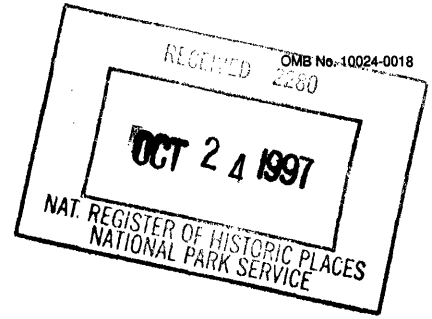


1464



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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Oberg/Metcalf House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 12 N 100 E N/A not for publication

city or town Gunnison N/A vicinity

state Utah code UT county Sanpete code 039 zip code 84634

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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Walt M. ... 10/11/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Utah Division of State History, Office of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall 11-24-97
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Oberg/Metcalf House
Name of Property

Gunnison, Sanpete County, Utah
City, County, and State

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use:

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19TH CENTURY
Classical

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation STONE
walls Limestone

roof ASPHALT
other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

Oberg/Metcalf House
Name of Property

Gunnison, Sanpete County, Utah
City, County, and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" on one or more lines 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" on all that apply.)

Property is:

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c.1880s, c.1890s

Significant Dates

c.1880s
c.1890s

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Johan Oberg/Builder?

Name of repository:

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Oberg/Metcalf House
Name of Property

Gunnison, Sanpete County, Utah
City, County, and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property .5 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A 1/2 4/2/9/3/2/0 4/3/3/4/1/2/0 B 1 11111 11111
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

C 1 11111 11111 D 1 11111 11111

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

BEG S1*W 3.30 C NW COR BLK 35, PLAT A GUNNISON CITY SURVEY; S1*W 3.30 C,S89*E 100 FT, N1*E 3.30 C, N89*W 100 FT TO BEG CONT .50 AC BEING IN PART 41 AND BLK 35

Property Tax No. 0117521

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are those that were historically and continue to be associated with the building.

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Julie Osborne, Architectural Historian; Claudia Davis, Owner

organization Utah State Historic Preservation Office

date August 1997

street & number 300 Rio Grande

telephone (801) 533-3500

city or town Salt Lake City

state UT zip code 84 101

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and/or properties having large acreage or numerous resources.
- **Photographs:** Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.
- **Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

name Claudia Davis

street & number 25061 Paseo Cipres

telephone (714) 770-9809

city or town Lake Forest

state CA zip code 92630

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 1

Oberg/Metcalf House, Gunnison, Sanpete County, UT

Narrative Description

The Oberg/Metcalf House, built c.1880s, is a one-and-one-half story stone house with a c.1890s brick rear ell, located on a corner lot in Gunnison. One other structure, a historic but non-contributing log cabin which was moved to the lot c.1995, is the only other building on the property. The yard is fully landscaped with lawn and a large tree in the backyard.

The c.1880s Classical style oolitic limestone portion of the building has the same stone foundation covered with concrete. Classical features include the symmetrical facade and simple cornice. The coursed ashlar stone walls in the original, rectangular block, are accented with raised mortar joints. The stone rows become progressively narrow as they go up from the foundation to the roof. This hall-parlor section of the house has primarily one-over-one¹ double hung wood windows with simple wood frames. Three gabled dormer windows along the front of the house appear to be original, as does the hipped roof. Although this configuration is somewhat unusual for the early stone houses of Sanpete County which usually had gable roofs, physical evidence suggest that it is original. Asphalt shingles are used throughout. It appears that the front porch, with simple Victorian detailing, was added at the same time the brick addition was constructed (c.1890s).

The brick, rear ell of the house, has an exposed stone foundation. The windows are double hung wood windows with stone lintels and sills. A truncated hipped roof covers this section of the house. On the south elevation, there is a porch with the same Victorian detailing as the front porch of the stone portion of the house, a pair of double hung windows, and an entrance door.

This house retains its original exterior and interior features and contributes to the historic qualities of Gunnison.

 See continuation sheet

¹The window on the south elevation is a two-over-two double hung window.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 2

Oberg/Metcalf House, Gunnison, Sanpete County, UT

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Oberg/Metcalf House, built c.1880 and c.1890s, is one of the best remaining examples of the kinds of structures built by Mormon pioneers in Gunnison during its settlement in the mid to late 1800s. The Classical style stone houses in Gunnison describe the level of craftsmanship available and building traditions used in the Sanpete valley, and represent an important period of building permanent, visually correct and functional homes within a communal setting. The Oberg/Metcalf house is significant as one of only ten remaining Classically detailed stone residences built prior to 1900 in Gunnison. The Victorian detailed rear ell contributes to the significance of the house by describing a period when rural Utah was becoming less isolated and pattern book designs and manufactured materials were more readily available. The Oberg/Metcalf house retains its original characteristics and contributes to the historic qualities of Gunnison.

