

Property Type: 631

Historic Preservation Research Office

Site No. 17BATCH KEY  
1801052123

## Structure/Site Information Form

1  
IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: 00137 S MAIN

UTM:

12/424880/4512930  
T. 01.0 S R. 01.0 E S. 06

Name of Structure: Tribune Building

Present Owner: BROPHY\* JOHN\*P\*  
400 TRIBUNE BLDG.,  
Owner Address: SALT LAKE CITY,  
UTAH 84111

KEARNS TRIBUNE CORP.

Year Built (Tax Record):

Effective Age:

Tax #: 01 255500A

Legal Description

01 Kind of Building: OFFICE OR CLINIC

50.186539 PER CENT INT: COM 39.63 FT S FR NW COR LOT 4 BLK 70 PLAT A SLC SUR N  
74.65 FT TO N WALL OF EZRA THOMPSON BLDG E ALG WALL 165 FT TO LOT LINE S 74.  
66 FT TO S WALL OF SD BLDG W\*LY ALG WAL L 165 FT TO BEG LESS R O W  
49.813461 PER CENT INT; CON 39.63 T S FRNW COR LOT 4 BLK 70 PLAT A SLC SUR N 74.2  
STATUS/USE

Original Owner: Ezra Thompson Inv. Co.

Construction Date: 1924

Demolition Date:

Original Use: commercial

Present Use: commercial

Building Condition:

Integrity:

Preliminary Evaluation:

Final Register Status:

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Deteriorated

- Site  
 Ruins

- Unaltered  
 Minor Alterations  
 Major Alterations

- Significant  
 Contributory  
 Not Contributory

- Not of the  
Historic Period

- National Landmark  
 National Register  
 State Register  
 District  
 Multi-Resource  
 Thematic

3  
DOCUMENTATION

Photography:

Date of Slides:

Slide No.:

Date of Photographs: fall-spring photo No.:

Views:  Front  Side  Rear  OtherViews:  Front  Side  Rear  Other

Research Sources:

- Abstract of Title  
 Plat Records / Map  
 Tax Card & Photo  
 Building Permit  
 Sewer Permit

- Sanborn Maps  
 City Directories  
 Biographical Encyclopedias  
 Obituary Index  
 County & City Histories

- Newspapers  
 Utah State Historical Society  
 Personal Interviews  
 LDS Church Archives  
 LDS Genealogical Society

- U of U Library  
 BYU Library  
 USU Library  
 SLC Library  
 Other

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

Salt Lake City Sanborn Insurance Maps, 1898, 1911, 1930, 1958, University of Utah library.  
Salt Lake County Records, Block 70, Plat A, C-2, p.43, C-12, p.39, C-22, p.32, C-32,  
p.29

Salt Lake City Building Permit, 1924, March 13, #4114

R.L. Polk &amp; Co. Salt Lake City Directory, 1924-1977.

Deseret News, 1923, April 9, pl, sec.2. (Ezra Thompson obituary)

Andrew Jenson, Journal History of the Church, 1923, April 8, pp.7, 12. Church  
Historical Department.

Researcher: Lorraine Pace

Date: 8/9/79

Architect/Builder: <sup>P</sup> Hope & Burton

Building Materials: Steel and reinforced concrete

Building Type/Style:

**Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:**

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

The Thompson Tribune Building is a ten-story steel frame and brick "fireproof" structure. The facade design is regular and symmetrical, including rectangular, double hung sash windows. Continuous, unbroken piers emphasize verticality. The elaborate terra cotta cornice is Eclectic in nature, with early Art Deco overtones. This building exhibits a transition from the high relief tendencies of Beaux Arts and Classical Revival Styles, to the planar twentieth century styles such as Art Deco and Art Modern. The Art Deco style had no great following in Salt Lake City, such as it did in Ogden, for example and few examples of the style survive.

**Statement of Historical Significance:**

Construction Date: 1924

This building is significant for a number of reasons: as one of the few buildings in Utah that exhibit the transition from the high relief tendencies of Beaux Arts & Classical Revival Styles to the plainer Art Deco & Art Modern; because of it's association with prominent Utah businessmen and politician Ezra Thompson, and as the headquarters of the Salt Lake Tribune newspaper.

The Ezra Thompson Building, now known as the tribune building, was built in 1924 for Ezra Thompson at an approximate cost of \$350,000. Thompson died before the buildings completion. In 1937 the Salt Lake Tribune Publishing Co. purchased the building. It has housed the Salt Lake Tribune newspaper ever since.

Ezra Thompson originally bought the property in 1901 from Maria Young Dougal. In 1924, after her husband's death, Emily P. Thompson transferred title to the Ezra P. Thompson Investment Co. The Investment Co. completed construction and leased the building to the Salt Lake Tribune Publishing Co. until 1937, when the Salt Lake Tribune decided to purchase the building. The Tribune Publishing Co. actually retains ownership to the present. Although the name of the company changed in 1942 to the Kearns Corporation and in 1953 to the Kearns Tribune Corporation.

