

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Utah
COUNTY:	Box Elder
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JUN 25 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Willard Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 2nd St.

CITY OR TOWN: Willard

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 1st

STATE: Utah

CODE: 49

COUNTY: Box Elder

CODE: 003

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Multiple Owners within district

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Box Elder County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Brigham City

STATE: Utah

CODE: 49

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Utah Historic Sites Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1973

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Utah State Historical Society

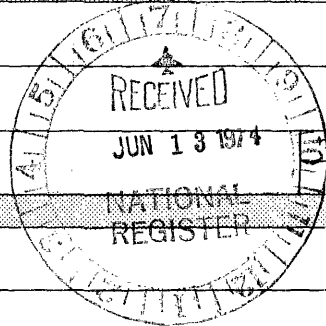
STREET AND NUMBER: 603 East South Temple

CITY OR TOWN: Salt Lake City

STATE: Utah

CODE: 49

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:	Utah
COUNTY:	Box Elder
ENTRY NUMBER	JUN 25 1974
DATE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The architecture of the predominant homes reflects Greek Revival and Gothic styles. The structures are basic 1 1/2 or 2 story rectangles with high-gabled roofs. The basic simplicity of the architecture is handsome and the scale is uniform enough throughout the district to create a distinctive townscape. Workmanship is excellent, reflecting the Mormon policy to organize colonizing groups so that they included those with basic skills necessary for settlement. Most of the significant homes are rock, but there are outstanding examples also of brick, frame and stuccoed adobe.

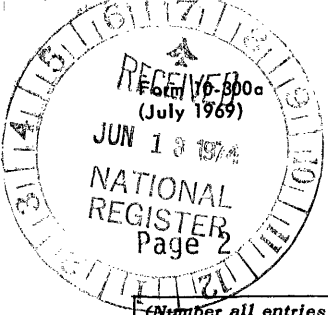
The Willard Historic District is a 12 block area which contains at least 46 homes and buildings dating from the pioneer era. Within the area many old barns, granaries, corrals, sheds and fences remain. Open spaces of small orchards and pasture areas comprise an important part of the district atmosphere. On the center block of the historic district is located the town hall, built of stuccoed brick. The elementary school in this block was built in 1902, near the site of the old two-story rock school which was torn down. Other buildings which have disappeared are the Co-op store constructed of rock in the early 1890's and the L.D.S. Church Meeting House built in the 1880's.

The homes are of rectangular construction. The simplest homes have two rooms downstairs and one large room above. The main entry is centered in the front facade and enters directly into the parlor. The other room on the first floor is slightly smaller. The exterior walls are from 18-24' thick and sometimes lined with adobe. Interior walls are usually of rock. Lintels over doors and windows are of heavy cut timber and are sometimes decorated. The windows on the end walls are offset to accommodate the chimneys serving the coal or wood-burning stoves. No wood-burning fireplaces have been identified in houses built by Shadrach Jones, although two have been discovered in adobe homes built in the 1850's. The end facades are generally marked by boxed cornices with return. On some homes, the bargeboards are decorative. On the Gothic style homes, finials adorn the dormers and pendants extend from the eaves. On the Greek Revival homes, cornices are sometimes decorated with dentils.

Most of the windows in the rock homes are flared to the inside to allow maximum interior light. In many cases panels framed with molding decorate these window openings. Transoms over interior doors are common. Walls are rough plastered and ceilings are high.

The foundations and walls are of rock on most homes, either rubble or face-cut, in hues ranging from blue-gray and dark gray to green-yellow and pink or white. Some homes display a potpourri of all these colors and others reflect a careful selection of uniform hues. Generally, just one side of the rock was cut---that of the facade. An enduring mortar of lime and mud, with straw added as a binder, filled the gaps between the randomly shaped rocks. On facades facing the roads, the mortar was often "pointed" to give a more elaborate appearance. On some homes, the wall exposures facing barnyards and town edges were left unpointed. Although the rocks are basically as they were brought from the mountain, the pointing gives the appearance of quarried and cut rock on some homes.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Utah	
COUNTY	
Box Elder	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 25 1974

