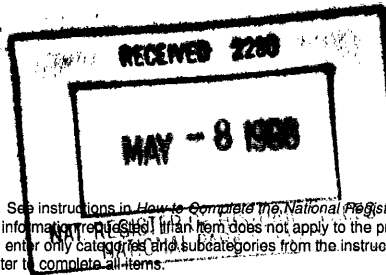


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



669

# 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 Olsen, Lars & Christina, House

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Location

street & number 417 South 800 East N/A not for publication

city or town Orem N/A vicinity

state Utah code UT county Utah code 049 zip code 84097

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

W. M. A. 4/21/98  
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:)

for  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action  
Edson H. Beall 6-11-98

Olsen, Lars & Christina, House  
Name of Property

Orem, Utah 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>2</u>	<u>0</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	

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

Historic and Architectural Resources of Orem, Utah

**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  
OTHER: Classical  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE  
walls ADOBE AND STUCCO  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof ASPHALT SHINGLES  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

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

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section No. 7 Page 1

Olsen, Lars & Christina, House, Orem, Utah County, UT

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## **Narrative Description**

The Olsen House, built in 1887, is an adobe and stucco, double cross-wing house on a stone foundation. The house portrays the basic elements of the Classical movement, including a rectangular facade with symmetrically placed fenestration, modestly pitched, gable roof with a simply-detailed cornice, and restrained ornamentation. The Olsen house did not begin as a full double cross-wing, a common subtype found in various communities throughout Utah, but as a small hall-parlor house. According to Greta Olsen Bandlely, great-granddaughter of Lars, the north portion of the house was constructed first with the second crosswing and connecting portion being added in c.1894.

The front of the house now faces west with the main entrance in the connecting wing between the two main masses. This is where the original entrance was after the crosswing was added. For a time the house was used as two separate apartments and doorways were cut into each of the crosswings, so that this entrance was not used, but a recent renovation reestablished this entrance. The original tall, rectangular, one-over-one windows were all replaced in a 1946 renovation with smaller metal-frame windows. At the same time some windows were added to the south facade. All of the first replacement windows have more recently been replaced with aluminum ones. At the time of the 1946 renovation stucco was placed over the adobe bricks and a fireplace and large brick chimney was added to the north side of the house. When the double cross-wing was added porches were constructed on the front and rear (west and east, respectively) of the house. The rear porch was later enclosed and converted to a kitchen possibly c.1930. With the recent renovation the house was re-stuccoed, which included stuccoing over the roof cornice, although the basic form and outline are still there. A roof supported on wooden posts was also extended out across the entire south facade.

The interior has been changed a few times and is not in its original configuration. The floors were originally fir, and the present owner plans on removing subsequent flooring materials to expose the original floor. When the south wing of the house was constructed, a metal cistern was placed in the attic which was filled with water from the well so that there was running water in the house<sup>1</sup>.

Although there were several outbuildings on the property, only one still remains. This building, an approximately 10'x 10' rock creamery, sits near the southeast corner of the house and has a recent large wood and frame garage built on to the east side, doubling its size. According to family history, this building was constructed near the time of the second wing (c.1894). Other outbuildings and structures that existed on the site included a barn, a blacksmith shop, a large concrete reservoir to the east of the house which was converted to a garage c.1920, and then, at an unknown time, a packing shed; a rock-lined well, and a windmill (shown in historic photograph). These outbuildings and structures were possibly demolished in the c.1960s when the land was sold for residential development.

\_\_ See continuation sheet

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Olsen, Lars & Christina, House  
Name of Property

Orem, Utah 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)

#### SOCIAL HISTORY

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#### Period of Significance

1887-1941

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#### Significant Dates

1887-1941

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#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

#### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

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#### Architect/Builder

Lars Olsen, Builder

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 2

Olsen, Lars & Christina, House, Orem, Utah County, UT

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## Narrative Statement of Significance

The Lars and Christina Olsen House is significant for its association with the "Settlement and Agricultural Expansion: Mid-1870s-1913" and the "Establishment of Orem: 1913-1941" categories of the Historic and Architectural Resources of Orem, Utah, Multiple Property Submission. Constructed in 1887, the house is a good example of the more basic, vernacular houses that were constructed during the establishment of the Provo Bench. Although the house started out as a small, hall-parlor building, with the increase in prosperity as a fruit grower, Olsen expanded the house to a double cross-wing a few years later. The various additions to the building reflect the periods of development as different family members took up residence in the house. The modest, yet expanded version of the house is symbolic of the early development and expansion of the fruit industry on the Provo Bench.

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The "Agricultural Expansion" period of Orem was one of the greatest growth periods in the early days of the Provo Bench. Prior to this period seasonal landholders would attempt to raise crops on the bench, but could not live there because there was little water. After the construction of the Provo Bench Canal in 1864 more people settled on the bench and subsequent irrigation ditches and canals allowed for greater farm production and the ability to sustain the landowners year 'round. Fruit trees were found to be the best cash producing crops and by the turn of the century those who had become involved in raising fruit started to realize great success which, in turn, encouraged others to move here and raise fruit orchards.

During the "Establishment of Orem" period, the Provo Bench saw more changes associated with growth than in the previous periods. After the first decade of the 20th century, fruit growers on the bench realized that if their prosperity was to continue they must market their produce outside of the area and outside of Utah. With the establishment of a rail line in Orem, the "Orem Line," plus the increasing popularity of the automobile, the fruit and produce industries were able to market their products all over the western United States. With the increased prosperity, the Provo Bench soon became Orem Town in 1919 (in honor of Walter Orem who brought the railroad to the area), and eventually, in 1941, Orem City.

