

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: 945 Norfolk UTM: 12 457680 4499590
 Park City, Summit County, Utah
 Name of Structure: Nathaniel J. Williams House T. R. S.
 Present Owner: Lawrence H. and Emma Mary DeLand
 Owner Address: 5971 Lakeside Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121
 Year Built (Tax Record): Effective Age: Tax #: SA 157
 Legal Description: Kind of Building:
 North half Lot 11 and All Lot 12 Block 15., Snyder's Addition.
 .06 acre.

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: probably Nathaniel J. Williams Construction Date: c. 1896 Demolition Date:
 Original Use: Residence Present Use:
 Building Condition: Integrity: Preliminary Evaluation: Final Register Status:
 Excellent Site Unaltered Significant Not of the National Landmark District
 Good Ruins Minor Alterations Contributory Historic Period National Register Multi-Resource
 Deteriorated Major Alterations Not Contributory State Register Thematic

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography: Date of Slides: 1983 Slide No.: Date of Photographs: 1983 Photo No.:
 Views: Front Side Rear Other Views: Front Side Rear Other

Research Sources:
 Abstract of Title Sanborn Maps Newspapers U of U Library
 Plat Records/Map City Directories Utah State Historical Society BYU Library
 Tax Card & Photo Biographical Encyclopedias Personal Interviews USU Library
 Building Permit Obituary Index LDS Church Archives SLC Library
 Sewer Permit County & City Histories LDS Genealogical Society Other Census Records

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):
 1900 Census Records. Summit County, Park City Precinct, p. 170-B.
Salt Lake Tribune. December 20, 1943, p. 23. Nathaniel J. Williams obituary.

Architect/Builder: probably Ellsworth J. Beggs

Building Materials: Wood

Building Type/Style: Pyramid House (variant)

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

This house is a one story, frame variant of the pyramid house. It is one of four pyramid houses in the nomination which have the same roof, porch and facade arrangement as the basic pyramid house, but which are larger, rectangular versions of the type. The truncated hip roof, the hip roof porch spanning the facade, and the symmetrical arrangement of openings on the facade, with a door centered between pairs of double hung sash windows, are key features of the pyramid house. The basic type was varied, however, by expanding the one story, four room square plan to a one and one half story, six room rectangular plan. The space of the top half story was made available by piercing the roof with dormers on the east, west, and south sides. All the windows of the house are the double hung sash type, and are either paired or single. The house is supported on battered concrete piers, and has a dugout basement.

The interior of 945 Norfolk is more impressive than the exterior. The plan is simple, with three rooms on each half of the first floor of the house, but there are high ceilings and decorative Victorian eclectic moldings, some of which are hand grained, that convey a feeling of grandness. There are three bedrooms on the north side of the house. A living room, dining room and
(See continuation sheet)

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: c. 1896

Built c. 1896, the Nathaniel J. Williams House at 945 Norfolk is architecturally significant as one of 69 extant pyramid houses in Park City, 28 of which are included in this nomination. Of the 28 being nominated, 11 are true pyramid houses and 17 are variants of the basic type. This house is one of the variants. The pyramid house is one of the three most common house types built during the early period of Park City's mining boom era, and significantly contributes to the character of the residential area. It appeared early on, but continued to be built with variations longer than the other two house types.

This house was probably built in 1896 for Nathaniel J. Williams, who purchased the property that year and took out a \$700 mortgage from Ellsworth J. Beggs, a local carpenter, who probably built this house. Beggs is credited with building some of the larger, more elaborate houses in town, including the houses at 421 and 703 Park. Nathaniel J. Williams was born in Brazil in 1871 to John T. and Mary Williams. Little more is known of him except that he worked for a time as a miner and that he probably never married. Although the elaborate interior woodwork in this house suggests that this would be an owner/occupied home, Nathaniel apparently rented it out for at least a time, as indicated by the 1900 census records which list him as living with his parents in a house on Empire Avenue, one street west of Norfolk Avenue. Nathaniel Williams owned this house for thirty years, during which time his parents were sometimes at least partial owners and perhaps even occupants of this house. Nathaniel sold this house in 1926 to Mae W. Paxton, a school teacher, who owned it until 1965.

945 Norfolk

Description continued:

kitchen line one behind the other on the south side of the house. The original grooved moldings with decorative corner blocks are still intact in all of the rooms. As one would expect, the use of hand graining was confined to the public areas, the dining and living rooms, and the moldings in the kitchen are of a simpler design. There are three rooms on the second floor.

The house is essentially unaltered on the exterior, except for some deterioration of the front porch. It is especially unusual because it is one of few Park City houses that did not receive an addition of some kind. Changes to the interior too are relatively minor. The house has a balloon frame over which the current owners have built new walls in several of the bedrooms, but no changes have been made to the floor plan, and the original decorative features. The house therefore maintains its original integrity, and is a significant example of a fancy version of the pyramid house.