

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

RECEIVED 2280

AUG 12 2016

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Reddick Hotel / Ophir LDS Meetinghouse

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

Other names/site number: Reddick Boarding House, Howard's Shop

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 2nd Building West of Moore St. (near Miner St.), South Side of Main St.

City or town: Ophir State: UT County: Tooele

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

 Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>Utah Division of State History/Office of Historic Preservation</u>	<u>8.1.16</u> Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	
<p>In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government


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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____


Signature of the Keeper

9/27/2016
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

- Public - Local
- Public - State
- Public - Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Hotel
DOMESTIC: Boarding House
RELIGION: Religious Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

BUSINESS: Workshop
OTHER: Storage

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:

Commercial Style

MID-19TH CENTURY

Materials: (Enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE, WOOD SIDING, ALUMINUM

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Reddick Hotel/Ophir LDS Meetinghouse is a two-story frame building constructed in 1903-1904 originally in a vernacular Victorian commercial-style. It is located on west Main Street in the town of Ophir, Tooele County, Utah. The building footprint measures approximately 20 feet by 40 feet with the narrow end facing Main Street. The hotel is built on a stone foundation that is raised at the rear due to the slope of the site. The building is sheathed with drop-novelty siding. An enclosed stairwell built on the west elevation is also sheathed with drop-novelty siding. The simple gable roof of the main section is covered in seamed aluminum (2005). Minor modifications to the building include the removal of the false-front, which gives the building more of a mid-19th century vernacular classical appearance, and a side addition as well as an interior and exterior remodel when the building was converted to a meetinghouse for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) in the mid-1920s to 1930s. A second remodel occurred in the 1970s when the building was converted to an appliance repair shop. During this time a loading door was installed on the east elevation and the contributing circa 1920s outhouse was converted to a shed for television equipment. Despite these modifications, the building retains historic integrity for the period of significance between 1903 and 1959. The 0.09-acre property includes the hotel building and the contributing outhouse.

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Site

The community of Ophir was platted within the narrow Ophir Canyon of the Oquirrh Mountains, approximately fifty miles southwest of Salt Lake City. Ophir's Main Street is also known as Ophir Canyon Road.

The canyon has a steep grade downhill from east to west for which the building was adapted. Ophir Creek runs parallel to the road on the south side of the canyon at the west end of the town where the Reddick Hotel is located. Many of the buildings on either side of the road were built during the initial boom period between the 1870s and 1890s. After mining activity decreased, the town site was leveled with mine tailings, which created steep banks off into the creek and between adjacent lots. The Reddick Hotel was built in 1903-1904 on an empty lot at the corner of Main Street and a circular road connecting with Miner Street to the south [Figure 1]. All historical photos show no trees on the lot. Currently there are a number of box elder and American elm trees on the edges of the lot, most adjacent to the current building. There is a short asphalt driveway along the east elevation. The outhouse/shed is located at the southwest corner of the lot.¹ There is a chain link fence between the Reddick Hotel and the residential property to the west. Today Ophir's Main Street is a mix of historic residential and commercial buildings with some newer residential infill.

Exterior

The building sits on a locally-quarried stone foundation with loose mortar. The coursed ashlar foundation is flush with the present ground surface on the northeast corner and gradually increases to the south and west to the point that on the southwest corner the first floor sits 4½ feet above grade. The exterior stair structure does not have a similar foundation. The building is of wood frame construction with 2x4-inch studs. The exterior is sheathed with drop-novelty wood siding. The siding has been re-cut and re-installed when fenestration patterns were changed on the building (mostly in the mid-1920s within the historic period). The current metal roof (2005) replaced a circa 1950s asphalt-shingle roof. There is a short chimney on the top of the west side that is not visible above the roof line.

The Main Street façade (north elevation) of the building has a central wood door with a small window (circa 1970s). The door to the stairwell is a half-glass door with Victorian-style wood carving (possibly original). The original main level windows were removed in the 1920s. Evidence of the LDS meetinghouse sign location is visible on the north wall above the door. Though not currently mounted on the building, the sign, which reads "LDS Chapel," is in the possession of the current owners. The front of the building has two original windows equally spaced on the second floor. These windows are two-over-two double-hung windows (now covered in ivy). Nothing remains of the false-front as seen in the historic photographs [Figures 1-4]. The false front, which provided the original commercial appearance, was likely removed in the 1930s. The globe light on the façade dates from the 1970s.

On the east elevation, the main floor has one double-hung wood window on the northeast corner. The large sliding standing seam metal garage door is centered on the east wall. The installation of the sliding door in the early 1970s removed a second window on the east elevation. Evidence of the former location of the attached one-story kitchen addition is visible on the east wall. The kitchen was removed when the

¹ The 1917 Sanborn map of Ophir shows a frame barn/garage in the southwest corner. This outbuilding was demolished (probably 1920s) and the outhouse moved from another location.

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building was converted to a meetinghouse. On the second story of the east elevation are three additional double-hung windows (two blocked with wood).

The west elevation has one small window into the basement, two windows on the south half of the wall on the first floor, one window on the second story at the top of the staircase and two additional windows on the south half of second story. The south end of the staircase has one window on the ground floor level and one window on the second level, both facing south. A main level window opening within the enclosed stairwell suggests the structure was added after the original construction, but before a 1907 photograph [Figure 1]. The base of the stairwell structure is covered in wood.

The back of the building (south elevation) gives access to the basement through a short staircase down into the basement [Figure 2]. This access is a stairway that was enclosed in the 1920s. Access to the first floor on the rear elevation was by way of a short staircase at the southwest corner (probably original). On this south end one window is placed on the first floor in the southeast corner and two windows equally spaced on the second floor. The second floor windows were likely added in the 1920s. The second-floor central door seen in the historic photograph was blocked around the same time [Figure 2].