GUNNISON HISTORY:

The establishment of Gunnison in 1862 resulted from the resettlement and merging of two earlier communities, each built up in 1859 along the lower Sanpitch River in upper Gunnison Valley. During a visit in 1862, Mormon leader Brigham Young saw the limitations of the swampy area and advised the people to move up to the bench area, where a new town was built. The town was named in honor of government explorer Captain John Gunnison, who was killed with six of his men by Indians while in the Sevier Valley area in 1853.

Joseph S. Horne was sent from Salt Lake City to serve as bishop in 1868. He directed the creation of a cooperative store, the opening of a rock-salt mine, and in 1876 he was acknowledged for his role in managing the building of schools, meetinghouses, mercantile stores, private houses, grist and sawmills, and salt boilers, as well as overseeing the improvement of roads, enlargement of farming lands, and the extension of planting of trees and other home industries.

Gunnison's fortunes prospered and the city's population more than doubled in the decade ending in 1900. As it grew, Gunnison developed as a commercial center of the valley, featuring flour and feed mills, a co-op store, general and specialty stores, and the Gunnison Valley Bank. Religious, civic, and educational facilities were built as the city expanded, including a dance hall in 1896, and a new city hall and rock school in 1899. The telegraph had arrived in 1882 and Gunnison officially became a town in 1893.²

Roberts, Allen. "Gunnison", Utah History Encyclopedia. Alan Kent Powell, editor. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1995.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 3

Oberg/Metcalf House, Gunnison, Sanpete County, UT

The construction of the city's earliest buildings was aided by a vertical "pit-saw" sawmill built in 1863, followed soon after by a horse-powered circular sawmill. Many of the early structures were erected by stone mason Christ Tollestrup, adobe craftsmen Eric Larsen and Harmon Christensen, and carpenter William Christensen.

ARCHITECTURE:

Mormon planning in the Sanpete Valley reflects their religious beliefs. Communitarian values such as cooperation and unity were advanced through the implementation of a nucleated settlement pattern. Within this pattern, the single family dwelling was the prevailing residential unit.³ No specific designs were recommended, however, the quality of housing was described by Brigham Young in 1860:

Good houses are comfortable and very convenient, and pleasure our feelings, and are tolerably healthful when properly ventilated. If we cannot raise grain, raise houses, and build the best houses we can think of. If you are going to do a good deed, do as good a one as you can think of. If you wish to build a house, build as good a one as you can imagine.⁴

The message was to build solid, pleasing houses by utilizing the building traditions that came with the immigrants into the Sanpete Valley.⁵

Primarily Classical style buildings were constructed during the settlement period in this area. They incorporated geometrical composition and symmetrical balance with their rectangular facades, centrally placed doors, and smooth, regularly punctuated elevations.⁶ Classical characteristics such as proportion and balance to create a harmonious whole included the way in which the building would be used. Also, function was an important component in the folk building tradition. The plan of the house was to be built within an appropriate form.⁷ The use of indigenous materials, such as oolitic limestone in Gunnison,⁸ also helped to shape the architectural landscape. The Oberg/Metcalf incorporates these features and is an excellent example of the original permanent and substantial homes being built in

³ Carter, Thomas Robert. "Building Zion: Folk Architecture in the Mormon Settlements of Utah's Sanpete Valley, 1849-1890." Dissertation, Department of Folklore, Indiana University, 1984, pp.87, 89.

⁴ (Need to get reference information from T.C.'s Building Zion.)

⁵ Carter, "Building Zion, p.85.

⁶ Carter, Thomas and Peter Goss. Utah's Historic Architecture, 1847-1940. Salt Lake City, UT: University of Utah Graduate School of Architecture and Utah State Historical Society, 1991, p.95.

⁷ Carter, "Building Zion, p.94.

