

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only
received **DEC 9 1982**
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Wood-Harrison House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 310 ~~South~~ 300 West _____ not for publication

city, town Springville _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district

state Utah code 049 county Utah code 049

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name Wayne McNeil

street & number 459 7th Street Southwest

city, town Heron _____ vicinity of _____ state South Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Utah County Courthouse

street & number University and Center Streets

city, town Provo _____ state Utah

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Utah Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1981 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town Salt Lake City _____ state Utah

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Wood-Harrison house was constructed in two distinct sizes. The original section, built in 1853 by Lyman S. Wood, was a 24' x 14' rectangular cabin vernacular type house. It was built of locally produced adobe bricks and was one story high. The three-bay facade was probably originally symmetrical, with the door being placed in the center between two outside windows. The door could have been moved to the side when the extensive remodeling occurred in 1877.

In 1877 George Harrison added a two-room wide, one-room deep, and two-stories high I-house type addition to the west end of the Wood dwelling. This adobe section had two unequal size rooms on each floor arranged behind a symmetrical three-bay facade. There were brick stove chimneys on each end of the gabled roof. Stylistic trim was limited to the eaves and openings and consisted of bracketed, pedimented window and door heads, a plain entablature, and returns on the gable ends. Additionally, there is scroll-cut filagree applied to the pediments above the openings. Such decorative elements are carried over on the original house and probably were added at the time of the remodeling. The house has a general feeling of verticality, an appearance created by the narrow two-room floorplan and emphasized by the long narrow openings.

Further alterations to the house include a frame shed addition to the rear, c. 1940, and the 1980 plastering of the deteriorating adobe. These alterations do not detract from the Wood-Harrison house's historic importance or integrity.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1853, 1877 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Wood-Harrison house in Springville, built in two historical stages, is significant as the architectural manifestation of the economic and social changes occurring throughout Utah during the latter decades of the nineteenth century. The original section of this adobe house was completed in 1853 by Lyman Wood, an early settler and civic leader in Springville. This 24' x 14', one-story, "rectangular cabin" type house was typical of residences found here during the initial years of settlement. By 1873, the property had been sold to George Harrison, a local entrepreneur, who in 1877 added a two-story, four-room house to one end of the existing Wood structure. Harrison's new house, a hall-and-parlor I-house type, was a ubiquitous symbol of economic achievement in Utah during the second half of the nineteenth century. The move from smaller cabin to two story house during the 1850–80 period marks the general growth and development of Springville from a frontier farming town to a freighting and transportation center for central Utah. The Wood-Harrison house, identified and evaluated as part of an architectural survey of Springville in 1981, remains the best known and more carefully documented residence reflecting this historical transition.

Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Mormons, arrived in Utah in 1847 searching for a haven from the persecutions which had driven them from Illinois.¹ A town was established near the Great Salt Lake and soon colonists were dispatched from the parent community to establish protective outposts to the north and south. The presence of a sizeable Native American population in Utah Valley, just south of Salt Lake City, discouraged the immediate occupation of the area. By 1849, however, Fort Utah had been established at the present site of Provo and shortly thereafter eight new communities followed. One desirable site was along Hobbles Creek, south of Fort Utah, and Brigham Young, LDS church president, selected men and women comprising eight wagon teams to settle the area in September of 1850. This community soon became known as Springville.²

During the first winter at Springville, a fort was built of logs and a townsite surveyed. The community was laid out in a grid-pattern according to the settlement policies set forth by the church leadership.³ The summer of 1851 saw the completion of the first houses outside the fort; most were built of logs but several were adobe. A sawmill and adobe yard were quickly established and irrigation canals soon were bringing water to both the city lots and surrounding farmland. By 1855 there was a home on nearly every lot in Plat A of the city survey. Most dwellings were small, one story affairs, similar to the home Lyman Wood built on his property in 1853.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Arrington, Leonard J, Great Basin Kingdom, Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1966.
 Brunvand, Jan. "The Types of the Southern Mountain Cabin," The Study of American Folklore.
 New York: W. W. Norton, 1968.