Interior

The basement is a 17-x-17-foot room on the south end of the building. Its walls are the stone foundation of the building and appear as rubble on the interior. Repair work is needed on the east wall. A stone wall has been built against this foundation which serves as a bench around the entire room. The original coal burning furnace sat in the middle of the room on a small cement slab with duct work extending to the north under the floor of the building. The rest of the basement area is a narrowing crawl space from the south room to the north end of the building. One small window is on the west wall with the door on the south wall.

The first floor was originally the hotel lobby and dining room with the one-story kitchen addition to the east. The main floor is now one large room with the staircase to the second story accessible by a door in the northwest corner of the room. The floor is of tongue and groove wood. A door in the center of the west wall leads to a room underneath the staircase which has a sink on the west wall and a window on the south wall. Outside pedestrian doors are in the center of the north wall and the west end of the south wall. The large garage door is in the center of the east wall. Numerous work benches and storage cabinets are located around the perimeter of the first floor room. A chimney is located in the north end of the west wall which serves a wood burning stove.

The original round light fixtures of the LDS meetinghouse are equally spaced on the ceiling with three fluorescent lights added above work areas. Along the ceiling on the west side there are two sets of holes that have been covered. One set is of three smaller holes and the second set of two larger holes. These were likely vent holes to allow movement of air from the first floor to the second floor rooms. The walls have been papered above the original bead-board wainscoting and chair rail. A car engine hoist has been installed along the main center beam of the south end of the room (1970s).

The second story is accessible only by the exterior staircase on the west elevation. The staircase is wide and leads to an outside door to the north as well as a landing at the top from which one turns east to access the first of three rooms on the second story. The other rooms are accessed through this room to a hallway on the east side of the second story which leads to a room on the south end and a room on the

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north end. All three rooms have had baseboard added and all wallpapered a number of times following the conversion to the meetinghouse. The middle room has one window on the west.

The south room has a window on the west and two windows on the south. The north room has a window on the east and two windows on the north. The north room also has a chimney running from the first floor up through the roof on the west side of the room. Adjacent to this chimney is one of the small vent holes to allow air passage between the first and second floors.

All floors are of wood with linoleum still existing in some rooms. A chalkboard hangs on the north end of the hallway with two windows to the east in the hallway. Original meetinghouse lights hang centered in each of the three rooms and the hallway. A number of the windows have no glass but retain the original window frames and are blocked with wood to prevent moisture entering the building.

Summary

For its age, the Reddick Hotel/Ophir LDS Meetinghouse, built in 1903-1904, has good historic integrity with only minor modifications that reflect the transition of uses and the historic character of this simple building. It retains integrity of location, setting, workmanship, materials, association and feeling. The design changes reflect the historic periods within the community as the building was transformed from a boarding house to a meetinghouse, and later into a repair shop. The building is currently undergoing a multi-phase rehabilitation to preserve the surviving historic materials and character. As one of only two remaining historic wood and frame commercial building in Ophir, Utah, the Reddick Hotel/Ophir LDS Meetinghouse is a contributing historic resource in the community.²

² The older Ophir Town Hall (NRIS #83003193) is frame building is also extant; however, the town hall's bell tower gives it a distinctly institutional appearance. The Reddick Hotel/Ophir LDS Meetinghouse is more typical of the frame commercial buildings that were once ubiquitous on Ophir's Main Street.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE
RELIGION
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Period of Significance

1903-1959

Significant Dates

1903
1916
1924
1959

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

John S. Dunn, builder
Daniel Z. Stanton, builder

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Reddick Hotel/Ophir LDS Meetinghouse, built in 1903-1904, is locally significant under Criterion A for its association with the development of Ophir, Utah in the first half of the twentieth century. Under Criterion A in the areas of Commerce, Religion, and Entertainment/Recreation, the building served the community in two capacities: as a hotel/boarding house until 1924, and as a Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' (LDS Church) meetinghouse and social center between 1924 and 1959. The period of historic significance is 1903 to 1959, beginning with the construction of the building and ending when the Ophir Branch of the LDS Church was dissolved in 1959. The property meets Criteria Consideration A as a religious-use building formerly owned by the LDS Church, but which derives its significance primarily from its original use as a hotel and its importance use as a meeting hall for the town's residents during the boom town's decline.

Within the area of Commerce, the Reddick Hotel is particularly notable as one of the few extant commercial buildings that represent the town's efforts to transform from a boom-&-bust mining camp to a more stable community. It is the only frame commercial building, other than the Ophir Town Hall³, that retains its historic integrity. The building was originally built as a hotel following the peak of mining activity in the canyon. In 1916, the hotel became the site of one of Ophir's most tragic events, the murder of Mary Reddick by her husband, and his subsequent suicide. Although the interior retains more integrity from the meetinghouse period, local residents still refer to the building as the Reddick Hotel based on the exterior integrity and its strong association with the murder/suicide.

Unlike many of Utah's mining towns of the early 1870s, particularly those in narrow canyons, Ophir was never completely abandoned. The Reddick Hotel remained a boarding house through the early 1920s. It was obtained by the LDS Church in 1924 and converted to a meetinghouse. The property is significant in the areas of Religion and Entertainment/Recreation as the only dedicated building used as a church meetinghouse for any congregation. It also provided a place for civic meetings and social/recreational events for the geographically isolated community. The Ophir Branch of the LDS Church was formed in 1921 and dissolved in 1959 when the population of Ophir declined dramatically. In 1970, it became a shop building owned by former Mayor Howard Hawkins and remains in the Hawkins family today. The Reddick Hotel/Ophir LDS Meetinghouse is a contributing historic resource in the community of Ophir, Utah.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Early History of Ophir, Utah

Mining for precious metals in Utah began in 1862 when soldiers from Fort Douglas under the command of Colonel Patrick E. Connor staked claims in the canyons southeast and southwest of Salt Lake City. Many of the men were experienced prospectors from the California gold rush, and by the late 1860s numerous mining districts had been established in the Utah Territory, although mining did not become commercially successful in Utah until after the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869. In

³ The Ophir Town Hall was listed on June 9, 1983, NRIS #83003193.

