

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 *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does 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 subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name HARMON, OLIVER JOHN, HOUSE
other names/site Heritage Gables

2. Location

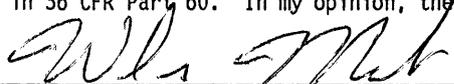
street & number 211 South 200 East N/A not for publication
city, town Price N/A vicinity
state Utah code UT county Carbon code 007 zip code 84501

3. Classification

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

 July 16, 1992
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:)
Signature of the Keeper 5/18/92
Date of Action

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC / single dwelling

Current Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE / business

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

Materials
(enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls WOOD (siding and shingles)

roof ASPHALT (shingles)

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Oliver John Harmon House, built c. 1908, is a 1-1/2 story, frame, Queen Anne style, cross-wing type house. Three historic additions to the original house match the original house stylistically and add to its architectural complexity. These additions, the covered porch, the north bay window with segmental hip roof, and the rear extension, all appear in a photograph taken c. 1910.¹

The prominent gables, irregular plan, asymmetrical facade, bay windows, and decorative shingle patterns are all indicative of the Queen Anne style.² The most distinctive features of the house are the large bay windows with an original, segmental hip roof above the short, second floor-level windows on the north bay. A spacious covered veranda encircles the front (west) third of the house.

The house is covered in drop or novelty siding which provides the barely discernible line between the original house and the historic additions. A slight difference in the height and profile of the siding can be seen between the original house and the north bay and again where the rear extension abuts the original house. The gable ends are covered in diamond and half-round concave/convex patterned shingles. A band of decorative octagon pattern shingles starts above the main floor windows on the north bay window addition, continues on the porch frieze and extends to the south, main level bay window, indicating a similar date of construction for these elements. A pair of brick chimneys (one within the footprint of the original house, the second placed about three feet to the east) at the ridge of the hip roof over the east extension, and the difference in the height of the eaves, provide additional evidence of the later construction of this east portion of the house.

There have been several minor changes to the exterior of the building since the historic period, but the overall impact is limited and the c. 1908-10 architectural integrity remains. The wood sash windows on the second level of the north bay were

X See continuation sheet

¹John R. Harmon (compiler), The Ancestors and Descendants of Oliver John & Almira Terry Harmon, 1592-1992 (Palo Alto, CA: Harmonarts of California, 1992), p. 14.

²Thomas Carter and Peter Goss, Utah's Historic Architecture, 1847-1940 (Salt Lake City, UT: University of Utah Press, 1988), p. 112-114.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Harmon, Oliver John, House, Price, Carbon County, Utah

replaced c. 1988. Originally, each window was comprised of six lites in a single horizontal sash. They are now double pane, single lite windows (two are horizontal sliding units). The result is a minimal loss of detail and a slight modernizing effect to this curious historic feature. Other windows were also replaced at this time, and some exterior storm windows installed, but with minimal impact to the overall detail of muntins and sash. The exterior walls were also insulated c. 1988. At unknown dates, the historic wood shingle roof was covered with asphalt composition shingles and the original, three foot high pedestals beneath the porch columns were replaced with painted concrete block that approximates the dimensions of the original pedestals. A 1931 photo shows that both the original pedestals and the porch were originally constructed of concrete.³

There have also been some minor changes made to the interior, but again, with little overall impact. The wall between the living room and north bedroom was removed c. 1980; a rear porch was enclosed, the original pantry is now a bathroom (c. 1980); and the original kitchen is now an employee dining area.

The wood frame garage behind the house may date from the historic period as its construction and materials are similar to the house. However, alterations have rendered it ineligible for listing.

³John R. Harmon (compiler), The Ancestors and Descendants of Oliver John & Almira Terry Harmon, 1592-1992 (Palo Alto, CA: Harmonarts of California, 1992), pp. 18-19.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:
___ nationally ___ statewide X locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ___ A ___ B X C ___ D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
<u>ARCHITECTURE</u>	<u>c. 1908-1937</u>	<u>c. 1908</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	Cultural Affiliation	
_____	<u>N/A</u>	
_____	_____	
_____	_____	
Significant Person	Architect/Builder	
<u>N/A</u>	<u>Oliver John Harmon</u>	
_____	_____	

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

The Oliver John Harmon House is architecturally significant as one of the best examples of the Queen Anne style in Price. The Queen Anne style was popular throughout Utah from 1885 to 1905. Though over 20 Queen Anne and Victorian Eclectic (1885-1910) style houses remain in Price, less than half retain their architectural integrity and the majority of these eligible houses are of masonry. The Harmon House is a very late example of the Queen Anne style and remains as perhaps the best example. The original segmental hip roof above the short, second floor-level windows, above the north bay window, is also a very uncommon architectural feature both locally and state-wide.

