     |  |   |
|--|--------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> Site  | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant | <input type="checkbox"/> Not of the | <input type="checkbox"/> National Landmark | <input type="checkbox"/> District       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor Alterations | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributory           | Historic Period                     | <input type="checkbox"/> National Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Resource |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated    |                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Major Alterations            | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Contributory       |                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> State Register    | <input type="checkbox"/> Thematic       |

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography:

Date of Slides:

Slide No.:

Date of Photographs:

Photo No.:

Views:  Front  Side  Rear  Other

Spring 1980  
Views:  Front  Side  Rear  Other

Research Sources:

- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abstract of Title             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers                    | <input type="checkbox"/> U of U Library |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plat Records / Map | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utah State Historical Society | <input type="checkbox"/> BYU Library    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tax Card & Photo   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Encyclopedias | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Interviews                      | <input type="checkbox"/> USU Library    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building Permit    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Obituary Index             | <input type="checkbox"/> LDS Church Archives                      | <input type="checkbox"/> SLC Library    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Permit                  | <input type="checkbox"/> County & City Histories               | <input type="checkbox"/> LDS Genealogical Society                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other          |

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

"George S. Fundas," Salt Lake Tribune, August 28, 1955, C-12.  
 "Gus Theonas," Salt Lake Tribune, Sept. 16, 1942, 23.  
 Salt Lake County Records  
 Salt Lake City Building Permit, #3578, April 22, 1911.  
 Salt Lake City Sanborn Maps, 1898, 1911, 1930, 1950.  
 Salt Lake City Directories, 1908-1951.

Researcher:

Date:

Street Address: Rear, 537 West 2nd South

Site No:

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Building Materials: Brick

Building Type/Style: commercial

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

A two story brick structure of rectangular plan. Apparently used as a residence or rooming house/hotel. Exhibits a flat roofline and a segmental relieving arches over double hung, sash windows. Chimneys break the roofline.

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: ca. 1910

This building at 537 West 200 South, built in about 1910, is significant as one of only three commercial structures, which retain historic integrity, that remain of Salt Lake City's important "Greektown" section. The arrival of "new" immigrants from southern and eastern Europe during the 1890s to 1920s period played a vital role in the peopling of Utah, and of Salt Lake City. Greek immigrants began arriving at the turn-of-the-century to labor on railroad gangs, and in mines, mills, and smelters. In Salt Lake City a Greektown developed where businessmen were able to establish specialty shops and businesses catering to Greek workers and their families, such as is this building where George Fundas operated a candy business. This westside neighborhood (along the 200 South area, between 500 and 700 West) was a visible area of Greek settlement in Salt Lake. Other structures identified were: 592-98 West 200 South (listed in the National Register), and 561 West 200 South (nominated to the National Register -- all sites in the Salt Lake City Business District MRA). Also, in the general vicinity is the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 300 West 300 South (National Register). These structures were important in creating an atmosphere that stimulated cultural maintenance among the Greeks, and at the same time acted as vehicles for the eventual accomodation of Greeks to American life. The three commercial buildings that remain form the best commercial remnants of an ethnic section of Salt Lake City.

This building was constructed about 1910, probably by Nicholas D. Stathakos. Mr. Stathakos apparently left the state before his death, but had a great impact on the Greek community in Salt Lake while residing here. Historian Helen Papanikolas states that he was one of the first Greek businessmen in the Salt Lake area. All Greek immigrants had the dream of forsaking the life of a laborer forever and opening their own businesses and Nicholas Stathakos was one of the few Greeks in Utah to fulfill that dream. Nicholas Stathakos started out as a steamship agent in this building in 1908. By 1910, he was involved in banking and real estate and running a steamship and railroad ticket agency beside. His business continued to operate in Greektown at 539 West 2nd South., where immigrant traffic was heaviest. He had moved his own home, however, to the East side of the valley and resided at 963 East 2nd South in 1910, and 19205 South 11th East in 1915. In 1915 Nicholas P. Stathakos had created his own importing company in addition and

## HISTORY (continued)

was himself president and treasurer. By 1916, both Nicholas Stathakos and his company had disappeared.

The building was originally used as both the residence and place of business for George Fundas, who operated a candy business in the building. He is one of the few early Greek immigrants about whom we know something. According to his obituary, he was born April 10, 1878 in Greece to Stephen and Zoli Fundas. He came to Salt Lake City about 1910, first established a small candy business and later founded the Western Importing Co., which he operated until his retirement in 1942. In the early 1920's a Greek contractor named Karlin Kraak lived and maintained his business office in the building. Through 1929 to 1942 it housed the Grecian Bakery, operated by Peter Crision and Andrew Dokos.