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1865, the soldiers began exploring East Canyon (later Ophir Canyon) after reports that Native Americans had previously worked the area to make gold and silver trinkets, as well as silver and lead bullets.⁴

A mining camp of canvas tents, log cabins, and whipsaw lumber shacks quickly grew parallel to Bates Creek (later Ophir Creek) as prospectors rushed to the canyon to stake claims. The Ophir Mining District was organized in 1870 with the name taken from the geographical location of King Solomon's mines. More than 2,500 mining claims had been staked at Ophir by 1871. That year Ophir's population reached 1,200.⁵ By the time a town site plat was filed with Tooele County in April 1873, the town had a thriving commercial district along Main Street with stores, saloons, brothels, restaurants, a hotel, a post office, and a Methodist church. Most of the commercial buildings featured false fronts facing Main Street, the only road through the canyon.

Residences were built on short streets that paralleled Main Street and up and down both sides of the canyon. A Salt Lake City newspaper article published in April 1871 referred to the town as "Ophir City" and described it as "flourishing and rapidly increasing."⁶ A town hall/firehouse was built around 1870. The Ophir Town Hall was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983 (NRIS #83003193). In 1874, the Utah Gazetteer had 119 business listings for the town, which it described as the "business centre" of the Ophir Mining District. In 1874, the Lawrence Brothers Mercantile, the only surviving stone commercial building in Ophir was completed. The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2013 (NRIS #13000842). The population of Ophir rose and fell with the associated mining activity. In the first half of the twentieth century, a second wave of miners lived in the town and the population increased from 295 in 1900 to 522 in 1920, which was the peak of the town's population in the twentieth century, but only a third of the population from the initial mining activity in the 1870s.

Historical Significance of the Reddick Hotel

Under Criterion A in the area of Commerce, the Reddick Hotel is significant as one of only two frame commercial buildings associated with the town's efforts to transform from a boom-&-bust mining camp to a more stable community. Between 1903 and 1924, the Reddick Hotel made important contributions to the community as one of two hotel/boarding houses in operation. The Reddick Hotel was a rare woman-owned business in the mining town. The building is particularly associated with a single event: the murder of Mary Reddick by her husband and his subsequent suicide in 1916.

The Reddick Hotel was built during a resurgence of mining activity in the first quarter of the twentieth century. It is significant as the only extant hotel.⁷ The building was constructed on an empty lot at a point where a circular road connecting Main Street with Miner Street. On September 10, 1903, the Block B, Lot 5 parcel was purchased for \$75 by Albert Ophir Evans, who in 1871 was the first boy born in Ophir. On December 14, 1903, A. O. Evans sold the parcel to his sister, Mary Ellen Evans Reddick for \$100. Oral history passed down through generations of Ophir residents claim the Reddick Hotel

⁴ Scott Crump, "The Oquirrh Mountains" in *Utah History Encyclopedia*, (Salt Lake City, Utah: University of Utah Press, 1994): 401.

⁵ George A. Thompson, *Some Dreams Die – Utah's Ghost Towns and Lost Treasures*, (Salt Lake City, Utah: Roaming the West, 1991): 17.

⁶ *Salt Lake Tribune*, April 15, 1871.

⁷ The older Edwards Hotel across the street was demolished before the 1960s.

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originated in the town of West Dip located south of the mouth of Ophir Canyon; however the Tooele County land records make it clear that the building was constructed for Mary E. Reddick.⁸

On February 3, 1904, liens were filed by John S. Dunn and D. Z. Stanton for “labor and services in the erection and construction of that certain building or structure, and now situated upon that certain lot . . . has a kitchen added to one side . . . 3 rooms and kitchen on first floor and 7 rooms and hallway on upper story.”⁹ Construction occurred between October 1, 1903 and January 2, 1904 with 59 days put in by John S. Dunn and 71½ days by D. Z. Stanton at a cost of \$3.50 per day for each man and a total cost of \$496.35, \$39.60 of which was for materials. The liens were paid in full and released by January 30, 1905. John S. Dunn was born in Utah in 1873. He was a carpenter living in Tooele at the time he worked on the Reddick Hotel. John S. Dunn died in Tooele in 1941. Daniel Zed Stanton was born in Montana in 1868. He was also a carpenter, but lived in a boarding house in Ophir with several miners. By the time of his death in 1927, Stanton had moved to Salt Lake City.

Mary Ellen “Nellie” Evans was born in Lehi, Utah, in 1865. She was seven years-old when the family moved to Ophir in 1871. She married Joseph Reddick in 1899. Joseph Edward Reddick was born in Kentucky in 1865. They were living in Mercur, Utah, on the 1900 census where Joseph was a gold miner. The couple had three children, Laura, Eddie, and Earnest, born between 1900 and 1904. The Reddicks divorced in 1906 when it was discovered that Joseph had another wife in Texas, who divorced him in 1910. Mary and Joseph were later remarried in 1911.

The state gazetteers make it clear that Mary Ellen “Nellie” Reddick ran the hotel. The hotel was one of only two woman-owned businesses in the mining town at the time. On the 1910 census in Ophir, she is listed as a “hotel keeper” and the head of the household with her three children. The hotel building was also the family’s primary residence.

