

Researcher: Linda L. Bonar
Date: 9/6/79

Site No. BV-04-316
SIGN. SITE # 55

Utah State Historical Society
Historic Preservation Research Office
Structure/Site Information Form

LESS THAN ONE ACRE

1 IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: 55 East 200 North

Southwest
Quarter of
Plat A Bl₄₅ Lot 1

Name of Structure:

T. R. S.

Present Owner: ✓ Ronella Griffiths

UTM: 12/356575/
4237650

Owner Address: Beaver, UT 84713

Tax #: B-187

2 AGE/CONDITION/USE

Original Owner: (Louis W. Harris) House Construction Date: 1905

Demolition Date:

Original Use: residence

Present Use:

Occupants:

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single-Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | | |

Building Condition:

Integrity:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Site | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor Alterations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | | <input type="checkbox"/> Major Alterations |

3 STATUS

Preliminary Evaluation:

Final Register Status:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant | <input type="checkbox"/> National Landmark | <input type="checkbox"/> District |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributory | <input type="checkbox"/> National Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Resource |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not Contributory | <input type="checkbox"/> State Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Thematic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intrusion | | |

4 DOCUMENTATION

Photography:

Date of Slides:

Date of Photographs:

Views: Front Side Rear Other

Views: Front Side Rear Other

Research Sources:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abstract of Title | <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> LDS Church Archives |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plat Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Encyclopedias | <input type="checkbox"/> LDS Genealogical Society |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plat Map | <input type="checkbox"/> Obituary Index | <input type="checkbox"/> U of U Library |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tax Card & Photo | <input type="checkbox"/> County & City Histories | <input type="checkbox"/> BYU Library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permit | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personal Interviews | <input type="checkbox"/> USU Library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Permit | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> SLC Library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input type="checkbox"/> Utah State Historical Society Library | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other fieldwork |

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

- Mrs. Ronella Griffiths, interviewed 9/12/79 in Beaver by L.L. Bonar
Mr. Warren Bohn, interviewed 9/12/79 in Beaver, UT by L.L. Bonar
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Harris, interviewed June, 1979 in Beaver by L.L. Bonar

Architect/Builder: Louis W. Harris

Building Materials: pink stone (tuff) Building Type/Style:

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

This home, originally built by Louis W. Harris for himself and his family, was once one of the most elaborate homes in Beaver. Louis Harris was a stonemason and he used four types of stone in his home. The main body of the house is comprised of pink rock (tuff), while the foundation consists of cut black rock (basalt). Red sandstone and green granite are used as decorative elements in the porch stairs, banisters, fence gate posts, etc. The front facade of the house is one of the gable ends and the home runs long on the lot. There are two stories and a gambrel roof that overhangs a large, sheltered front porch, giving the home somewhat of a bungalow character. The wood work is very elaborate, with fancy shingle work covering all gables and quantities of molding surrounding windows and doors. On each broad side of the house, there are large bay windows that continue on up to the roof to form dormer windows. These two windows are large enough that they actually give the home a cruciform plan. The dormer windows also have gambrel roofs and, again, display elaborate wood trim and shingles. On the interior, there is a lot of wooden trim around the doors and windows and the home is quite brightly lit, due to a large number of big windows. The most unusual feature on the interior is a large, free standing stairway that runs counter to the main axis of the house. These stairs are decorated with jig saw and lathe-turned woodwork.

Statement of Historical Significance:

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal Americans | <input type="checkbox"/> Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Mining | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Minority Groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Socio-Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Exploration/Settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | |

The home is significant for several reasons. It was built by Louis W. Harris for himself and his family as their "dream home", Mr. Harris was a builder and he learned his masonry skills from his father who was a stone mason in England before he immigrated to Utah as a convert to the LDS Church. The Harris family did beautiful stonework and this house is no exception. The pink rock blocks are finely tooled around the edges, then rusticated in the center of the block. The blocks are perfectly squared and layed nicely in even courses. The fact that four types of stone are used in this house is indicative of the tender-love-and-care that went into its construction. The only other home in Beaver that displays four kinds of stone is the Thomas Frazer House, which was built by the Scots mason for himself.

The Harris family also built the Number 2 Telluside Electric plant, located mid-way up the Beaver River Canyon. The pink stone in this building is, again, very nicely worked though it is in a different style than the Harris home.

The home is further significant to a historic district because of its unique style and mansion characteristics. It was later owned by a judge (Mr. Knox) and a doctor who used the several upstairs bedrooms as a hospital. The home is also interesting because of its historic date and handstone design.