

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 12 1976  
DATE ENTERED JUL 30 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC  \*\*

David Eccles Home Home

PH0671321

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

250 West Center Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Logan

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

VICINITY OF

STATE

Utah

CODE

049

COUNTY

Cache

CODE

005

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

S. Eugene Needham

STREET & NUMBER

250 West Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Logan

VICINITY OF

STATE

Utah

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cache County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

179 North Main

CITY, TOWN

Logan

STATE

Utah

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Utah Historic Sites Survey

DATE

March 1976

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Utah State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Salt Lake City

STATE

Utah

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

General: Built in 1907, the 3-story David Eccles Mansion contains 24 rooms, 11,000 square feet of floor area, and is considered the largest home in Cache Valley. The home is eclectic in style, assymmetrical in plan, and may be described as late-Victorian in general character. After serving as a residence for the second wife of David Eccles, Ellen Stoddard, the home became a dormitory for the Utah State Agricultural College in 1943. The third floor ballroom was divided into eight bedrooms and bathrooms, six bedrooms were placed on the second floor and one on the first floor. Large shower and washing facilities were installed in the basement. The home later became a fraternity house but was sold to the present owners in 1970 and consequently has been renovated and much of the original character has been recovered.

The Eccles Mansion is built of brick with white stone trim and a cut coursed stone foundation. The front facade is accentuated by two round towers or turrets, one at each of the front corners. Several dormers with fancy classical facades punctuate the massive hip roof. A Neo-Classical Revival porch wraps around two sides of the front of the home. Within the triangular porch pediment is a foliated inscription with the letters "D. E." for David Eccles. The sprawling plan is basically rectangular but includes two wings and two prominent bay windows which give variety to the basic form.

Most detailing is Neo-Classical Revival and includes Ionic columns and a classical porch entablature and pediment, quoins about the door and window bays, brackets and dentils under the cornice, classical facades and pilasters in the dormers. The towers are shingled on the upper portions and have bell shaped cupolas or roofs and generally reflect Queen Anne or perhaps Chateauesque origins. There are 19 leaded, cut glass windows in the building.

The interior of the Eccles Mansion is equally rich in its decoration. The floors are hardwood and the oak and birch trim is finished in its natural color, being finished with only varnish and oil. The fireplaces, moldings, stairways and interior cornices exhibit excellent craftsmanship and design compatible with the exterior.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES                      1907                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Joseph Monson and Karl C. Schaub

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The David Eccles home represents several important themes in Utah and American history. As a poor emigrant from Scotland, the home symbolizes the successful business career of David Eccles and the important contribution he made to the economic development of the West. As the home of David Eccles' second family, it is a unique part of the Mormon polygamy story. The home's construction coincided with the end of the polygamy controversy after David Eccles became convinced he would be able to maintain both families in Utah without any interference. The home of Marriner Eccles during his last boyhood years, the site is also an important part in the history of this important figure in America's economic history.

Architecturally the David Eccles residence represents the finer achievements of architects and builders responsible for the construction of the many late-Victorian period homes in the West Center Street area of Logan. The home is perhaps the best surviving residence designed by Logan architects Joseph Monson and Karl C. Schaub, both of whom were distinguished in their careers.

History: The David Eccles Home in Logan was constructed in 1907 at a reported cost of \$75,000. The architects were Joseph Monson and Karl C. Schaub. Born May 12, 1849, near Glasgow, Scotland, David Eccles was forced to begin his business career at an early age when his father, a wood turner by trade, suffered almost a complete loss of sight from double cataracts on his eyes. Supplied with kitchen utensils made by his father and resin sticks used to ignite coal fires, the eleven year old David journeyed to neighboring towns to peddle his wares. In 1863, at the age of fourteen, David Eccles and his family emigrated to Utah with help from the LDS Church Perpetual Emigration Fund. After working in Utah and Oregon sawmills, and the Almy Wyoming coal mine, David took a contract in 1872 to supply logs to a portable sawmill. This venture led to further investment in the lumber industry first in Utah then Idaho, and by 1887 in Oregon. His success in the lumber industry made possible other investments in railroads, beet sugar refineries, food processing enterprises, construction, coal, land, livestock, banks, and insurance companies. After his death in 1912, his estate was valued at over six million dollars. During his business career he had founded 54 different enterprises. Because of his respect among both the Mormon and non-Mormon business communities, he was a leader in the secularization of business in the Mormon cultural region. His biographer, Leonard Arrington wrote:

To a poorly educated person from a family with no savings or social status, the only way out of poverty was hard work and careful use of time and resources. Eccles therefore concentrated his efforts toward the goal of accumulation. He did not expend his energies in "church activities," nor in striving for social recognition, nor in unproductive political debate, nor in the pursuit of pleasure. Every moment, every ounce of energy, every expenditure had to count toward the goal of accumulation and profit. This was not a driving preoccupation but a

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Leonard J. Arrington, David Eccles: Pioneer Western Industrialist, Logan, Utah, Utah State University, 1975.  
Marriner S. Eccles, Beckoning Frontiers, New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1951.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 2	4, 3, 0	0, 9, 0	4, 6	2, 0	0, 6, 0	B				
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C							D				

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

A. Kent Powell/Preservation Historian Allen D. Roberts/Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Utah State Historical Society

March 1976

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

603 East South Temple

(801) 533-5755

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Salt Lake City

Utah

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Milton L. Weilenmann,  
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE April 28, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE   
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST   
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 7/30/76

DATE 7-30-76

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a pattern of life he knew was right. He was neither tense nor humorless; he enjoyed his work and his endeavors to turn a profit. He worked with gusto, relished the attempt to make business succeed, found pleasure in investing in new enterprises. But he was careful, prudent, and shrewd. This was habitual with him and not just a "show" to induce a spirit of economy among his employees. Leonard J. Arrington, David Eccles, pp. 126-127.

In keeping with the standard set by prominent men of good standing in the Mormon Church before 1890, David Eccles married two women. His first wife and her family lived in Ogden and their home, now known as the Bertha Eccles Art Center has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

David married his first wife, Bertha Jensen, in 1875. Ten years later, in 1885, he married Ellen Stoddard a young girl eighteen years of age. Because of the pressure by federal officials to arrest Mormon men guilty of unlawful cohabitation, the marriage to Ellen was kept a secret. Ellen was well aware of the necessity for secrecy especially when her own father, a polygamist with four wives, was arrested and forced to spend several months in prison. During the late 1880's, Eccles moved Ellen, her mother, sister and two brothers to North Powder, Oregon, near a sawmill built by John Stoddard, but then owned by his son-in-law David Eccles. In 1890, Ellen returned to her family in Logan where she gave birth to her first child, Marriner. With the fear of arrest for unlawful cohabitation still a threat to her husband, Ellen continued to keep her marriage a secret and while in Logan, carefully hung drying diapers under sheets on the clothesline in an effort to maintain her secret. Ellen remained in Utah and Southern Idaho until late 1894 when she returned to Oregon with her three children, Marriner born in 1890, Marie born in 1892, and Spencer born in 1894. Her father, a business associate of David Eccles in the lumber industry had made his home in Oregon and Ellen remained there until 1907. During her sojourn in Oregon, five more children were born.

After Ellen's return to Logan in 1907, David's relationship between his Ogden and Logan families settled into a comfortable routine. Leonard Arrington writes:

Eccles necessarily divided what time he had for domestic matters between his two families, so the responsibility for rearing their nine children necessarily fell to their mother Ellen. The oldest son of this family, Marriner, recalled, "she reared us all to share her own view of David as a man who was to be respected and loved, and not to be annoyed by noise and tumults on the occasions when he was home with us."<sup>1</sup> And his sister Nora concurred, adding that, even though Eccles kept unorthodox hours--in his later years he often came home as late as ten o'clock in the evening--her mother would attempt to have a full dinner for him, and a family of happy, if tired, children to greet him.

The children loved to wait for his arrival. He would play games with them, such as dropping nickles and dimes on the sofa for them to find. When they would bring the lost coins to him, he would reply in his Scottish burr, "Losers weepers, finders keepers!" and laugh heartily. Leonard J. Arrington, David Eccles, p. 155.

<sup>1</sup>Marriner S. Eccles, Beckoning Frontiers: Public and Personal Recollections, (New York, 1951), p. 22.

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David Eccles died December 5, 1912, and was buried in Ogden, the city of his first family.

The Eccles family continued to play a significant role in the economic history of Utah, the west, and the nation after the death of David Eccles. Two separate companies, representing the two families, were organized. The Eccles Investment Company, which represented the interests of Ellen and her children, was managed by the oldest son, Marriner Eccles. Although his economic philosophy came to differ greatly with that of his father, Marriner proved his father's equal and expanded the family's inheritance in a manner reminiscent of his father. Under Marriner's direction, the Eccles Investment Company soon became much more successful than the David Eccles Company. In the settlement of the David Eccles estate, Bertha and her children received approximately 5/7's of the estate while Ellen and her children only 2/7's. This led to an apparent rivalry between the two family companies, at least in the eyes of Marriner. On one occasion Marriner visited David C. Eccles, his oldest half brother, to discuss a change in policies for the Oregon Lumber Company, in which both families had an interest. Marriner recounted the discussion in the following manner. "He [David] went on to say that he was getting sick and tired of my interference and he wished I would mind my own business. I was a damned nuisance, he said, and he didn't want me to cause him anymore trouble. This was climaxed by an invitation to get out of his office at once." (Eccles, Beckoning Frontiers, p. 46.)