In September 1907, the *Salt Lake Mining Review* described Ophir: “The camp boasts the usual number of saloons, two hotels and two general stores. The leading business house is the Ophir Mercantile Company, which carries a most complete line of general utilities. . . Mr. Edwards conducts the other mercantile establishment and also has charge of the leading hotel in the camp.”¹⁰ This was known as the Edwards Hotel, which was a larger establishment across Main Street from the Reddick Hotel. Continuing, the *Salt Lake City Mining Review*, described the survival and subsequent revival of Ophir with the advent of more modern mining equipment and a large influx of capital in the early 1900s: “A noticeable feature in the town is the absence of the down-and-out spirit that is so prevalent among camps of the ‘has-been’ type. It is encouraging to get in a mining town like Ophir, where every citizen has the progressive habit of boasting. One is infected with this enthusiasm upon first entering the camp, and begins to feel that Ophir is the only town in Utah.”¹¹ The Reddick Hotel was listed in descriptions of the town in state gazetteers: “Reddick Mary furn rooms” along with twenty five other businesses.

On September 10, 1916, according to newspaper reports, Mrs. Reddick had made an appointment with County Attorney L. L. Baker who went to Ophir Sunday afternoon to meet Mrs. Reddick who had

⁸ It was said that the building was at that time the West Dip Saloon and moved sometime between 1895 and 1900 by mule train to Ophir. West Dip began development in 1895 and was laid out as a town site in 1899. The stories have it that the building upon arrival in Ophir was used as a saloon and brothel. Physical evidence does not suggest that the current building was moved; however, materials may have been salvaged from the West Dip buildings. Johnny Skinner, personal correspondence.

⁹ Tooele County title abstracts and deeds.

¹⁰ *Salt Lake Mining Review*, September 15, 1907: 18.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

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determined to get a separation from her husband. Mr. Baker tried to straighten out the connubial tangle, but failing to achieve reconciliation the lawyer got all the information necessary to prepare the papers for the case. Just as he was leaving Ophir to come to Tooele, Joseph Reddick stopped him and had a talk with him about their domestic affairs, telling Mr. Baker that he would not fight the case, but that everything would go alright. After he left Mr. Baker, Reddick went to the hotel where Mrs. Reddick was at work in the kitchen. It is thought that he gave her a note which she read and then threw in the fire. Reddick then drew a .38 caliber revolver and fired two shots at Mrs. Reddick. The one just plowed along her arm and she held it up to shield her head, the second one stabbing her in the left cheek, penetrating the brain, and coming out the back of her head. Reddick then held the gun to his forehead and blew the top of his head off.

Reddick must have contemplated the rash deed for several days as he drew about \$125 which he had placed with the Ophir Mercantile Co., and put it in three envelopes, which he gave to their three children, Laura, Eddie and Ernest. He instructed them not to open the envelopes until later. According to the *Salt Lake Herald*, "Reddick (after unable to reach an understanding) then summoned his son Earnest, 11 years of age, and gave him an envelope containing \$45 telling him to divide the money with his brother Edward, 14 years of age, who was not at home at the time. Reddick also gave \$40 to his daughter, who is 16 years of age. A few minutes later the sons and daughter left the house and went downtown. They had been gone only a short time when three shots were heard. Mrs. A. B. Leatham, a sister of Mrs. Reddick, who lives next door to the rooming house operated by Mrs. Reddick, rushed in and found the couple dead."¹²

The *Tooele Transcript Bulletin* reported that their daughter Laura went into the hotel filled with powder smoke and found them lying prone on the floor. She rushed to her aunt's (Mrs. A. B. Leatham) next door and told them of the tragedy."¹³ According to *Salt Lake Tribune*, "Joseph Reddick ... was buried here (Tooele) today by the county. There were no mourners and no services of any kind. It is said that a brother in Kentucky was wired, and his reply was that he would have nothing to do with the services, and the relatives of the murdered woman refused to have anything to do with the burial. Services will be held here (Tooele) Thursday afternoon for Mrs. Reddick, after which the body will be taken to Lehi for burial."¹⁴ The tragic event is remembered to this day. Residents of Ophir, as well as descendants of the Reddick family, have reported ghost sightings and unexplained phenomena in the former Reddick Hotel. The folklore surrounding these events adds to the historical significance of the property for the current residents.

On the 1920 census, Ida (Mrs. A.B.) and Archibald Leatham's neighbor is a renter, Melissa Daniels, who was a cook with six boarders, so it appears the building continued as a boarding house after Mary Reddick's death.¹⁵ Melissa Lucille Daniels was born in Ashley, Utah. She was married around 1906 and had two children, but is listed as divorced and the head-of-the-household using her maiden surname. The census was taken in February 1920 and in June 1920, Melissa Daniels married one of her boarders, Fred Strickland. Strickland was born in Montana and was a mill man in the "concentrator" industry on the census. Lawrence Staples, another boarder, worked in the same industry. The other boarders in 1920 include: Jack Forsberg, a Swedish immigrant and mining machine operator; Thomas Clarey, a seventeen-

¹² *Salt Lake Herald*, September 11, 1916: 10. Similar articles appeared in the *Salt Lake Telegram* and *Salt Lake Tribune*.

¹³ *Tooele Transcript Bulletin*, September 13, 1916: 1.

¹⁴ *Salt Lake Tribune*, September 13, 1916: 13

¹⁵ The building is labeled as "lodgings" on the 1917 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Ophir.

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year-old Utah-born mine laborer; Jesse Charles, a Utah-born diamond drill operator, and Mark A. Bullock, a mine laborer who was the only married boarder.