(Number all entries)

7. Description

The narrow configuration of land between the foothills and lakebed has limited the expansion and growth of Willard. Since the Mormon settlement pattern was one of tightly-knit villages surrounded by cultivated fields and pastures (not the dispersed farmsteads common to the midwestern U.S.), the historic qualities of Willard stand out against a backdrop of natural landscape features. Town edges are the rock watercourse north of town, the foothills to the east, and the cultivated flatlands to the west which extend to the bay. The town edge to the south is best outlined by a rugged, cedar-dotted ridge extending down from the mountain.

The Willard Historic District comprises 12 blocks of the original townsite, to include both sides of the street boundaries. All of the major architectural and historically significant buildings will be included in the historic district if both sides of streets are included and this will also help to ensure future continuity. There are approximately 130 buildings within the Willard Historic District, not including the outbuildings. See the attached map for the street boundaries of the historic district.

Of the historical buildings identified on the enclosed map, one-half (or 19) are of rock (or partly of rock). Other significant rock structures include the Mason granary, the rock dike to divert Willard Creek and some of the ruins of the original fort walls.

The enclosed maps identifies the number of residences, outbuildings and the amount of open space within the original townsite of Willard. These were derived from an enlarged aerial photograph and should be quite accurate.

Several of the original pioneer agricultural buildings still stand. Some barns date back to the 1850's and were constructed without nails. The outbuildings are characteristically of earth-tones---there are no red-painted barns in Willard! Many original sheds still exist, with several good examples of the "inside-out" granary. A few original pioneer log cabins remain scattered throughout Willard. Some early fences still exist and several hay derricks and examples of antiquated agricultural machinery are visible at random locations.

Many of the original pioneer trees still grace the townscape, including what are suspected to be the oldest Box Elders in northern Utah. Several mulberry trees, whose leaves fed the silkworms imported from France by Brigham Young, are to be found also. The original poplars---"the Mormon tree"---are scarce but some have planted new stock to replace them. Many of the interior blocks still support the orchards set out by the first pioneers. Black locust trees are quite common and there are several shrub hedges. Many of the original ditches still parallel the roads. Vestiges of the floods of 1923 and 1936 remain, especially the tons of earth that inundated one of the rock homes directly in the floodpath. One rock wing of this home is still full of flood debris. Huge boulders are strewn east of the highway and are ready to fit into landscaping patterns.

Until 1973, no zoning ordinances existed in Willard. Since adoption of a moderate ordinance in order to tie Willard into the Box Elder County Master Plan, residential lots must be at least one-half acre and on a permanent foundation, and mobile homes must adhere to this restriction. The new ordinance did not rule out animals for reasonable domestic use so barnyard animals are common

throughout the town and people on horseback seem at times to use the roads as much as cars.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Utah	
COUNTY Box Elder	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JAN 25 1974	

(Number all entries)

7. Description.

Following Joseph Smith's Plan for the City of Zion, Willard is planned on a north-south, east-west grid with large central blocks and a square in the town center. Houses are set back from the street at least 25 feet. There were generally four to eight pioneer homes per block. Most of the homes are arranged so as not to face each other, with one notable exception (#2 and #8 on the Historical Buildings Map) ---two homes which are of Gothic style and identical size. The central square was and still is the center of recreational and social activity. The 12 blocks proposed for the Historic District are large and characterized by open interiors scattered with orchards, gardens, barns, sheds and corrals. The density of buildings is low (buildings on the sketched map with overlays are to scale, with 200 feet to 1 inch) and the earth tones of the buildings give a feeling of uninterrupted space.

In addition to the architectural patterns, fields, orchards, random piles of rock and watercourses are key image elements. These elements all seem accentuated by the towering mountains rising one mile vertically and horizontally to the east and the huge freshwater bay to the west. The tree-lined streambed of Willard Creek provides continuity between the mountains through the town and down to Willard Bay. The townsite is situated on a broad alluvial fan formed by the receding waters of prehistoric Lake Bonneville.

