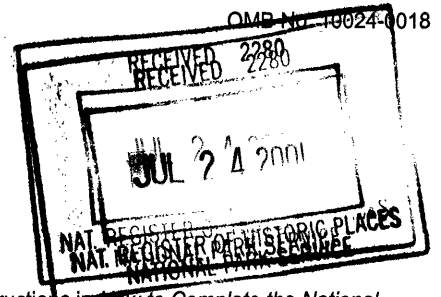


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



963

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration 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 Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead

other name/site number N/A

2. Location

street & town 10317 South 1300 West not for publication

city or town South Jordan vicinity

state Utah code UT county Salt Lake code 035 zip code 84095

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] Date 7/10/2001

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 the 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

Date of Action

Entered in the National Register 9.7.01

Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead
Name of Property

South Jordan, Salt Lake County, Utah
City, County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

private

public-local

public-State

public-Federal

building(s)

district

site

structure

object

Contributing

Noncontributing

8

2

buildings

2

sites

structures

objects

10

2

Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE: agricultural out buildings, agricultural field,
irrigation facility

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE: agricultural out buildings, agricultural
field, irrigation facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN / Victorian Eclectic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: Granite / CONCRETE

walls BRICK / WOOD: Shingle

roof ASPHALT / METAL

other

Narrative Description

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

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead
Name of Property

South Jordan, Salt Lake County, Utah
City, County and State

8. Description

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes 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" in all the boxes 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.)

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)

Agriculture _____

Architecture _____

Period of Significance

1907-1940 _____

Significant Dates

1907 _____

Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A _____

Architect/Builder

Unknown _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other Name of repository: _____

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead
Name of Property

South Jordan, Salt Lake County, Utah
City, County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 11.06 acres

UTM References

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

1 1/2 4/2/1/6/0/0 4/4/9/0/5/4/0
Zone Easting Northing

2 / / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

3 / / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

4 / / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

COM 50 RDS S FR NW COR SEC 14 T 3S R 1W SL MER E 15.7 RDS S 45^24' E 19.8 RDS E 42.54 RDS N 29.52 RDS W 72.34 RDS S 15.52 RDS TO BEG.

Property Tax No. 27-14-104-001-0000

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Boundaries are those that were historically associated with the property.

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Russell Holt Newbold, Utah SHPO Staff

organization _____ date June 22, 2001

street & number 300 Rio Grande telephone (801) 533-3559

city or town Salt Lake City state UT zip code 84101

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 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/title Mabel Holt Nelson

street & number 10317 South 1300 West telephone (801) 254-4526

city or town South Jordan state UT zip code 84095

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.

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Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead, South Jordan, Salt Lake County, UT

Narrative Description

House

The Samuel Elijah Holt home, built in 1907-09, is one-and-one-half stories, in a type known as central block with projecting bays.¹ The home is built of red brick, three-wythes thick, with the exterior veneer laid in common bond. A water table of three stretcher courses of rock-faced brick top the rock faced granite foundation that supports this Victorian Eclectic style structure. Additions to the home include an enclosed wooden sleeping porch to the rear (c.1916) and a one-story flat-roofed brick kitchen wing (c. 1919), both constructed during the historic period. The house has received only a few alterations and retains most of its architectural integrity.

The asymmetrical main façade faces west and has a projecting bay that houses the parlor on the north and a covered front porch on the south. The porch is articulated by three Doric columns, the north one being an engaged column. The two entry doors leading from the porch are paneled with oval beveled glass windows and brass hardware. The thresholds to both doors are of red sandstone. Window openings on this façade feature thick sandstone lintels and sills. The parlor window contains an upper transom filled with wavy etched glass in a star-like pattern. The living room window also housed an identical transom, however, it was removed in the 1970s and replaced with a single picture window. The transom is currently stored in the upstairs attic. The upper level of the main façade is dominated by a large gable end over the parlor. It features a Palladian window surrounded by decorative shingle siding. The gabled dormer above the porch received the same decorative shingle siding treatment and contains a band of casement windows. A small gable located in the center of the porch roof mimics both the gable end and dormer in decorative motifs.

The north façade of the house is characterized by three double-hung wood sash windows. These openings have segmental arches composed of three courses; the first two in rowlock are topped by a course of rock-faced bricks. The single-glazed sash are profiled by a perimeter brick mold and finished by a wooden sill. An exterior door approximately three feet to the right of the center window was added circa 1941 for outside access to a temporary kitchen. The roof of the north façade has a small gablet dormer above the central window that contains a fixed casement window of prism glass.

The south façade is dominated by a projecting bay roughly at the center and has coupled double-hung wood sash windows with segmental arches similar to the windows on the north façade. A west-facing window placed in the five-foot projection of the central bay possess decorative elements similar

¹ The date of construction of the Holt home was found in the Salt Lake County tax files, although these dates are not always considered reliable. All other dates for additions and alterations to the farm were provided through interviews with Reola Holt Newbold and Mabel Holt Nelson in February of 1994. Dates regarding repairs to the barns and the new bridge were supplied by Denis Newbold February 6, 2001.

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Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead, South Jordan, Salt Lake County, UT

to the coupled windows. The south-facing gable consists of one double-hung wood sash window surrounded by composite fishscale shingles originally painted an olive green.

The rear (or east) façade boasts the largest projecting bay featuring two windows articulated in the same fashion as those on the south and north. The gable contains a single two-over-two double-hung wood sash window with similar shingles as the gable end on the south.