The building remained in the name of Mary E. Reddick until January 1924 when it was transferred to the three children who at the time of her death were minors but were now of age. In February 1924, one month later, the three children sold the building to C.R. McBride who then sold the building to the Tooele Stake of the LDS Church. Melissa Daniels and Fred Strickland had moved to Cedar Fort, Utah, by the time of the 1930 census.

Historical Significance of the Ophir Branch of the LDS Church

The Reddick Hotel was obtained by the LDS Church in 1924 and converted to a meetinghouse. The property is significant in the area of Religion as the only building in Ophir dedicated for use as a religious facility. The building is significant in the area of Recreation as a place for civic meetings and social/recreational events for the geographically isolated community. Between 1924 and 1959, the LDS Meetinghouse was not only used by the LDS congregation for Sunday worship, but for meetings and events for the entire, albeit dwindling, population.

For the first half of Ophir's history, the members of the LDS Church living in the community were assigned to the Tooele Ward, seventeen miles to the north and west. The Methodists and the Catholics held irregular services, but neither congregation built a meetinghouse. The population of Ophir decreased from 522 in 1920 to 170 in 1930 with the complete cessation of organized mineral extraction. After a slight increase around World War II, the population dropped dramatically to only 36 residents in 1960. During the period of significance, only LDS Church members had sufficient numbers to hold regular meetings. The LDS Church did not have a formerly organized congregation in Ophir until September 11, 1921, when the Ophir Branch was established. Between 1921 and 1924, all meetings were held in the district schoolhouse, but the members found this arrangement unsatisfactory and began to talk about building a chapel in 1922.¹⁶

Branch records are missing between 1923 and 1939, so no information is available about the acquisition of the Reddick property and the subsequent remodeling. Notes from the 1940s show the building was regularly painted and repaired. The building was remodeled by the LDS Church to have one room on the ground floor, the attached kitchen removed and the seven rooms on the second story reduced to three classrooms and a hallway. A number of current-day Ophir residents have memories of attending Sunday School and other church services in the building. The pulpit was on the south wall of the main floor with a picture of David O. McKay on the southeast and a picture of the Lion and Lamb on the southwest wall.¹⁷ There were several years when meetings were not held due to inclement weather or low membership.

In the 1950s, there were 83 members of the church in Ophir, but attendance at sacrament meeting was between 20 and 30. The Ophir Branch was dissolved on January 1, 1959, at which time members were assigned to other wards. The property remained in the church and informal gatherings, such as parties and movie viewings, continued to be held after the congregation stopped Sunday worship meetings in the

¹⁶ The school house was located next to the Edwards Hotel. It was demolished when a new building was constructed in the 1930s.

¹⁷ David O. McKay was the president of the LDS Church between 1951 and 1970.

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building. By April 1969, an inventory of church properties noted that the building was “abanded [sic] with furnishings intact [sic].”¹⁸ [Figure 5].

Subsequent History of the Building: Howard’s Shop

In 1970, after 46 years of ownership by the LDS Church, the building was sold to Howard and Sue Hawkins who moved to Ophir from Toledo, Ohio in 1961. Hawkins, a professional civilian mechanic at the Tooele Army Depot, remodeled the lower floor as a mechanic/carpentry shop with the upper rooms used for storage and a play room for the six Hawkins children. The building became known to the approximately 100 residents of Ophir as “Howard’s Shop.” Hawkins served three terms as the Mayor of Ophir from 1966 to 1978 and his wife, Sue served as town secretary-treasurer for 35 years.

During this time the Ophir Canyon Water Association (OCWA) was formed. Howard’s Shop housed all OCWA equipment, materials and supplies as well as other town machinery. The OCWA and a few town residents took on the daunting task of establishing a safe culinary water system for Ophir. This included “capturing” three springs several miles up-canyon, installing a pipeline, constructing a 60,000 gallon underground storage tank and establishing 40 water-hookups to residents. This project initiated by Hawkins, took from 1975-77 to complete with all volunteer labor.

During the late 1960s through the 1970s, Howard’s Shop also provided a television service to the town’s people. TV reception was all but impossible within the deep walled canyon. Hawkins engineered, and with his sons, constructed an extensive antenna and line system from the shop to the top of Lion Hill Peak, some 2,000, nearly vertical, feet. This system was then wired to all residents in town at no fee. Remnants of the power system for the antenna are still in the television equipment shed (former outhouse).

The doors of the “Howard’s Shop” were open to everyone, children in need of bicycle tire repair, teens working on motorcycles or first cars, and adults with various auto-mechanic questions or repairs. There was always a project of some sort, from picture frames to shelves to doghouses and toy trains and birdhouses of all kinds. It was a place to gather whether sitting in the sun on old chairs, and sharing a laugh or around the wood burning stove with a cup of coffee. Friendships were made, disputes settled, ideas hatched and stories shared.¹⁹ The lot and building remain in the Hawkins family, having been so for 45 years.

The town of Ophir has never been completely deserted and the spirit of “boasting” remains. Many current residents refuse to accept the label of “ghost town” used by outsiders but are constantly reminded of the arguable presence of ghosts surrounding the old Reddick Hotel.

Summary

Despite minor modifications that reflect the transition of use, the Reddick Hotel/Ophir Meetinghouse meets the criteria for significance in the areas of Commerce, Religion, and Entertainment/Recreation. The property is one of only a handful of buildings in Ophir that represent the boom town period and housing for the town’s transient population. As an LDS meetinghouse, the property is the only religious

¹⁸ Notes on photograph taken in April 1979. LDS Church History Library, Physical Facilities Department Files.

¹⁹ Jan Hawkins Fultz, personal correspondence.

