

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Submitting National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. Do not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and numbers listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Smith, Mary, House
other names/site _____

2. Location

street & number 12544 South Relation Street (1565 East) N/A not for publication
city, town Draper N/A vicinity
state Utah code UT county Salt Lake code 035 zip code 84020

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
Name of related multiple property listing: <u>N/A</u>		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> Total
		No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register <u>0</u>	

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Wilson B. Mark 2/22/94
Signature of certifying official 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.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. 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:)

Beth Boland 4/15/94

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Functions 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)

Other: vernacular cross-wing

Materials
(enter categories from instructions)

foundation Granite
walls BRICK
ADOBE
roof WOOD (shingles)
other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Built c.1883, the Mary Smith House is a one-story brick cross-wing with modest Victorian details. A rear brick addition was made to the house soon after the original construction. It is a visual continuation of the original house, relatively small in scale and not visible from the street. In 1991 a small frame addition was built on the side of the house. Though certainly noticeable, this addition does not obscure the original shape of the house. The addition is set back from the front corner of the house and its roof resembles the original in type (gable) and pitch. Despite the additions, the house still retains its overall integrity. One non-contributory garage/shed is also present on the site.

This simple, one-story cross-wing house has intersecting gable roofs, brick exterior walls, and a granite foundation. The porch that extends across the front wing was probably built in the early to mid-1900s, judging from its concrete base and 4x4 columns. It may have replaced an original porch of similar dimensions. The bricks are laid in common bond, with every seventh course being headers. The hooded brick arches over the windows are the only decorative feature of note on the house. The original two-over-two double-hung windows are still intact, as are the wood sills.

Additions include a brick shed-roofed section attached to the rear of the house (probably pre-1900) and the 1991 frame addition on the north side which is the largest and most noticeable. It is set back from the front corner of the house, leaving the window on that side uncovered and allowing enough of the end wall to remain visible that the original form of the house is still apparent. This addition has a small horizontal window on its front elevation and is sheathed in aluminum siding resembling horizontal wood siding. The gable roof on this addition echoes the lines of the original roof, though the pitch is a bit more flat.

The interior of the house has not changed dramatically, except for the additions described above. The three rooms that constituted the original house are still intact. The original floor plan has not been altered, though, of course, the additions have expanded the number of rooms. The wall separating the two rooms in the south section is made of soft-fired or adobe brick on a granite foundation.¹ Though somewhat unusual, foundations were frequently built under interior walls of nineteenth-century houses, especially if there is a chimney in that wall, as is the case here.

____ See continuation sheet

¹Karen Smith, March 9, 1987, oral interview by James F. Cartwright. No tape was made of the interview. Karen commented that the granite foundations of interior walls had caused immense problems when she had a heating contractor install a central heating system.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Period of Significance

c.1883

Significant Dates

c.1883

c.1902

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown\unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Mary Smith House, built c.1883, is historically significant as one of the few remaining houses in Draper built to accommodate a polygamous family and the only known house in the community built specifically to comply with the 1882 Edmunds Act, which outlawed "cohabitation"--one man sharing his house with more than one wife. Polygamy was practiced by a minority of Mormons between its official adoption as church doctrine in 1852 and its abandonment in 1890. The Edmunds Act was one of the major steps taken by the federal government to force the Mormon church into giving up the practice. This house was probably built c.1883 in an effort to comply with the 1882 law and thereby protect Lauritz Smith, Mary's husband, from prosecution. Mary, the first wife, moved into this house, while Hannah, the second wife remained in the family home, less than a quarter-mile away (Lauritz Smith House, National Register 1983). This house documents a very significant step in Mormon society toward the abandonment of polygamy in 1890, which eventually led to statehood in 1896 and the overall mainstreaming of Mormons into the American culture.

Lauritz Smith and his wife, Mary Christina (also known as Mary Kristine Mickelsdotter) came to Utah from their native Denmark in 1854 as converts to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon or LDS church). They were married on board the ship as they crossed the Atlantic Ocean. Lauritz fell ill while crossing the plains, so Mary drove the ox team almost the entire way. They arrived in the Salt Lake Valley in October 1854 and moved to Draper, located in the far southeast corner of the valley, the following spring.² Their first home was constructed of horizontal log timbering. It was replaced by a brick salt-box type home c.1865-67 (Lauritz Smith House, National Register, 1983) located at 1350 East 12400 South in Draper. In accordance with Mormon doctrine at that time, Lauritz took a second wife, Hannah Jensen, in 1867. The 1870 and 1880 manuscript censuses show both wives living in the same household. This arrangement would change with passage of the Edmunds Act in 1882, which made it unlawful for a man to "cohabitare."

X See continuation sheet

²"Aged Veteran of Draper Is Summoned by Death," [Mary C. Smith obituary] Deseret News, January 13, 1923, p.8.

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Smith, Mary, House, Draper, Salt Lake County, UT

In Draper, Lauritz functioned not only as blacksmith for the community but also as a teacher, training others in the skills. In 1860, a man was living with the Lauritz Smith family, possibly training as a blacksmith.³ In addition, Lauritz assisted new Danish immigrants who often had little skills with either the English language or with the frontier world to which they had migrated.