Marriner inherited an economic philosophy from his father in which the elder Eccles "...produced his own capital for all his ventures, saying that a business, like an individual, could remain free only if it kept out of debt, and that the west itself could remain free only if it kept out of debt to the East." (Eccles, Beckoning Frontiers, p.20.)

According to Marriner, his own conduct from the time of his father's death in 1912 until 1930, was governed by his father's philosophy. With the depression, Marriner realized that the frontier economic philosophy of his father was outdated, and developed his own which sought to deal with the issues of over production and under consumption. Speaking at the Utah State Bankers Convention in June 1932, Eccles declared:

I believe, contrary to the opinion of most people, that the depression in our country was primarily brought about by our capital accumulation getting out of balance in relationship to our consumption ability. Our depression was not brought about as a result of extravagance. It was not brought about as a result of high taxation. We did not consume as a nation more than we produced. We consumed far less than we produced. The difficulty is that we were not sufficiently extravagant as a nation.

The theory of hard work and thrift as a means of pulling us out of the depression is unsound economically. True hard work means more production, but thrift and economy mean less consumption. Now reconcile those two forces, will you?

There is only one agency in my opinion that can turn the cycle upward and that is the government. The government, if it is worthy of the support, the loyalty, and the patriotism of its citizens, must so regulate, through its power of taxations, through its power over the control of money and credit, and hence its volume and use, the economic structure as to give men who are able, worthy, and willing to work, the opportunity to work, and to guarantee

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to them sustenance for their families and protection against want and destitution. If this is not done, the country cannot expect to get the support and loyalty that makes for a good, sound, safe government. (Eccles, Beckoning Frontiers, pp. 83-84.)

To incorporate this plan would require deficit spending and result in an unbalanced budget. Yet, as Eccles pointed out, the federal government was not bound by the same economic rules as an individual, family, business or state. The ideas of Marriner Eccles eventually drew the attention of Roosevelt advisors, and in January 1934, Marriner left for Washington D.C. In the nation's capitol Marriner found Franklin Roosevelt sufficiently receptive to his banking ideas to appoint him a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in November 1934. Under his direction and the Banking Act of 1935, Eccles sought to lessen the influence of private bankers, who he felt had taken over the Federal Reserve System, give greater control of the system to the Executive Branch, and use the Reserve Board as an agency to consciously control the economy.

About 1943 the David Eccles home was sold to the Utah State Agricultural College and converted into a dormitory known as Kerr Hall. In the 1960's the home was purchased by the Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity and used as a fraternity house until it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. S. Eugene Needham for use as a private residence.

Architectural History: The David Eccles Mansion is among the most significant of several fine eclectic Victorian residences built near the turn of the Twentieth Century in the West Center Street area of Logan, Utah. Built in 1907, the late Victorian period mansion includes features from several earlier strains of Victorianism including Queen Anne, Chateausque, with some touches of Neo-Classical Revival. Despite its eclectic elements, the overall design works together well within the assymetrical and varied context of Victorian architecture. Craftsmanship throughout the building is excellent and the structure has been well maintained such that both exterior and interior historic fiber have been preserved.

The firm of Monson and Schaub operated in Logan for eight years and during that period designed many of the most prominent structures in the region. They designed major buildings for the Agricultural College of Utah (now Utah State University) and most of the schools in Cache County. Joseph Monson, senior architect for the firm, was born in Logan in 1862 and at age 16 worked on the famous Logan Temple. Upon return from a Mormon mission to Norway in 1883-85, he became an architect and eventually obtained the position of supervising architect for state schools. Monson was a member of the Territorial Legislature and served in both the state house and senate. He died in 1932 at age 70.

Karl C. Schaub was born in Zurich, Switzerland in 1869 and came to Utah in 1888 with his family which had converted to the Mormon faith. In 1891 K. C. Schaub began his architectural practice and worked as an architectural draftsman for the U.S. Government in Washington, D.C. for a year before establishing a permanent office in Logan. Schaub co-designed Old Main (National Register) at Utah State University, Logan High School, Budge Hospital, residences for the Eccles family, and co-designed the Eccles Hotel. Like his partner, Joseph Monson, Schaub was a member of the State legislature and also

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served as a Mormon bishop. After actively practicing architecture for 60 years, Schaub died in Logan in 1958 when 89 years old.