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ever dedicated in the town. It was also an important social venue for all the town's residents. The building has sufficient integrity to represent the period of significance. The Reddick Hotel/Ophir LDS Meetinghouse is a contributing historic resource in the community.

Reddick Hotel/Ophir LDS Meetinghouse
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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Blanthorn, Ouida. *A History of Tooele, County*, Salt Lake City, Utah: Utah State Historical Society, 1998.

Carr, Stephen L. *the Historical Guide of Utah Ghost Towns*. Salt lake City, Utah: Western Epics, 1972.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Church History Library. Physical Facilities Files for the Ophir Branch, 1921-1959.

Crump, Scott. "The Oquirrh Mountains" in *Utah History Encyclopedia*, (Salt Lake City, Utah: University of Utah Press, 1994): 401.

Fultz, Jan Hawkins. Personal correspondence with Jim O'Rourke.

Skinner, Johnny. Personal correspondence with Jim O'Rourke.

Stoehel, C. Eric. *Bonanza Victorian: Architecture and Society in Colorado Mining Towns*. Albuquerque, New Mexico: University of New Mexico Press, 1975: 10-12.

Thompson, George A. *Some Dreams Die – Utah's Ghost Towns and Lost Treasures*. Salt Lake City, Utah: Roaming the West, 1991: 17.

Salt Lake City Directory and Utah Gazetteer, published by H.L.A. Culmer, 1879: 380.

Salt Lake Mining Review, September 15, 1907: 18.

Salt Lake Herald, September 11, 1916.

Salt Lake Telegram, September 11, 1916.

Salt Lake Tribune, April 15, 1871.

Salt Lake Tribune, September 13, 1916.

Tooele Transcript Bulletin, September 13, 1916.

Utah State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1918-1919.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 0.09 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates.

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____ (enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Latitude: 40.369613°

Longitude: -112.2552°

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

Zone: 12

Easting: 393427

Northing: 4469537

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

See Plat of Ophir, Tooele County, Utah prepared in 1873. The building is on Lot 5, Block B situated on the south side of Main Street between Union Street on the west and Moore Street on the east. It is a 75 foot by 50 foot lot 0.9 acres in size currently owned by James T. and Lora H. O'Rourke as shown in the Plat Maps of Tooele County, Utah in Book V, page 144. It is located in Section 23, T5S, R4W.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are those associated with the property currently and historically.

11.

Form Prepared By:

name/title: James T. O'Rourke PhD, and Korral Broschinsky, M.S.A.S
e-mail: kbro@kbropreservation.com telephone: 801-913-5645
date: July 21, 2016

Property Owner information:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name: James T. and Lora H. O'Rourke
address: 61 Country Club Road
city or town: Chadron state: Nebraska zip code: 69337
telephone/email: 308-432-5954

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: *Reddick Hotel*

City or Vicinity: Ophir

County: Tooele State: Utah

Photographer: James O'Rourke and Korral Broschinsky

Date Photographed: June-September 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

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Photograph 1
North elevation of Reddick Hotel. Camera facing south.



Photograph 2
North and east elevations of Reddick Hotel. Camera facing southwest.

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Photograph 3
East elevation of Reddick Hotel. Camera facing west.



Photograph 4
South elevation of Reddick Hotel. Camera facing north.

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Photograph 5
West elevation of Reddick Hotel, south half. Camera facing east.



Photograph 6
West elevation of Reddick Hotel, stairwell structure. Camera facing northeast.

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Photograph 7
Interior, main floor. Camera facing north.



Photograph 8
Interior, main floor. Camera facing south.

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Photograph 9
Interior, second floor north room. Camera facing east.



Photograph 10
Interior, second floor south room. Camera facing west.

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Photograph 11
Interior, stairwell. Camera facing north toward entrance.



Photograph 12
Outhouse/shed for television equipment. Camera facing southeast.

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Figure 1
Ophir Main Street, 1907. Reddick Hotel on right center.
Courtesy James O'Rourke.