Ezra Thompson was native Utahn, born July 17, 1850 in Salt Lake to Ezra Thompson and Lois Trumbull. Both of his parents came to Utah in 1848 and were each originally from the eastern U.S.--his father from New York and his mother from Maine. Ezra Thompson was educated in Utah public schools and started working at an early age in the freighting business. After 20 years, he changed directions and started mining in Park City. From this enterprise he gradually acquired real estate holdings all over Salt Lake, including interest in the great Cardiff Mine. For over 30 years, he was identified with mining and business development in the state. He was president of Thompson-Murdock Investment Co., the Cardiff Mining & Milling Co., Peerless Coal Co., Kenebeck Consolidated Co., Daly West, and the Ezra Thompson Investment Co. At the time of his death, he had an estate valued at approximately 2-½ million and was described as "one of the largest real estate owners in Salt Lake".

In addition to being a prominent businessman, he served two terms as mayor of Salt Lake; once as a Republican and once as a member of the American Party, an anti-Mormon political party that dominated Salt Lake City politics during the first decade of the twentieth century. He was elected to a third term in 1906, but resigned in 1907. He married the former Emily Pugsley on February 14, 1885. They had four children, Lynn H. Thompson, Ezra P. Thompson, Clyde R. Thompson and Mrs. H.R. Brown, all of Salt Lake.

The Salt Lake Tribune Publishing Co., the main and current occupants of the Ezra Thompson Building, was founded in 1870. Its stated goal was to support a "New Movement" of accommodation to replace the prevailing Mormon policies of isolation and insulation. The Tribune believed the time was ripe for the absorption of the self-sufficient Mormon economy into the larger economy of the nation, and it began a campaign for cooperation with gentiles, elimination of social and economic insularity, and the development of mining. The "New Movement" had surfaced two years earlier with the founding of the Utah Magazine by a group of talented Mormon intellectual "liberals" including William S. Godbe, E.L.T. Harrison, Edward W. Tullidge, W.H. Shearman, and Eli B. Kelsey. The open criticism of Mormon Church policy in the pages of the Utah Magazine caused Harrison, Godbe and their fellows to be excommunicated. The Tribune was an expansion of their magazine. According to O'N. Malmquist, a recent biographer of the Tribune, "it's history can be divided into two periods. From its founding until about 1920, it was a partisan, anti-Mormon newspaper and a spokesman for gentile interests. After about 1920 it became a consistent and temperate advocate of cooperation among diverse economic, political, religious, and social groupings. In doing so, it in part reflected and in part was responsible for, the larger changes that were taking place in 20th century Utah".

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 4 of 4

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Salt Lake City Business District Multiple Resource Area  
State Utah

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

31. Decker-Patrick Dry Goods Building  
Substantive Review  
Keeper

*determined eligible*  
Beth Grovona 8/17/82

**DOE/OWNER OBJECTION**

Attest Emma Jane Saxe 8-16-82

32. Utah Ice and Storage Company Building  
Substantive Review  
Keeper

*eligible*  
Beth Grovona 12/30/82

**DOE/OWNER OBJECTION**

Attest ~~Emma Jane Saxe 8-16-82~~

33. Shubrick Hotel  
Substantive Review  
Keeper

*determined eligible*  
Beth Grovona 8/17/82

**DOE/OWNER OBJECTION**

Attest Emma Jane Saxe 8-16-82

34. Tribune Building  
Substantive Review  
Keeper

*determined eligible*  
Beth Grovona 8/17/82

**DOE/OWNER OBJECTION**

Attest Emma Jane Saxe 8-16-82

35. Sears/Bennett Paint and Glass Company Building  
Substantive Review  
Keeper

*determined eligible*  
Beth Grovona 8/17/82

**DOE/OWNER OBJECTION**

Attest Emma Jane Saxe 8-16-82

36. Park Hotel  
Keeper

del on by you 12/27/82

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

37. Keeper

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

38. Keeper

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

39. Keeper

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

40. Keeper

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

82005108

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

TRIBUNE BUILDING  
(SALT LAKE CITY BUSINESS  
DISTRICT INRA)

SALT LAKE COUNTY  
UTAH

Working No. 7/8/82-1988

Fed. Reg. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Due: 8/22/82

Action: ACCEPT 8/17/82

RETURN \_\_\_\_\_

REJECT \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

*Determined eligible*

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*The relationship of the newspaper's period of significance and its association of this bldg. is unclear. Therefore, while criterion A may apply, the current documentation does not justify significance on that ground. Signif. of person pre-dates bldg.*