Nearly all of the historical buildings are in residential use.

Most historic buildings in the district are in need of minor repair. Some of the finest homes have not been altered or remodelled but need extensive repair. Some incompatible alterations or additions to historic buildings have been made, although there is increasing interest on the part of some owners for removing these and restoring the buildings to their original integrity.

A Composite Rating Scale has been used to evaluate every building in the Willard Historic District, with categories as follows:

- a. Architectural and historical significance
- b. Contribution to the environment
- c. Design and structural integrity

A composite map shows the results of these independent evaluations and is the basis for determining the intrusions:

- Group 1 - Retain [48 buildings within the Historic District]
- Group 2 - Retain;replace only if no alternative available [10 buildings within the H.D.]
- Group 3 - Retain if practical; may be architecturally or historically valuable, but need extensive modification to be viable. [59 buildings within the H.D.]
- Group 4 - Incompatible [14 buildings within the H.D.]

Considering the intrusions to be the structures in Group 4, the ratio within the 12 block Willard Historic District of significant structures to intrusions is 9:1.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Willard, located forty-five miles north of Salt Lake City, was settled in 1851. Of these original settlers one home, the Lyman Wells Home, was constructed in the early 1850's. The original settlement was called Willow Creek because of the numerous willows along the stream which flowed from the steep mountain canyon just east of the settlement westward into the Great Salt Lake. Later, the town was renamed Willard in honor of Willard Richards, an apostle of the Mormon Church.

Willard reflected Brigham Young's concern about Indian attack and on his advice, constructed one of the largest forts in any Utah village. It measured half a mile in length and a quarter mile in width and had walls twelve feet high and two feet thick at the top. The fort proved unnecessary and as the settlers grew more convinced they were at last at their permanent homesite, they disassembled the fort and used many of its rocks in homes nearby and in the foundation for the L.D.S. Meeting House beginning in the 1880's.

As the pioneers expanded beyond the confines of the fort, Willard began to take on the form of a typical Mormon agricultural village. In many other frontier communities, the move from the fort was to dispersed farmsteads (a pattern encouraged by the Federal Land Acts such as the Homestead Act of 1862) but the Mormons maintained a closely-knit farm-village pattern. Willard's plan resembled that of the Plan for the City of Zion as drawn by the Prophet Joseph Smith in the following respects:

- a. All of the people lived in the town, an area approximately one mile square.
- b. The grid pattern was strictly north-south, east-west.
- c. Blocks were large and those in the center of town were larger than others and set aside for church, school and public use.
- d. Houses were set back from the streets at least twenty-five feet and the streets were wide, intersecting each other at right angles.

Other important distinguishing characteristics of a Mormon village manifested in Willard are the presence of barns, granaries, sheds, corrals, and fences in the village proper and the predominance of earth tones in the color of building materials. The abundance of pioneer stone architecture in Willard sets it apart from most other villages not only in terms of sheer numbers but in styles ranging from Gothic to Greek. The ingenuity of the settlers in making such harmonious use of natural stone is uniquely

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Gerald Brown and Teddy Griffith. Willard: A Plan for its Historic Preservation. Institute for the Study of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism. Utah State University. Logan, Utah, June 1973.
 Daughters of Utah Pioneers. History of Box Elder County, 1939.
 Hannah B. Nicholas. Willard Centennial 1851-1951, In Utah State Historical Society pamphlet collection.
 Austin E. Fife. "Stone Houses of Northern Utah", Utah Historical Quarterly Vol. 40 #1, Winter 1972.
 Box Elder Sons of Utah Pioneers, Box Elder Lore of the Nineteenth Century.
Box Elder News and Journal, Brigham City, Utah. September 1951.