Price, located about 120 miles southeast of Salt Lake City and named for Bishop William Price of Goshen, who explored the area in 1869, was originally settled in 1877 by a few pioneers and converts to the Mormon or LDS Church (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints). Additional Mormon settlers arrived in 1879 from the Spanish Fork area. From 1881 through 1883, the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad constructed a rail line through Price Canyon. The community grew from railroad workers, additional Mormon settlers, and later, from immigrants, many non-Mormon, who came to the recently created Carbon County to mine coal. With the railhead in place, Price became the transportation and economic center for the communities of the area, as well as the adjoining counties.

Oliver John Harmon was the third child of Levi Nehemiah and Eunice Chidster Harmon. He was born 16 March 1859 in Parley's Park, Salt Lake County, Utah. About 1863 his family relocated to help colonize southern Utah, settling in the town of Washington, five miles northeast of St. George. He attended school in St. George and Beaver, Utah.

In 1879 Oliver apprenticed to an English cabinet maker, Joseph Judd, and served for three years. On 4 May 1881 he married Almira (Allie) Terry in the St. George LDS Temple. They built a small house in Washington and remained there until the completion of his apprenticeship. In 1883 they moved to Provo so Oliver could

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Harmon, Oliver John, House, Price, Carbon County, Utah

further study carpentry and cabinet making. Because of his ability, he was quickly given supervisory responsibilities. While in Provo, he reportedly built at least one house.⁴ [The location and status of this house are unknown.] About 1886 he left Provo for Castle Valley (Emery County) in southeastern Utah.⁵

Oliver became a successful businessman, as well as a master carpenter and cabinet maker. He helped operate two successful co-op mercantile stores, one in Huntington (1890) and the second in Price. The 1903-1904 Utah State Gazetteer lists O.J. Harmon as the manager of the Huntington Co-operative Mercantile Institute. At the time, Huntington, located about 22 miles from Price, had a population of 950. He built a 2-story brick house in Huntington which is no longer extant.⁶

The 1912-1913 Gazetteer shows Oliver in Price as a partner with Levi N. Harmon in "Harmon Bros, general merchandise." By this time, Price, with a population of over 2,000, had become a center of commercial activity in this coal-mining region of Carbon County. The 1924-1925 Gazetteer reveals a change in business activity: "O.J. Harmon & Sons" is first listed with Oliver J., Melvin T., Wilford G., John H., and Joseph W. Harmon, but the type of business is not listed. However, there is also a listing for "Price Casket & Cabinet Works (O.J. Harmon & Sons)." Perhaps this enterprise was formed in response to the nearly 200 deaths in the nearby Castle Gate Mine explosion in 1924.⁷ The 1924 Sanborn fire insurance map shows a small (approximately 27 by 30 feet), one story carpentry shop located behind the Harmon house, facing north onto G Street (now 200 South Street). [This carpentry shop is no longer extant.] This enterprise continued for several years, with the 1927-1928 Gazetteer also listing O.J. Harmon & Sons as undertakers.

On 3 March 1908, Oliver had purchased two building lots along the west side of block 52 (facing 6th Street, now known as 200 East) from Alexander and Hazel MacLean for \$1200. (It appears that the southern lot was later sold as the 1924 Sanborn map shows a house built on this second lot. The eastern portion of the original lot has also been subdivided and houses built c. 1950.) The c. 1910 photograph indicates Harmon built the 1-1/2-story wood frame house and the additions within a relatively short period of time. He lived in the house with his family of eight children until

X See continuation sheet

⁴Sun Advocate, "Harmon House," 6 November 1985, p. 4B.

⁵Melvin Terry Harmon, The Biography of Oliver John Harmon, (unpublished).

⁶John R. Harmon (compiler), The Ancestors and Descendants of Oliver John & Almira Terry Harmon, 1592-1992 (Palo Alto, CA: Harmonarts of California, 1992), p. 8.