(See Continuation Sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Springville

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	2
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4	4	7	5	7	0
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4	4	4	5	7	3	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 4, Block 8, Plat A, Springville survey.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Carter, Architectural Historian/Cheryl Hartman, Researcher

organization Utah State Historical Society date August 1982

street & number 300 Rio Grande telephone (801) 533-6017

city or town Salt Lake City state Utah

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Melvin T. Smith

title Melvin T. Smith, State Historic Preservation Officer date 11-17-82

For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register <u>Bob Grosvenor</u>	date <u>1/19/83</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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Continuation sheet 1

Item number 8

Page 2

Lyman Wood, the builder of the original section of this house, was born in Ohio.⁴ Converts to the Mormon church, the Woods arrived in Salt Lake City in 1848. In 1853 Lyman moved to Springville where he built himself an adobe house. The house was 24' x 14' and contained two small rooms (figure 1). This house type, a form often called a "rectangular cabin,"⁵ was common in most Utah towns during the pioneer period. Lyman was very active in civic life, beginning in 1853 as a teacher in the first school. He was elected the first recorder of Springville, city alderman in 1861, and served two terms in the state legislature. He was elected mayor in 1863 and was re-elected for ten terms serving until 1889, a record never broken, and during which time he received no salary.

The main Springville occupation at this time was farming, and produce and goods were freighted from Springville to outlying areas and overland to the mining camps at Virginia City and Pioche, Nevada. Partly due to scarcity of water, in the 1870s there was a rapid decline of farmers as new industry came to the area. In 1873, Lyman Wood sold his house and city lot to George Harrison.

Born in 1841 in Manchester, England, George Harrison came to the United States with his parents in 1856.⁶ The family traveled to Utah with the Martin and Tyler handcart company, but George got sick and stayed behind at an Indian camp. Johnson's army, on its way to Utah, let the boy travel with them, and George was put to work helping the cook to pay his way. He was reunited with his family, and moved to Springville in 1861. He began his business career carrying farm produce to outlying mining areas, one of the common local occupations. Later he became noted as the proprietor of the Harrison House, the first hotel and stable in Springville. The hotel was famous for serving nothing but T-bone steaks, and Harrison served only extra choice meat, cured just right, bringing loins from as far away as Lehi and Sanpete. An icehouse, using chunks cut from Utah Lake, preserved the meat. Reportedly as many as 100 people were fed on a Sunday when the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad stopped in front of the hotel to let everyone off for a steak dinner. Because of the fine food he served and his excellent cooking he became known as "Beefsteak Harrison" and was acclaimed far and wide as "an all round genial gentleman." George was also active in community affairs, serving in the Black Hawk War, and holding various church positions.

The golden spike was driven at Promontory, Utah in 1869, connecting the Pacific and Atlantic by rail. Other lines soon followed. By 1871 there was a line to Provo, and the Central Railroad ran one mile west of Springville.⁷ Coal was discovered at Scofield in Carbon County and a narrow gauge line was built to connect it with Springville and the coal consuming market. By 1878 track was laid up to State Street and a depot built on Main Street in Springville. The town continued as a successful freighting center, and an establishment such as George Harrison's hotel was necessary to accomodate travelers.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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Continuation sheet 2

Item number 8

Page 3

In 1877, as Harrison's business ventures began to flourish, he built a large two-story addition to the small Lyman Wood house. The addition--really a house in its own right--followed a plan which was popular in most nineteenth-century Utah communities. The new section was one room deep, two rooms wide, and two stories high, and is a folk form often simply labeled an "I-house."⁸ The house had a symmetrical three-opening facade and an asymmetrical hall-and-parlor internal floorplan. The new section was also constructed of adobe. The house was left unstuccoed until 1980 when the deterioration demanded that the adobe be protected. However, it was a common practice to stucco adobe buildings and the addition of stucco to the exterior of this dwelling is in keeping with the character of the period in which it was built. The building was identified as one of the five most significant sites in a Springville, Utah, survey completed in 1981, and of 31 potentially eligible sites identified, was the only one of adobe construction..

Notes

¹See Leonard J. Arrington, Great Basin Kingdom (1958; rept. ed. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1966).

²For historical information background on Springville, see Don Carlos Johnson, A Brief History of Springville, Utah (Springville, Utah: D. C. Johnson and William F. Gibson, 1900); also Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, Memories That Live: A Centennial History of Utah County (Springville, Utah: Art City Publishing Company).

³The nature and the origin of the Mormon nucleated village have attracted a great deal of attention, see in particular, Lowry Nelson, The Mormon Village (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1952) and Leonard J. Arrington, Feramorz Y. fox, and Dean L. May, Building the City of God: Community and Cooperation Among the Mormons (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Company, 1976), pp. 1-14.

⁴See Johnson, A Brief History of Springville, pp. 109-110.

⁵The rectangular cabin type is identified in Henry Glassie, "The Types of the Southern Mountain Cabin," in Jan Brunvand, The Study of American Folklore (New York: W. W. Norton, 1968), pp. 353-360. For Utah examples, see in particular, Richard C. Poulsen, "Stone Buildings of Beaver City," Utah Historical Quarterly, 43:3 (Summer 1975), pp. 278-286.