Lauritz also functioned as a leader within the local LDS community. For a time he taught church doctrine classes to Danish members of the ward (i.e., congregation). He served for several years as a Seventy, a specialized missionary calling within the Church. In 1914 he was ordained a Patriarch in the Jordan Stake (i.e., a grouping of several wards) which covered the south end of Salt Lake Valley.

Consistent with many local leaders within Mormon communities, Lauritz took a second wife, Hannah Christina Jensen, probably in 1867. Both the 1870 and 1880 censuses show both families living together in the same household.⁴ With the passage of the Edmunds Act in 1882 and the consequent increased prosecution for polygamy, it became increasingly important for Lauritz to construct another house so his two wives could live separately. That the families appear to have lived together in one house during both the 1870 and 1880 censuses suggests that the second house for Mary was built to forestall antipolygamy prosecution, rather than smooth out any family relations. It seems almost definite that the Mary Smith house dates from 1882 or later, after the passage of the Edmunds Act.⁵

Following the increased activity of federal officials in prosecuting polygamy, Lauritz officially lived for some time with Mary in this house on Relation Street. Meanwhile Hannah used her maiden name in legal documents. Lauritz and Mary sold approximately 33.5 acres to "Hannah C. Jensen" in October 1889 and about 4.55 acres to her on May 6, 1919. Likewise, the censuses of 1900 and 1910 show her as Hannah C. Jensen, head of house, and list her children.⁶ Despite maintaining an

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³United States Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census, Eighth Census of the United States: 1860--Population, Utah, Salt Lake County.

⁴Ibid., and United States Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census, Tenth Census of the United States: 1880--Population, Utah, Salt Lake County.

⁵United States Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census, Tenth Census of the United States: 1880--Population, Utah, Salt Lake County, Enumeration District. (Microfilm copies of the censuses are in the libraries of the Utah State Historical Society and the Utah Genealogical Society.) A manuscript history of Joseph Lauritz Smith (eldest son of Joseph Michael) by the wife of one of his sons, tentatively dates the house to 1877 or 1878, but this is too early for intense antipolygamy prosecution by the federal government, and it ignores the 1880 census information that both wives and families lived in the same house at the time of the census. This account does indicate that the "Pine Tree House" had been torn down by the time Mary lived in the blacksmith's house.

⁶Salt Lake County Recorder's Office, Deed Book 3D, pp. 62-3 for the deed Lauritz and Mary to Hannah C. Jensen on October 31, 1889; Deed Book 10K, pp. 112-13, #411806, for Lauritz and Mary to Hannah, dated May 6, 1919. United States Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census, Twelfth Census of the United States: 1900--Population, Utah, Salt Lake County, Enumeration District 60, Draper Precinct, sheet 6A; and . . . Thirteenth Census, . . . : 1910--Population, . . . Enumeration District 87, Precinct No. 8 (Draper), sheets 1A and 2A.

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appearance of separation, Lauritz continued marital relations with both wives. Hannah and Lauritz had a son in 1882, twin daughters in 1885 and their last child in 1891.

Around 1907, Lauritz and Mary moved from the Mary Smith house. Karen Smith, a great-great-granddaughter of Mary who now lives in the Mary Smith house, indicates that when Lauritz and Mary grew so old that they could no longer care for themselves, Mary moved into her son Joseph M.'s house with his family, and Lauritz moved back into the original home with Hannah.⁷ Ann Smith Garfield remembers that her grandmother, Mary, lived in the house alone for several years, and her grandfather lived "with Aunt Hannah."⁸ (Plural wives were frequently referred to as 'aunt' by children of their 'sister' wives.) It is likely Mary Smith was eighty when she moved, making it 1907. This approximately coincides with her grandson Joseph Lauritz' marriage and moving to the house.

Joseph Lauritz Smith was the oldest son of Joseph Michael (Joseph M.). According to Mrs. Fairbourn and Mrs. Garfield, Joseph M. received title to Mary's house in exchange for caring for her when she moved in with his family. Joseph M. transferred the title to his son when he married. The 1910 census shows Mary living with Joseph M., and Lauritz living with "Hannah C. Jensen" as a "lodger". Joseph L., his wife, Melissa, and daughter June were living in their own house at that time--apparently Mary's former house.⁹

Polygamy and Polygamous Housing

Polygamy was perhaps the single-most defining element of Mormonism in the nineteenth century; it was certainly the most sensationalized facet. Though a few church leaders were reportedly taking plural wives as early as 1841, it was not until 1852 that the practice was openly promoted as church doctrine and even as a requirement for those wishing to obtain the highest degree of exaltation. Church leaders suspended the practice in 1890 after considerable pressure from the federal government that threatened the viability of the church as an institution. But it took almost fifteen more years for the practice to actually die out within the church. A 1904 resolution reaffirmed the church's opposition to the practice and threatened excommunication for those who persisted.¹⁰

During the forty years polygamy was acceptable within the Mormon church, relatively few members actually participated. Estimates of the percentages of Mormon

X See continuation sheet

⁷Karen Smith, oral interview, March 9, 1987.