Recom. / Criteria C only - Accept  
Reviewer Saxe  
Discipline Arch Hist  
Date 8-10-82  
see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

*Not signif under B for assoc. with Ezra Thompson because he died before the bldg. was built.*

*relationship of newspaper w/ bldg - re: how assoc. w/ bldg. relates to period of significance is unclear.*

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**10. Geographical Data**

*Please provide address*

Address of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UMT References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

**11. Form Prepared By**

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:  
\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

**13. Other**

- \_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



ential  
eral  
Wings

cial Life

SPRINGFIELD

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

WOLFE

DODGINS  
FINE & LARGES  
SMALL  
CUTTING - GRILLS

COLEMAN'S  
FINE & LARGES  
SMALL  
CUTTING - GRILLS

THE BURNING CARRETS

MCKAY

Standard  
Optical Co.

Salt Lake City Downtown Multiple Resource Area  
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah  
Tribune Building  
137 South Main  
South and West Facades  
Photographer: John McCormick, Feb. 1980  
Negative filed at Utah State Historical  
Society

SITE #17



Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000872

March 12, 1982

Division of State History  
300 Rio Grande Avenue  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

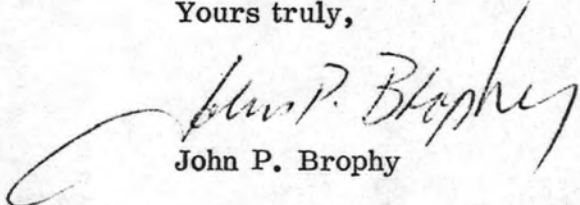
Gentlemen:

Please be advised that I object to the nomination of my building to the National Register of Historic Places.

The building is the Tribune Building located at 137 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.

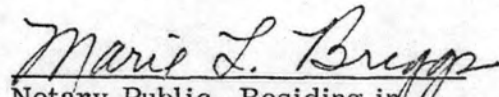
Please remove this property from your nomination list to the Register.

Yours truly,

  
John P. Brophy

State of Utah            )  
                                  : ss.  
County of Salt Lake    )

On this 12th day of March, 1982, personally came before me the above named John P. Brophy, to me known to be the person who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged the same.

  
Notary Public, Residing in  
Salt Lake County, State of Utah

My commission expires:

Aug. 25, 1984

DETERMINED ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE UTAH  
AUG 17 1982

DATE DETERMINED

Name

Location

(Salt Lake City Business Multiple Resource Area)

Salt Lake City  
Salt Lake County

Federal Reserve Bank

Orpheum Theatre/Promised Valley Playhouse

First Security Bank Building

Decker-Patrick Dry Goods Building

Shubrick Hotel

Tribune Building

Sears/Bennett Paint and Glass Co. Building

Also Notified

NPS Regional Office: Rocky Mountain

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
730 Simms Street  
Suite 450  
Golden, Colorado 80401

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Dr. Melvin T. Smith  
Utah State Historical Society  
300 Rio Grande  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

NR/DOB JMS

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)272-3504.

**39/42 TRIBUNE, LLC  
51 EAST 400 SOUTH, SUITE 210  
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111  
801.355.0600**



June 13, 2012

Paul Loether  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye Street  
Eighth Floor  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Tribune Building, 137-143 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, UT (NPS #82005108; Tax Credit Project #27113)

Gentlemen:

This letter is a formal declaration that we are the current owners of the historic Tribune Building located at 137-143 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. We understand the Tribune Building was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places on August 17, 1982 but was not listed at that time due to objection by the then-current owner. Recently submitted documentation demonstrates the building retains its architectural integrity, and we hereby withdraw any previous objection and request the building be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Michael Ferro  
39/42 Tribune, LLC

Vasilios Priskos  
39/42 Tribune, LLC

CC: Cory Jensen, Utah State Historic Preservation Office

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF UTAH:

County of Salt Lake:

On this 13 day of June, 2012, before me, the undersigned Notary Public, personally appeared, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that s/he executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and seal the day and year as above written.

Notary Public for Utah

Residing at 51 E 400 S Salt Lake County UT

Commission Expires: 3-10-14



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Tribune Building

Name of Property

Salt Lake, UTAH

County and State

Salt Lake City Business District MRA

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number   4   Page   1  


**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register

other (explain: \_\_\_\_\_)

  
Signature of the Keeper

7/31/2012  
Date of Action

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Tribune Building

MULTIPLE NAME: Salt Lake City Business District MRA

STATE & COUNTY: UTAH, Salt Lake

DATE RECEIVED: 6/15/12      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/13/12  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/30/12      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/01/12  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 82005108

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

     ACCEPT         RETURN         REJECT                         DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Removal of previous owner-objection  
Property remains in good condition.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criteria C

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignea      DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_      DATE 7/31/12

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y(N) see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