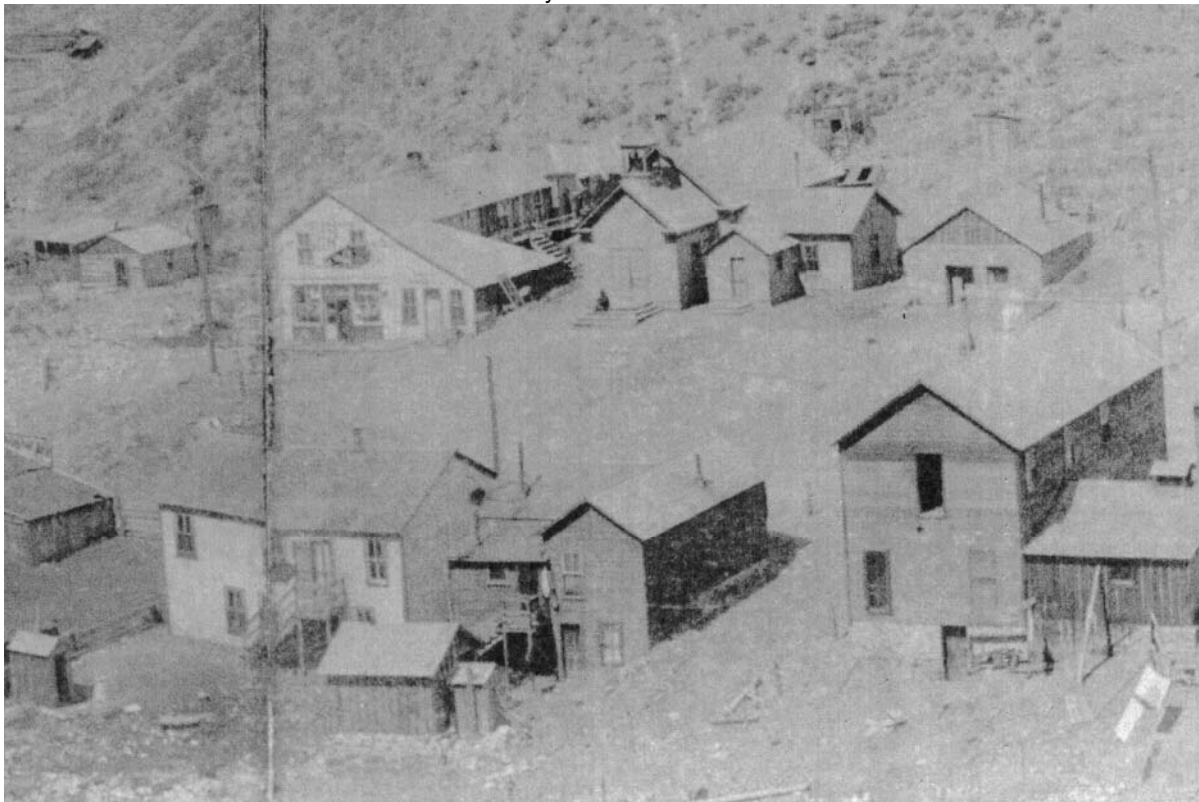


Figure 2
Ophir Main Street, 1908. Rear of Reddick Hotel in lower right corner.
Courtesy James O'Rourke

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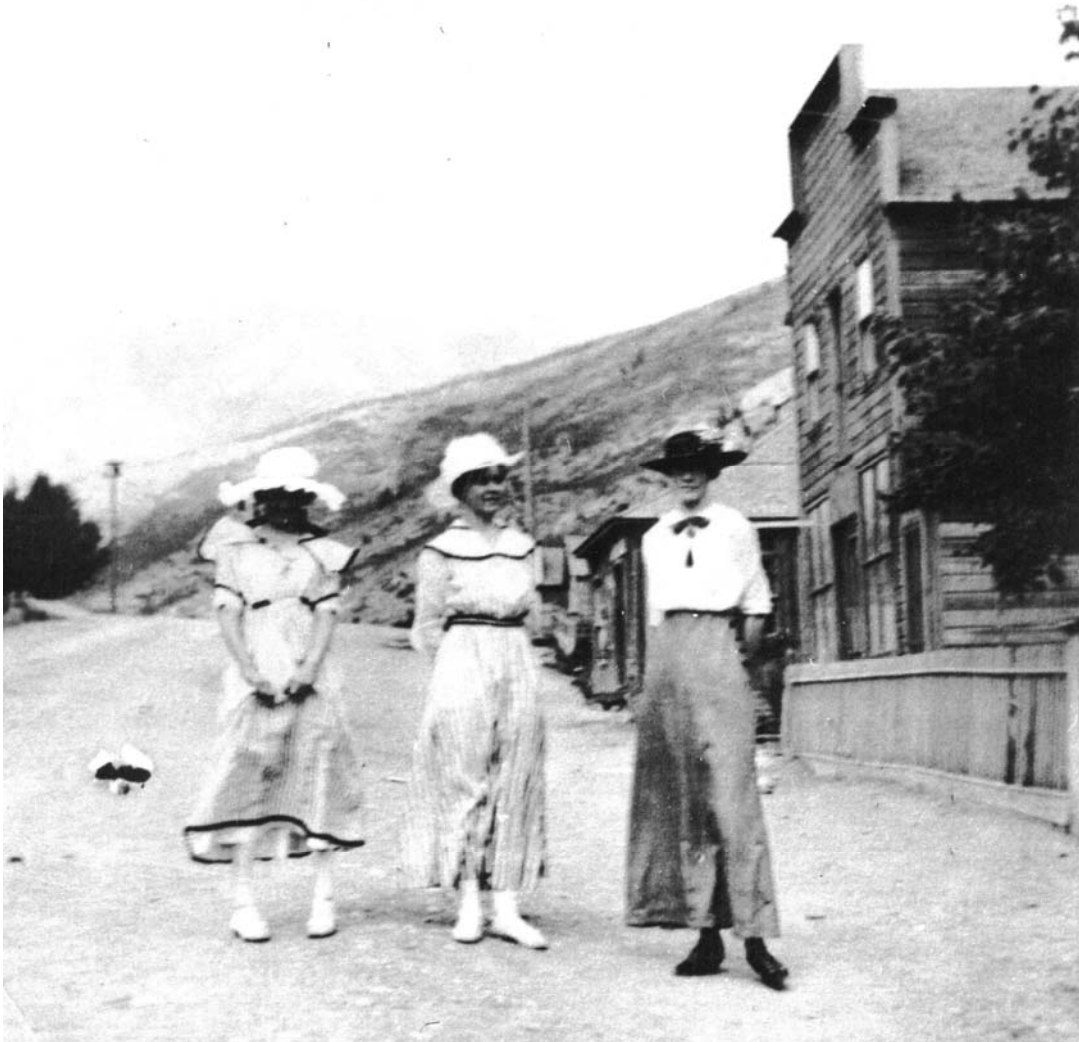


Figure 3
Ophir Main Street, circa 1914. Reddick Hotel on right.
Courtesy James O'Rourke

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Figure 4

Ophir Main Street, 1928. Reddick Hotel in top center with Edwards Hotel below.
Courtesy James O'Rourke