⁸ In her research, Claudia Davis heard from various residents that there is a quarry in Gunnison from which this stone was quarried.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 4

Oberg/Metcalf House, Gunnison, Sanpete County, UT

Gunnison during the 1870s-80s. It remains as one of only ten known stone houses constructed prior to 1900. From the remaining buildings in Gunnison, there are roughly equal numbers of stone, adobe, and brick buildings with a period of construction that dates prior to 1900.⁹

The Victorian style brick portion of the Oberg/Metcalf House describes a period in which the growth of communities such as Gunnison was influenced by outside factors. Rural areas were less isolated from stylistic developments occurring on both the national and local levels. The pattern-book styles and standardized building components were available and easily adapted for use with local materials. The former isolation of rural areas was no longer an obstacle to building well and the quality of design and workmanship were also affected during the Victorian era.¹⁰

The Oberg/Metcalf House is architecturally significant in Gunnison. It is a vernacular, rather than high-style, building, reflecting house forms common in Utah and throughout the United States during the nineteenth century. The original c.1880s hall-parlor was a substantial house form that remained popular in Utah until well into the 1890s.¹¹ A cross-wing addition would provide a larger and more functional floor plan, and would create a more fashionable house as well. The cross-wing, with its intersecting wings and more irregular form, became the most popular house type in Utah after about 1880.¹² It was usually embellished with architectural detailing from the Victorian period. The hall-parlor and other earlier house types (single cell, double-cell, central passage, etc.) were usually detailed with Classical elements, such as Greek Revival returns on the gable ends. The Oberg/Metcalf House reflects both of these architectural trends.

The Oberg/Metcalf House is one of only four well-preserved examples in Gunnison of this type of cross-wing house (i.e., one that was created by a Victorian addition to a hall-parlor).¹³ The results of a 1997 reconnaissance level architectural survey of Gunnison provide a quantifiable context for these house types. Relatively few stone hall-parlor houses remain in the community--a total of ten.

HISTORY OF THE OBERG/METCALF HOUSE:

Based on the style and plan of the house, it appears that it was probably built by Johan Oberg c.1880s and added onto in the 1890s. Agnes Alexandra Giles, Johan's daughter, sold the property to H.P

⁹ The 1997 Reconnaissance Level Survey shows that 13 adobe (and stucco, assumed to be over adobe), 18 stone, and 14 brick buildings were constructed prior to 1901.

¹⁰ Ibid, pp.110-111.

¹¹ Thomas Carter and Peter Goss, Utah's Historic Architecture, 1847-1940 (Salt Lake City: Center for Architectural Studies, Graduate School of Architecture, University of Utah and Utah State Historical Society, 1991 [reprint]), pp. 11-13.

¹² Ibid, pp. 37-43.

¹³ The other examples are at 455 S Main, 110 West 100 North, and 245 West 600 South.

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Oberg/Metcalf House, Gunnison, Sanpete County, UT

Jensen in 1905. No other information about the original owner(s) was found. It was not until 1909 that Anthony and Sylvia Metcalf are shown as the owners of the property. The Metcalfs were living in Gunnison prior to 1909 and could have been living in this house prior to obtaining ownership. However, it cannot be determined when they moved to the city or exactly when they began living in this house.¹⁴

Sylvia Eliza Sanford Metcalf was born November 16, 1845 in Hancock County, Illinois, the daughter of Cyrus and Sylvia Clark Sanford. She came with her parents to Utah in Captain Snow's Company in 1850. They settled in Springville and her father was the first school teacher in town and later the mayor. As a pioneer, she herded cows, helped her father farm, hauled wood, and picked wild berries for the winter food. She also performed duties such as washing wool, spinning, weaving, carding, and knitting. Sylvia sewed all the clothing for her family. She also made candles, soap, and dye using ripe walnut shells and rabbit brush with blossoms for dye. Sylvia was also a midwife. As an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), she was a teacher for the Relief Society for more than 30 years, and one of the first members of the local camp of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

In August 1862 Sylvia married Anthony Metcalf. He was born in Belfast, Ireland on September 5, 1843, the son of John Edward¹⁵ and Mary Waslin Metcalf. Anthony immigrated to Utah in 1853 with the Claudis Spencer Company after joining the LDS Church in 1851. In 1866 Anthony and Sylvia moved to Warm Creek¹⁶ (now Fayette) in Sanpete County to run a flour mill. Anthony was a miller by trade. He was a lieutenant of the Cavalry in the Black Hawk Indian War (1865-68). According to local histories, both Anthony and Sylvia became friendly with the Utes and were known to share their provisions with them. Sylvia learned the Ute language in order to better communicate with them.