⁸Ann Smith Garfield, in Fairbourn and Garfield, March 18, 1987. The statement in the interview was "when lightning struck grandmother's house, father did not want her to live there alone."

⁹Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census, Thirteenth Census...: 1910--Population, Utah, Salt Lake County, Enumeration District 87, Precinct No. 8, sheets 1A-2A.

¹⁰Stanley S. Ivins, "Notes on Mormon Polygamy," Utah Historical Quarterly, Vol. 35, p. 310.

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polygamists have ranged from three percent to twenty-three percent of the adult population. A figure somewhere in the range of 10-15 percent is probably a reasonable estimate. The records to support actual statistics are simply not available.¹¹

An examination of the 1880 manuscript census for Draper reveals five polygamous households out of a total of 87 (approximately six percent of the households).¹² This included three men who each had two wives living in one house, one man with three wives, and one plural wife living in her own house. Lauritz Smith and his two wives were one of first group. Given these 1880 numbers, only five women would have had to move out of their shared household and into a separate home in order to comply with the 1882 Edmunds Act. The Mary Smith house is the only known house in Draper that was built for that purpose. Others may exist, but they have not been identified.

Polygamous housing arrangements were, in general, either a shared household or separate houses.¹³ The major types include the following:

- (1) A single house shared by two or more wives and their families. This was probably the most common arrangements because it was less expensive than having separate houses.
- (2) A combination of shared and separate households, wherein two or more houses accommodated three or more wives, with some of the wives sharing a house. The Watkins-Coleman House in Midway (National Register) is a good example of this arrangement. Watkins shared a large house with two of his wives, and a third wife lived in a separate house a block away.
- (3) Separate houses located adjacent to one another, arranged as a kind of family complex. This housing type is quite rare; perhaps the best example is the George Q. Cannon complex located at approximately 1400 South 1000 West in Salt Lake City.
- (4) Separate houses in separate locations in the same town. This is probably the most common separate-house arrangement.
- (5) Separate houses in different communities. This arrangement was probably much less common originally, though perhaps more prevalent after the 1882 Edmunds Act which forced a distancing of men from their plural wives. Moving a wife to another community, often to live with one of her relatives, was a frequent solution.
- (6) Large, communally-run houses designed expressly for polygamy. These were rare, usually limited to only the wealthiest and most-married men. The most prominent example is Brigham Young's Lion House.

¹¹Ibid. pp. 310-312.

¹²Other polygamous families may also have been in Draper at that time, but may have been more guarded in the information they provided the census takers.

¹³Though a comprehensive study of polygamous housing has not been completed, information collected by the Utah State Historic Preservation Office over the years supports these general observations and conclusions. A slightly modified summary of these polygamous house types appears in Thomas R. Carter's unpublished article, "The Architecture of Accessibility: Mormon Polygamous Housing in Nineteenth-Century Utah", delivered at the Winterthur Conference on Material Culture and Gender, Winterthur, Delaware, November, 1989.

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Section number Photos Page 4

Smith, Mary, House, Draper, Salt Lake County, UT

Photo No. 1

1. Smith, Mary, House
2. Draper, Salt Lake County, Utah
3. Photographer: Charles M. Shepherd
4. Date: August 1993
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO
6. East elevation. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 2

1. Smith, Mary, House
2. Draper, Salt Lake County, Utah
3. Photographer: Charles M. Shepherd
4. Date: August 1993
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO
6. East elevation. Camera facing southwest.

Photo No. 3

1. Smith, Mary, House
2. Draper, Salt Lake County, Utah
3. Photographer: Charles M. Shepherd
4. Date: August 1993
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO
6. West elevation. Camera facing northeast.

___ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Abstract and Deed Books, Salt Lake County Recorder's Office, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Harriet Rosetta Smith Fairbourn and Celestia Ann Smith Garfield, interview conducted by James F. Cartwright, March 18, 1987.

Karen Smith, interview conducted by James F. Cartwright, March 9, 1987.

United States Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census, Eighth Census of the United States: 1860--Population, Utah, Salt Lake County.

U.S. Census Records, 1860, 1880, 1900, 1910. Available on microfilm, Utah State Historical Society Library.

___ See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Salt Lake County Recorder's Office
Draper Historical Society

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 0.89 acres

UTM References

A	<u>1/2</u>	<u>4/2/8/2/6/0</u>	<u>4/4/8/5/9/7/0</u>	B	<u>/ /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>/ /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>	D	<u>/ /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>

___ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Salt Lake County Recorder's Office lot number 28-28-377-003

Commencing 62 R west and north 5°30' East 212 feet from South quarter corner; Section 28, Township 3 S, Range 1 E, Salt Lake Meridian: North 5°30' E 118 feet; west 19.4 R more or less; south 4°W 118 (feet) m or l to point due west of beginning; east 20.9 R m or l to beginning.

___ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries for this nomination are those of the current house lot and do not include the property historically associated with the house since much of it has been divided up into separate lots and houses built upon them.

___ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James F. Cartwright/University Archivist; Utah SHPO staff
organization University of Hawaii; Utah State Historical Society date June 22, 1989 (Updated Sept. 1993)
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