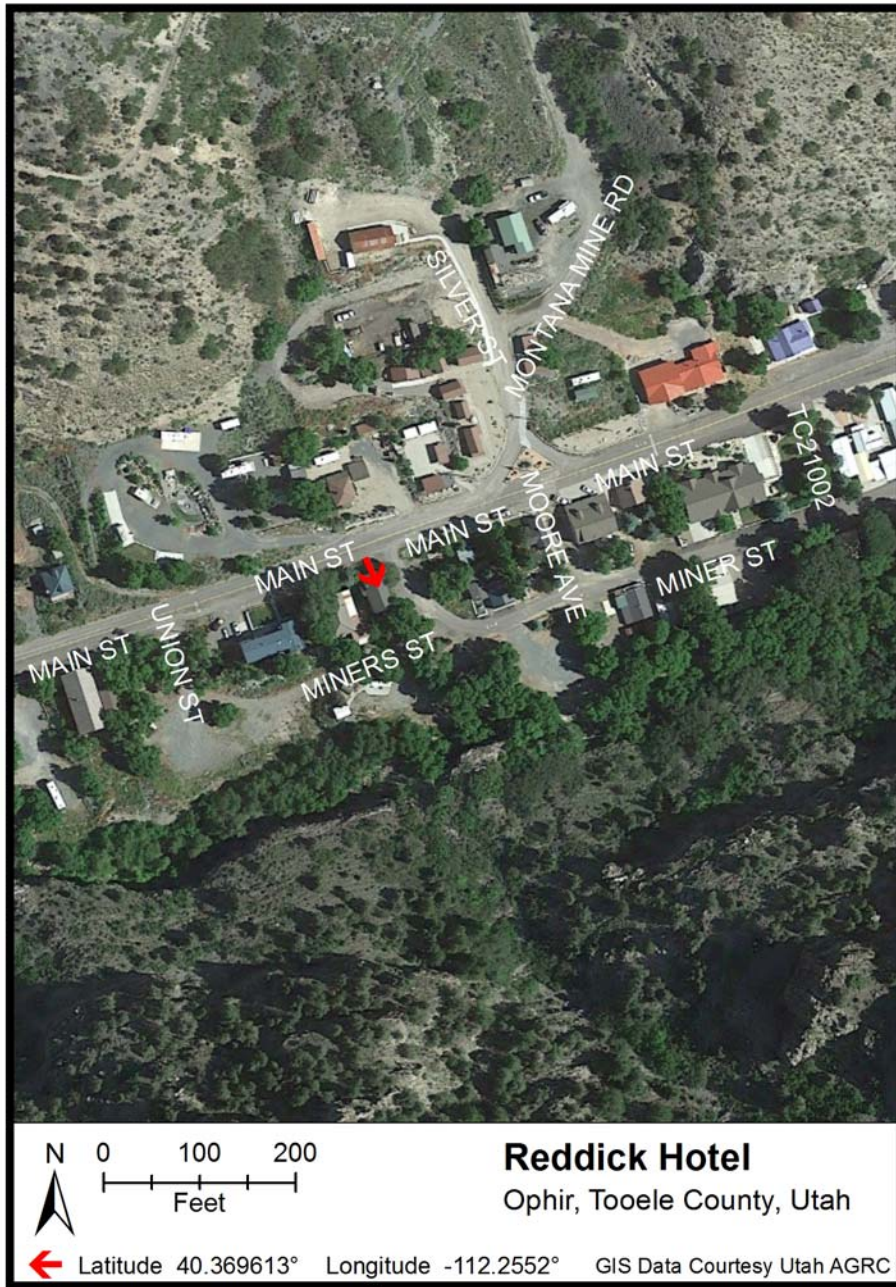


Figure 5

Ophir Branch LDS Meetinghouse, April 1969.
Courtesy LDS Church History Library

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Reddick Hotel--Ophir LDS Meetinghouse
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: UTAH, Tooele

DATE RECEIVED: 8/12/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/02/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/19/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/27/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000680

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

 ACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Reddick Hotel/Ophir LDS Meetinghouse is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Commerce, Religion, and Entertainment/Recreation. One of only two remaining historic wood-frame commercial buildings in the small, former mining community of Ophir, the 1903 building illustrates the typical vernacular forms utilized for commercial/civic construction in the community during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The modest, two-story building served as a boarding house/hotel from its completion in 1904 until 1920, and served as the local LDS meetinghouse from 1920 to 1930--the only religious facility completed in the community. The building also served as an important social and cultural venue in Ophir offering one of the few large public meeting spaces in the community for many years.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criterion A

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignea DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE _____ DATE 9/27/2016

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

Julie Fisher
Executive Director
Department of
Heritage & Arts

Utah Division of
State History

Brad Westwood
Director

RECEIVED 2280

AUG 12 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

August 10, 2016

TO: Mr. J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service 2280, 8th Floor;
1201 Eye (I) Street, NW; Washington, DC 20005

FROM: J. Cory Jensen, National Register Coordinator
Utah State Historic Preservation Office

RE: Reddick Hotel/Ophir LDS Meetinghouse, Tooele County, National Register of
Historic Places nomination

Mr. Loether,

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination form for the **Reddick Hotel/Ophir LDS Meetinghouse** to the National Register of Historic Places. The other disk contains the photographs of the property in TIF format. Should you have any questions, please contact me at coryjensen@utah.gov or 801/245-7242.

Thank you,


J. Cory Jensen

Enclosures:

- 1 CD with PDF of the NRHP nomination form and correspondence/additional info
- 1 CD with electronic images (tif format)
- 1 Physical Transmission Letter
- 1 Physical Signature Page, with original signature
- Other:

Comments:

- _____ Please ensure that this nomination receives substantive review
- _____ The enclosed owner(s) objection(s) do _____ do not _____
- _____ constitute a majority of property owners.
- _____ Other: