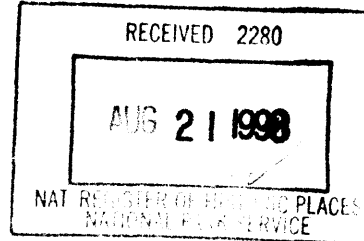


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Georgetown Relief Society Hall

other names/site number First Public Building, D.U.P. Hall, First LDS Chapel

2. Location

street & number 161 3rd North West Street N/A not for publication

city or town Georgetown N/A vicinity

state Idaho code ID county Bear Lake code 007 zip code 83239

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.)

Robert M. Yohe, II 8/7/98
 Signature of certifying official/Title Date
 ROBERT M. YOHE, II, State Historic Preservation Officer

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 9-18-98
 Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Georgetown Relief Society Hall
Name of Property

Georgetown, Bear Lake County, Idaho
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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1896-1948

Significant Dates

1896

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Bear Lake County Library, Montpelier, Idaho
D.U.P. Museum, Georgetown, Idaho

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Georgetown Relief Society Hall
Name of Property

Georgetown, Bear Lake County, Idaho
City, County, and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|--------------------|----------------------|---|----------|------------------|------------------|
| A | <u>1/2</u> | <u>4/6/9/6/3/0</u> | <u>4/7/0/2/2/7/0</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> |

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

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Society of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers, Twin Creeks Camp
organization _____ date 12/18/97
street & number P.O. Box 129 telephone 208-847-1413
city or town Georgetown state ID zip code 83239

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 Society of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers, Twin Creeks Camp
street & number c/o Mrs. Mabel Whitmore, President, P.O. Box 129 telephone 208-847-1413
city or town Georgetown state ID zip code 83239

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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Section number 7 Page 1 Name of Property Georgetown Relief Society Hall
County and State Bear Lake County, Idaho

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Georgetown Relief Society Hall is located at 161 3rd North West Street one-half block west of Main Street in Georgetown, Bear Lake County, Idaho. The building is situated on the south side of the street in the middle of the block. It was moved to this site in 1896 from its original location approximately one and one-half blocks away.

The Relief Society Hall is a one-story single cell structure. It is a timber frame building which rests on log sills set upon unmortared rubble stones. It has no basement or crawlspace. The exterior is clad in simple drop siding while the gable-front roof is clad with metal panels. Decorative trim is minimal consisting of flat corner boards, cornice boards and verge boards.

The front (north) elevation has a single centrally located four-panel entry door. The door features a flat surround and is capped by a simple pedimented architrave with a projecting cornice molding. The side elevations (east and west) are identical. Each is three bays wide--each bay featuring a two-over-two double-hung wood sash window with trim identical to the front door. The rear (south) elevation has no openings and features trim similar to the front elevation.

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Section number 8 Page 1 Name of Property Georgetown Relief Society Hall
County and State Bear Lake County, Idaho

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Georgetown Relief Society Hall is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with the Georgetown Relief Society--a key social welfare institution which played a primary role in the community life of this small and isolated Mormon settlement during the late-19th and early-20th centuries. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) was founded by Joseph Smith in upstate New York in the late 1820s. Following his publication of the Book of Mormon in 1830, Smith and his followers (commonly known as Mormons) began a decades-long search for a permanent location for their community. They began in Ohio in the early 1830s, moved to Missouri in the late 1830s, and settled along the banks of the Mississippi River at Nauvoo in Illinois in 1840. In each location tensions between Mormons and non-Mormons resulted in violence and persecution.¹

Following the death of Smith at the hands of an angry mob in 1844, the decision was made to relocate again. Brigham Young, successor to Smith, chose to settle well beyond the pale of non-Mormon settlement. The first Mormon settlers arrived in the Salt Lake Valley in what is now Utah in 1847. Over the course of the next fifty years numerous Mormon settlements or colonies were established in the Inter-mountain West.² Organized Mormon settlement of Idaho began in 1862 with the establishment of the town of Franklin--located on what is now the Utah border--in Franklin County. During the remainder of the 19th century, additional Mormon settlements were established throughout eastern Idaho.³

The community of Georgetown was established in the Upper Bear Lake Valley by a group of Mormon colonists who arrived from Smithfield, Utah in the summer of 1871.⁴ As with most Mormon colonies established at this time, Georgetown was physically isolated and spiritually homogenous. Everyone in the community were members of the LDS church and there was little contact or support from outside. As such, the community needed to rely on its own resources and institutions for social welfare and mutual support. The local Relief Society played an integral part in promoting the welfare of the town.