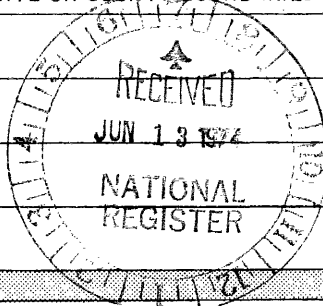
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	41°	24'	46"	112°	02'	28"
NE	41°	24'	46"	112°	01'	54"
SE	41°	24'	16"	112°	01'	54"
SW	41°	24'	16"	112°	02'	28"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 160

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Kent Powell, Preservation Historian

ORGANIZATION: **Utah State Historical Society** DATE: **May 1, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
603 East South Temple

CITY OR TOWN: **Salt Lake City** STATE: **Utah** CODE: **49**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Melvin T. Smith
Melvin T. Smith

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: 5.29.74

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert W. Teague
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/25/74

ATTEST:

Charles A. Henry
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5/21/74

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Utah
COUNTY	Box Elder
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 25 1974

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

demonstrated in the craftsmanship of the towns' master-builder, Shadrach Jones. A native of Wales, Shadrach was converted to Mormonism in 1850. After emigrating to Utah, he made his home in Willard. As a stone mason, his work reflects the style of the houses in his native Wales. In 1883, Shadrach was called by L.D.S. Church authorities to return to his homeland as a missionary. He died June 24, 1883 at Swansea, Wales after a three week bout with pneumonia.

The Willard Historic District illustrates several significant facts relating to America's and Utah's history and heritage, as follows:

- a. The concentration of rock homes reflecting the influence and use of European house styles on the Mormon frontier.
- b. The craftsmanship of Shadrach Jones and his helpers who used their tremendous skills with a minimum of hand tools to create some of the most beautiful structures still standing.
- c. The Mormon philosophy of building as permanently and beautifully as their resources would allow.
- d. The adaptability of these settlers to their environment. Rocks were used in the homes because of their abundance and the ability of the settlers to work with them. In other parts of the Mormon territory adobe and bricks were used in constructing much the same styles of homes.
- e. Willard still reflects, in large measure, the design and composition of the typical Mormon agricultural village.

It is believed that Willard's rock buildings were designed from memories of Wales, since the master stonemason credited with their construction came directly to Willard from Wales. Although northern Utah is endowed with many pioneer rock structures, the greatest concentration existed in Willard. Also, certain features of Willard's homes differ from those found elsewhere. For example, the rock homes built in Willard between 1861-1881 did not have fireplaces. Although many communities along the Wasatch front had ready access to rocks, the extent and success of this material's use is especially pronounced in Willard.

The settlers and early residents of Willard were as substantial as their architecture. One of Shadrach Jones' apprentices, Evan Stephens, nurtured his musical talents in Willard then went on to direct the famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Robert Bell Baird, another accomplished musician, composed many hymns still used in L.D.S. Churches today. John L. Edwards was one of northern Utah's most prominent cattlemen and entertained Leland Stanford and Brigham Young in his home (#20, Historical Buildings Map). George Mason was a well-to-do dairyman and George and Charles Harding were prominent ranchers. Matthew Dalton had the first sailboat on Great Salt Lake and set out the first orchard in northern Utah. It is believed that more residents of Willard per capita achieved college educations than from any other town in Utah. Willard was (and still is) a hub of fruit-growing activity. Some associate Willard most clearly with the devastating floods of 1923 and 1936.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

STATE Utah	
COUNTY Box Elder	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 25 1974

Page 2

(Continuation Sheet)