Even though Sylvia and Anthony were on relatively good terms with the Utes, there was still conflict in the area, and they decided to move to Gunnison. Anthony ran the flour mill in Gunnison.¹⁷ He would send freighting teams loaded with flour to St. George where they would exchange flour for barrels of dried fruit cured in molasses. While Anthony worked in the mill, Sylvia would buy heavy fabric and sew the sacks for the flour. They had a tin stamp to brand the sacks which they did by dipping the stamp in bluing and stamping the sacks before putting them aside to dry. Anthony was also politically

¹⁴ Census records, 1870, 1880, were checked for Fayette and Gunnison. None of the names listed on the title search form were listed in the census records. Also, Gazetteers of the period were checked, and little was found on Anthony Metcalf, and his father, J.E. Metcalf. That information is included in the narrative.

¹⁵ J.E. Metcalf is listed as superintendent of the Gunnison Cooperative Store in the 1879-80 Gazetteer, and a wagon maker in Fayette in the 1883-4 Gazetteer.

¹⁶ Their first home was a dug out in the side of the mountain. It had two rooms with only the dirt ground for a floor. " Unpublished manuscript written by Beulah Nielsen Christensen, March 1958.

¹⁷ The rock foundation still existed in 1946 and was located just south of the creek bridge on the east side of the road on the main highway.

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Section No. 8 Page 6

Oberg/Metcalf House, Gunnison, Sanpete County, UT

and religiously active in the community. He was president of the town council in Council for two terms, the constable for two terms,¹⁸ president of the Gunnison Irrigation Company, mayor of Gunnison for two terms, a shareholder in the Co-op store, a member of the quorum of Seventies, and served a mission to New Zealand in 1884. After he stopped working as a miller, he became a farmer and shepherd.¹⁹

When Anthony and Sylvia first moved to Gunnison they lived in a log cabin before they moved to this house. Their home in Gunnison became known as a half-way house and was open to weary travelers passing through. Sylvia and Anthony had 15 children.²⁰ Anthony died on March 28, 1924. Sylvia lived to be 101 and died on August 12, 1947 in this house. Since then, the Nielsens owned the property 1947-51, the Reese family during 1951-78, the Arnolds during 1978-87, and the Westlands during 1987-93. Malen and Claudia Davis, the current (1997) owners, purchased the house in 1993.

¹⁸ Utah Gazetteer, 1903-4.

¹⁹ Christensen, Beulah Nielsen. "History of Anthony Metcalf". Unpublished manuscript, Daughters of Utah Pioneers, South Davis County, February 1958.

²⁰ Housekeeper, Arlene (granddaughter). "History of Sylvia Eliza Sanford Metcalf (Pioneer 1850)." Daughters of Utah Pioneers, For Camp Squaw Peak, unpublished manuscript, 1946. Christensen, Beulah Nielsen. "Sketch of the Life of Sylvia Eliza Sanford Metcalf". Daughters of Utah Pioneers, Margaret Cowan Bryson Camp of Bountiful, South Davis County, unpublished manuscript, March, 1958.

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Oberg/Metcalf House, Gunnison, Sanpete County, UT

Bibliography

Carter, Thomas and Peter Goss. Utah's Historic Architecture, 1847-1940. Salt Lake City, UT: University of Utah Graduate School of Architecture and Utah State Historical Society, 1991.

Carter, Thomas Robert. "Building Zion: Folk Architecture in the Mormon Settlements of Utah's Sanpete Valley, 1849-1890." Dissertation, Department of Folklore, Indiana University, 1984

Christensen, Beulah Nielsen. "History of Anthony Metcalf". Unpublished manuscript, Daughters of Utah Pioneers, South Davis County, February 1958.

Housekeeper, Arlene (granddaughter). "History of Sylvia Eliza Sanford Metcalf (Pioneer 1850)." Daughters of Utah Pioneers, For Camp Squaw Peak, unpublished manuscript, 1946.

Roberts, Allen. "Gunnison", Utah History Encyclopedia. Alan Kent Powell, editor. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1995.

Other Sources:

Census records, 1870, 1880, for Fayette and Gunnison.

Utah Gazetteer, 1879-1903.

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Section No. PHOTOS Page 8

Oberg/Metcalf House, Gunnison, Sanpete County, UT

Common Label Information:

1. Oberg/Metcalf House
2. Gunnison, Sanpete County, Utah
3. Photographer:
4. Date:
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO.

Photo No. 1:

6. West elevation of building. Camera facing east.

Photo No. 2:

6. Southwest elevation of building. Camera facing northeast.

Photo No. 3:

6. South elevation of building. Camera facing north.

Photo No. 4:

6. Southeast elevation of building. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 5:

6. North elevation of building. Camera facing southeast.