The Relief Society (originally the Female Relief Society) was established by LDS President Joseph Smith in Nauvoo, Illinois prior to emigration to the Inter-mountain West. It functioned as a women's auxiliary and social welfare institution for each LDS ward church and was reestablished by President Brigham Young in 1867. The duties assigned to the Relief Society were to oversee the social well being of the ward. This included manufacturing and distributing emergency food, clothing and household goods to indigent church members, overseeing burial rights for the ward, manufacturing household goods for resale to support charitable activities, caring for the sick, training nurses and midwives, establishing hospitals, and constructing storage facilities for grain and other staples to prevent famine. Relief Society members visited ward members regularly in their

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County and State Bear Lake County, Idaho

homes to ascertain needs and to ask for contributions. One of the more unusual early projects undertaken by the Relief Societies was silk cultivation. Relief Societies also served a substantial role in raising funds for larger church projects such as the construction of temples, tabernacles and hospitals and in supporting missionary efforts.⁵

The Relief Society was also a forum for the education and advancement of women in the community. Educational classes for younger women were organized under the auspices of the Relief Society-sponsored Retrenchment Association (later the Young Women's Mutual Improvement Association). Classes for new mothers were also organized by the Relief Society. *The Woman's Exponent*, the Relief Society newspaper established in 1872, became an early and strong advocate for the rights of women and for the suffrage movement.⁶ In general, the Relief Society provided a place for Mormon women to foster mutual support and to socialize. This was particularly important in the often restrictive and male dominated culture of the late-19th century American West.

The Georgetown Relief Society was established along with the Georgetown ward in the spring of 1872. The building now known as the Relief Society Hall was constructed that year and was located on the site of the present Georgetown ward church building--one and one-half blocks from its present site. The building served multiple purposes in the early days of the settlement--functioning as a ward chapel, schoolhouse, and general meeting hall. It also housed all early Relief Society meetings. When a new ward church building was constructed in 1896, the old chapel/meeting hall was given over to the exclusive use of the Relief Society. It was moved to its present site at that time. It served as the headquarters for the Georgetown Relief Society and as a focal point for female society in this small Mormon community until the construction of a third ward chapel building in 1961. The new building incorporated new space for the Relief Society. The old Relief Society Hall was transferred in 1961 to the local chapter of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers for preservation as a local history museum.⁷ The building is very much as it was during the time it served as the Relief Society Hall. It is important to note that this building is being nominated for its significance to the community after it was moved in 1896.

Georgetown remained a relatively isolated community well into the 20th century. Despite rail connections established in the 1880s and the rise of improved auto mobile transportation in the 1920s and 30s, Georgetown never achieved a population of more than a few hundred--the majority of which were members of the LDS church. Given limited local resources and minimal governmental involvement, the social and charitable activities of the Relief Society remained vital to this community throughout the historic period. The important role that the Relief Society played in the general welfare and social structure of Georgetown makes the Georgetown Relief Society Hall eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A.

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County and State Bear Lake County, Idaho

ENDNOTES

1. *see generally*, Arrington, Leonard J. and Davis Britton, The Mormon Experience: A History of the Latter Day Saints, Vintage Books, New York, 1979.
2. Arrington, Ibid., p.119
3. Ibid.
4. Wilde, Jens Patrick: Treasured Tidbits of Time, Vol.1, J.P. Wilde Pub., Montpelier, Idaho, 1977, p.25.
5. A Centenary of Relief Society, General Board of Relief Society, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1942, p.19-73.
6. Arrington, Ibid., p.227-229.
7. Wilde, Ibid., p.26.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Arrington, Leonard J. and Davis Britton, The Mormon Experience: A History of the Latter Day Saints, New York, Vintage Books, 1979.

Hayes, Alma: Early History of Georgetown Pioneers, Georgetown, Idaho, National Society of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers Twin Creeks Camp, 1915.

Wilde, Jens Patrick: Treasured Tidbits of Time, Vol.1, Montpelier, Idaho, J.P. Wilde, Pub., 1977.

_____, A Centenary of Relief Society, Salt Lake City, General Board of Relief Society, Utah, 1942.

_____, Mormon Church Buildings in Utah, 1847-1936, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Properties Listing, 1988.

_____, Richmond Relief Society Hall, National Register of Historic Places Listing, 1996.

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County and State Bear Lake County, Idaho

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description:

Western 1/4 of Lot 1, Block 3, Original Plat, Georgetown, ID

Boundary Justification:

The above described property consists of the entire land area associated with the Georgetown Relief Society Hall during its period of significance.