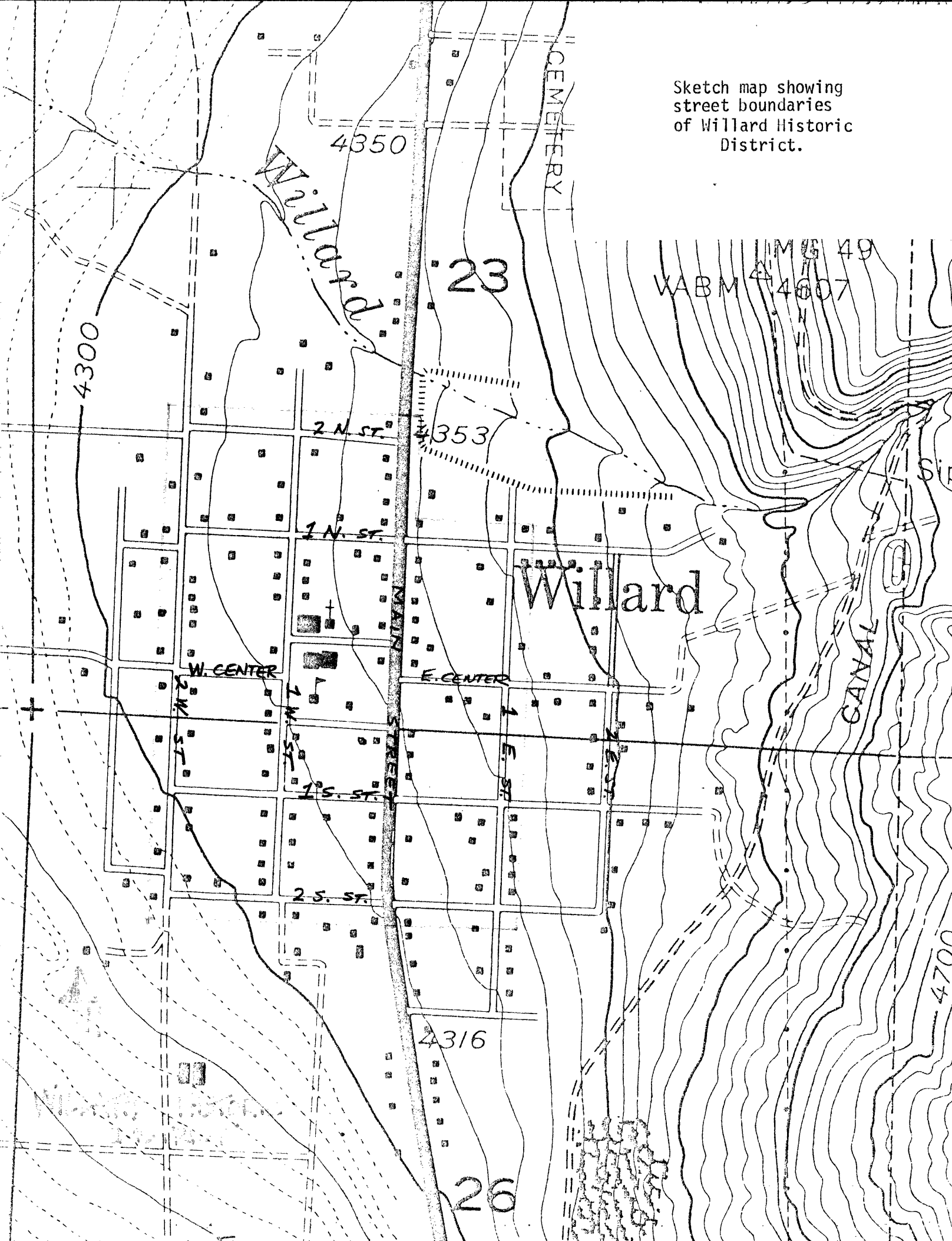
(Number all entries)

8. Significance

Several Willard residents interested in the protection and enhancement of their heritage have formed a non-profit, educational organization called HISTORIC WILLARD. They are participating in workshops directed by outstanding restoration architects, landscape architects and planners and legal consultants. Their goal is to learn how to preserve and restore their individually-owned buildings at the same time they become advocates for compatible community development. These citizens were instrumental in securing zoning for Willard last year. They are sponsoring educational activities, e.g. the collection of photographs to document Willard's early history. They are also studying the long range effects of major planning considerations, e.g. curb and gutter, sewer, etc. They hope to influence public opinion on the latter to provide what is considered appropriate for Willard.