Lars Olsen was a Danish<sup>2</sup> immigrant who lived in Provo with his wife, Christina, and two children, Serena and Otto. He purchased the ten-acre property from Joseph Evans of Provo for \$100 in 1885, and according to family legend, walked the distance from Provo to the Bench for two years to work on the north portion of the house. Serena married Wilkins Goodrich in 1889 and moved out of the house. Otto married Francis Maude Gordon, of Salt Lake City, January 15, 1895. Maude, born December 12, 1877, was the daughter of John H. and Mary Bolton Gordon. At this time the south portion of the house, along with connecting wing were constructed and Otto and Francis lived there. The house was

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<sup>2</sup> Lars' obituary states that he was a Swedish immigrant, but according to the family history he emigrated from Denmark.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 3

Olsen, Lars & Christina, House, Orem, Utah County, UT

sold to them in 1904 but Lars and Christina continued to live there until their deaths in 1911 and 1908, respectively.

Otto and Maude continued to manage the fruit orchard. Otto, being a fan of boxing, was also involved with the training of Jack Dempsey when Dempsey was a youth in Provo.<sup>3</sup> The account states that the boxing practices would take place in the kitchen of the house, and when Dempsey left the area, Otto was supposedly told by his wife to choose between the boxing or her; he chose the latter and stayed at the farm. Otto died on February 1, 1928, leaving behind his wife and three sons: William, Theodore, and Roy K.

After Otto's death, Roy (born May 16, 1907) stayed at the farm and took care of his mother. On December 24, 1929 he married Madge Leavitt of Salt Lake City and they continued to live in the home with his mother until her death in 1944. It was during this time that Roy converted the rear porch into a kitchen for his wife and also converted the concrete reservoir into a garage to do work on inventions and take care of the farm machinery. One of his inventions was a fruit sprayer constructed out of a turnstile car. Roy took care of the orchards and also a member of the Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 19 chapter and worked on several construction projects in the area, including the Geneva Steel plant. Roy was killed in an automobile accident in November, 1953 and the property was then taken over by his son, Gordon L. who still owns the house.<sup>4</sup>

The various styles that make up the Classical category were the first forms used during the settlement period of Utah (1847-1890). These styles originated in the late-18th century as the newly independent nation sought Classically-inspired ideas as a national style. Popular on the East-Coast following the Revolutionary War, the Classical styles filtered West with the expanding population during the 1830s and '40s. The Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival were the three principal styles, although there are Classical types which do not contain stylistic elements for any one of these particular formats. These styles were based on Classical principles including geometrical, rectangular composition and symmetrical balance. These elements could be found in every type of architecture, from small, single-room log or adobe cabins, to large stone mansions and meetinghouses.<sup>5</sup> The Lewis house is a good example of the Classical style and reflects a period of agricultural expansion and city growth. It retains most of its original fabric and contributes to the historic qualities of Orem.

\_\_ See continuation sheet

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<sup>3</sup> "Apoplexy Ends Life of Otto Olson." The Daily Herald. Date unknown, 1928.

<sup>4</sup> From family history notes obtained from Greta Olsen Bandlely.

<sup>5</sup> Thomas Carter & Peter Goss. Utah's Historic Architecture: 1847-1940, A Guide. Salt Lake City: Center for Architectural Studies, Graduate School of Architecture, University of Utah, 1978.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section No. 9 Page 4

Olsen, Lars & Christina, House, Orem, Utah County, UT

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**Bibliography**

Bandlely, Greta Olsen. Family history notes, 1997.

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.

Knight, Nelson W., "Evans/Olsen, House," Historic Site Form, General Files. Utah State Historical Society, 1995.

McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1989.

Phillips, Steven J. Old House Dictionary: An Illustrated Guide to American Domestic Architecture 1600 to 1940. Washington D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1992.

\_\_ See continuation sheet

Olsen, Lars & Christina, House  
Name of Property

Orem, Utah County, Utah  
City, County, and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property .22 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A 1/2 4/4/2/1/6/0 4/4/5/9/8/9/0 B 1 1/1/1/1 1/1/1/1  
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

C 1 1/1/1/1 1/1/1/1 D 1 1/1/1/1 1/1/1/1

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

COM 30.23 FT E & 33 FT S OF NW COR, SEC 24, T6S, R2E, SLM; E 94.77 FT; S 100 FT; W 94.09 FT; N 23'29"W 100 FT TO BEG.

Property Tax No.  
18:062:0001:222

\_\_ 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 buildings.

\_\_ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title J. Cory Jensen/Preservation Consultant

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date January 1998

street & number 671 South 560 East telephone (801) 224-0955

city or town Orem state UT zip code 84097

## 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 Gordon L. Olsen

street 9757 North Canyon Road telephone (801) 785-8222

city or town Pleasant Grove state UT zip code 84062

**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.



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section No. PHOTOS Page 5

Olsen, Lars & Christina, House, Orem, Utah County, UT

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Common Label Information:

1. Olsen, Lars & Christina, House
2. Orem), Utah County, Utah
3. Photographer: J. Cory Jensen
4. Date: February 1997
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO.

Photo No. 1

6. West & south elevations of building. Camera facing northeast.

Photo No. 2

6. East & north elevations of building. Camera facing southwest.

Photo No. 3

6. West & north elevations of building. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 4

6. North elevation of outbuilding. Camera facing south.

Photo No. 5

6. West and south elevations of building. Camera facing northeast.