⁶See Frank Esshom, Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah, p. 921 and George the Handcart Boy.

⁷For a discussion of the changing economic nature of Springville, see Wayne L. Wahlquist, "Settlement Processes in the Mormon Core Area 1847-1890," dissertation, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, pp. 265-291; and Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, Memories That Live: A Centennial History of Utah County pp. 317-355.

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COMM. INT. 10-900-a
EXT. 10-900-a

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date entered

Continuation sheet 3

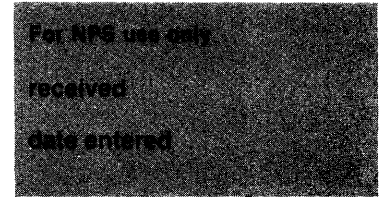
Item number 8

Page 4

⁸The I-house was discovered and named by Fred Kniffen, in "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion," Annals of the Association of American Geographers, 55:4 (December 1965), pp. 553-555. Professor Kniffen states, "Early in its movement southward the I house became symbolic of economic attainment by agriculturists and remained so associated throughout the Upland South and its peripheral extensions."

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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet 4

Item number 9

Page 2

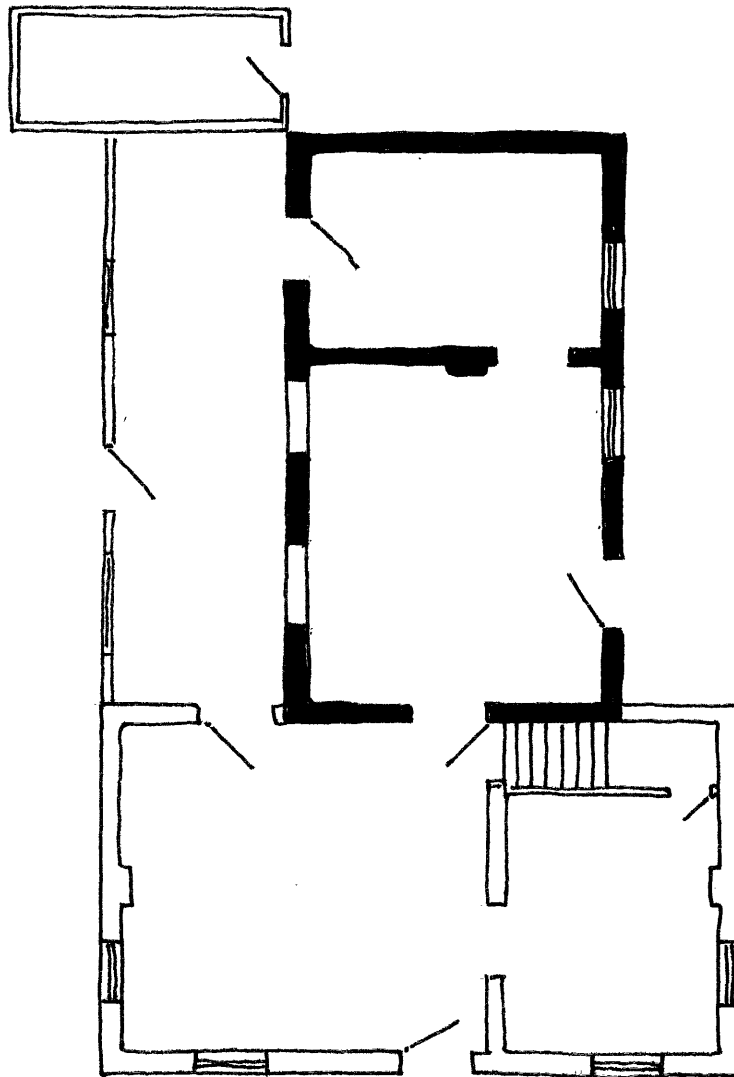
Daughters of Utah Pioneers. Memories That Live: A Centennial History of Utah County. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1952.

Esshom, Frank. Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah. Salt Lake City: Utah Pioneers Book Publishing Company, 1913.

Driggs, Howard Roscoe. George the Handcart Boy. New York: Aladdin Books, 1952.

Johnson, Don Carlos. A Brief History of Springville, Utah. Springville: D.C. Johnson and William F. Gibson, 1900.

Wahlquist, Wayne L. "Settlement Processes in the Mormon Core Area 1847-1890." Dissertation, University of Nebraska, Lincoln.



THE WOOD-HARRISON HOUSE. The original 1853 dwelling is outlined by the solid black walls.