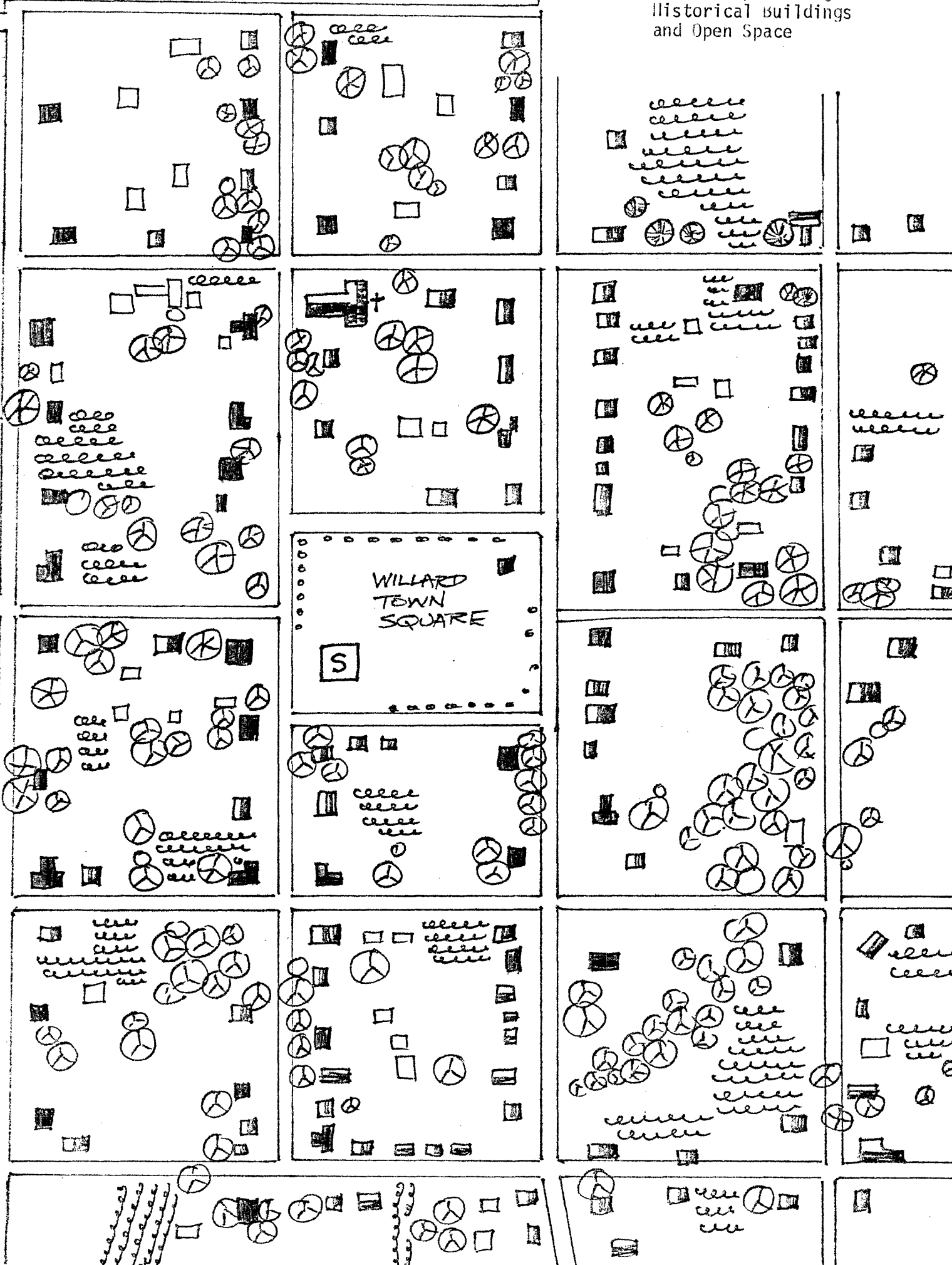


Sketch map showing street boundaries of Willard Historic District.



Handwritten scribbles at the top of the page.

Sketch Map Showing Historical Buildings and Open Space



WILLARD TOWN SQUARE
S

Handwritten scribbles in the top right cell.

Handwritten scribbles in the middle right cell.

Handwritten scribbles in the bottom right cell.

Handwritten scribbles at the top of the page.

C
5
1

(Sketch map for photographs)