⁷Philip Notarianni, Carbon County -- Eastern Utah's Industrialized Island, Utah State Historical Society, Salt Lake City, UT: 1981, p.34.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

Harmon, Oliver John, House, Price, Carbon County, Utah

his death on 19 December 1937. There have been several subsequent owners. The house continued to function as a single family residence, but has also housed a dance studio, two apartments and currently, professional offices. Michael Harrison is the current owner, having purchased the house in February 1988.

The Harmon House in Price has remained relatively unaltered from the historic period and exhibits Oliver's skill as a carpenter. Residential examples of the Queen Anne style are characterized by their asymmetrical facades, irregular plans, and varied silhouettes resulting from dormers and gables.⁸ The Victorian Eclectic style, actually an amalgamation of elements from several Victorian and late Picturesque styles, was popular in Utah from 1885 through 1910.⁹ Since the styles and their characteristics overlap, the Harmon House has been compared to examples of both styles identified in the partial reconnaissance survey of Price. The Harmon House remains perhaps the best preserved example in this comparison.

The north bay window and segmental hip roof with floor-height windows on the second level is a curious, documented historic feature. It appears to have been modeled on a similar, perhaps original, two story bay window on the c. 1890 Bryner House, located at about 90 South 100 East in Price. [The Bryner House is potentially eligible for the National Register.] These are currently the only known historic examples of multi-story bay windows with segmental, hip roofs attached to a gable end of a house. The addition of this rare and locally unique feature to the Harmon House was perhaps an attempt to incorporate some of the respectability of the more substantial Bryner House. Rather than affecting integrity, this change actually increases the local architectural significance of the Oliver John Harmon House.

⁸Thomas Carter and Peter Goss, Utah's Historic Architecture, 1847-1940 (Salt Lake City, UT: University of Utah Press, 1988), p. 112-114.

⁹Ibid. p.127.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Carter, Thomas and Peter Goss, Utah's Historic Architecture, 1847-1940. Salt Lake City, UT: University of Utah Press, 1988.

Correspondence with Jean M. Partridge (granddaughter of Oliver John Harmon), 15 November 1990. On file at Utah SHPO.

Harmon, John R. (compiler), The Ancestors and Descendants of Oliver John & Almira Terry Harmon, 1592-1992. Palo Alto, CA: Harmonarts of California, 1992.

Harmon, Melvin Terry (son of Oliver John Harmon), Biography of Oliver John Harmon, unpublished. Partial copy on file at Utah SHPO.

"Price Reconnaissance Level Survey," October 1985 and September 1986, USHPO files.

R.L. Polk & Co., Utah State Gazetteer. Salt Lake City, UT: various editions.

Robinson, Richard G., Castle Country -- A History of Carbon County. 1973

Sun Advocate, "Harmon House," Price, Utah. 6 November 1985, p.4B.

___ 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: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property .26 acre

UTM References

A	<u>1/2</u>	<u>5/1/6/6/3/3</u>	<u>4/3/8/2/7/7/7</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

Beginning at the NW Corner of Block 10, Price Townsite Survey, thence South 92 feet; thence East 87.5 feet; thence South 29 feet; thence East 27 feet; thence North 121 feet; thence West 114.5 feet to the point of beginning.

___ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

These are the present, legally recorded boundaries of the site.

___ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles M. Shepherd, Architectural Historian
organization Office of Preservation, Utah Division of State History date May 1992
street & number 300 Rio Grande telephone (801) 533-5755
city or town Salt Lake City state Utah zip code 84101

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number PHOTOS Page 4

Harmon, Oliver John, House, Price, Carbon County, Utah

Photo No. 1

1. Harmon, Oliver John, House
2. Carbon County, Utah
3. Photographer: Charles M. Shepherd
4. Date: March 1992
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO
6. West elevation. Camera facing east.
7. Photo No. 1

Photo No. 2

1. Harmon, Oliver John, House
2. Carbon County, Utah
3. Photographer: Charles M. Shepherd
4. Date: March 1992
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO
6. Northwest corner. Camera facing southeast.
7. Photo No. 2

Photo No. 3

1. Harmon, Oliver John, House
2. Carbon County, Utah
3. Photographer: Charles M. Shepherd
4. Date: March 1992
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO
6. North elevation. Camera facing south-southwest.
7. Photo No. 3

Photo No. 4

1. Harmon, Oliver John, House
2. Carbon County, Utah
3. Photographer: Charles M. Shepherd
4. Date: March 1992
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO
6. Gable end and bay window, south elevation. Camera facing northwest.
7. Photo No. 4