The circa 1915 sleeping porch, located at the northeast corner of the house, is of wooden beveled channel-lap siding. The original small uncovered porch deck is visible on the north adjacent to the stone foundation and is covered in beaded tongue-and-groove siding. The sleeping porch has a door and window on the east and a window on the north.

The circa 1919 kitchen addition, located at the southeast corner of the house, has a slightly pitched roof that slopes to the south with stepped parapets. On the west, the kitchen has a window and door, both featuring cast-concrete lintels and sills. The west-facing door is located at grade. Both the south facing window and the east-facing back door have the same decorative treatments as the rest of the addition. There is a small, uncovered redwood porch added about 1987 that abuts the east entrance to the kitchen.

Two decorative corbelled chimneys are located internally, one on the north and another on the south. The chimney on the south features an iron stabilizing bar with an s-shaped plate. The main roof's original wood shingles are covered with asphalt shingles. The low-pitched roof of the kitchen addition is covered with tarpaper and the sleeping porch with corrugated galvanized steel. Decorative metal ridge caps and finials were removed when the house was first re-shingled in the early 1950s.

The house plan is typical of the Late Victorian era. The parlor and the living/receiving room frame the front porch, each having a separate entrance. The living/receiving room, original kitchen, pantry, and bathroom are located on the south side of the house. The parlor and two bedrooms are on the north side.

The parlor features historic hand-painted wood graining² and four-panel double pocket doors that connect to the living room. The brass Craftsman-style light fixture in the parlor is original to the house's installation of electricity in about 1915. The parlor is the only room with the original transom windows above the doors. Other transoms were closed up in the 1960s when the house was retrofitted with a central heating system. Both of the bedrooms on the main floor have their own closets. The middle bedroom closet is located under the stair. The rear bedroom features an early walk-in closet with a window that looks onto the sleeping porch. The sleeping porch is finished off in beaded tongue-and-groove siding on both ceilings and walls.

² This was executed a few years after the completion of the home.

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Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead, South Jordan, Salt Lake County, UT

The original kitchen has served as a sitting/dining room since the 1950s. This room houses the enclosed staircase to the second floor. Off the original kitchen to the east is a small pantry with an original built-in cupboard made by a local Swedish craftsman. This cupboard features pullout bins for flour and sugar, a large pullout cutting board for rolling out breads and pastries, and a roll-top storage area along its counter. The bathroom contains its original claw foot bathtub and wall hung sink, but the 1930s commode was recently replaced. The upstairs contains three finished bedrooms on the south side directly above the living room, original kitchen, pantry and bathroom. There is a large unfinished attic space on the north side above the parlor and two main-floor bedrooms.

Farmstead

The house is centrally located on an eleven-acre plot of land with considerable frontage to the main road. The land surrounding the house is presently used as pasture for sheep and a vegetable garden. The vegetable garden and the large lawns that surround the house on all sides are irrigated by a weir and small irrigation ditch that divert water from the historic South Jordan Canal. Large trees surround the house on the west and south, outlining the original location of a picket fence that was probably removed around 1940. The original cement sidewalk leading from the front door is still intact.

A narrow gravel lane leads from 1300 West, sloping gently down across the South Jordan Canal that flows through the property on the west (see site plan). The small bridge across the canal was originally supported by two large logs and topped with railroad ties, loose dirt and gravel. It had deteriorated over the years and was replaced in 1997 with a reinforced concrete bridge of the same dimensions on the original concrete pilings. The lane leads down around the house on the south and around to the rear where there is a turn around.

Southeast of the house, a chicken coop, buggy shed, granary, and machinery barn (all completed about 1907) sit side-by-side. The coop and buggy shed feature board-and-batten wood siding. The buggy shed, which retains its decorative gable trim and wood shingle roof, is now used as a hay barn. The chicken coop, which is presently used as a sheep barn, received a period extension and now has a corrugated tin roof. The granary was stabilized and re-roofed in 1996. The machinery barn was destroyed by a falling willow tree in the early 1990s; its southern and eastern walls now serve as fences to pasture sheep.

A frame milk house, complete with an interior concrete water tank to cool milk, was built in the 1920s directly south of the kitchen addition. The pump to the original water well (not functioning) sits one foot west. A circa 1928 frame garage with a lean-to addition and corrugated tin roof sits directly south of the house and across the described lane. A privy constructed in the 1930s by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) is located directly south of the machinery barn remnants, but is in poor condition. The coalhouse was moved from its original spot directly east of the milk house in the early

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Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead, South Jordan, Salt Lake County, UT

1960s; it now sits about ten feet northwest of the machinery barn remnants. The coalhouse was partially stabilized in 1997, but is in disrepair. These outbuildings, original farm implements that are still present and the historic agricultural landscape contribute to the integrity of the site.

In addition, to the contributing outbuildings there are newer site elements and the remains of historic elements. Remnants of a filled-in walk-down cellar are directly east of the kitchen addition's back porch. The cellar was filled in about 1919 when the kitchen addition basement replaced its function. The cement foundation to the lean-to cow barn is located approximately sixty feet east of the house. This lean-to was the last part of the large hay barn to fall. The larger part of the hay barn fell in the 1960s and the cow barn fell in about 1973. The cement watering-trough for the horses is located approximately ten feet north east of the present site of the coalhouse. A 1988 chicken coop sits just east of the garage.

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Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead, South Jordan, Salt Lake County, UT

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Holt Farmstead, with house and outbuildings dating from 1907, is significant under Criteria A & C. Under Criterion A, the farm is significant for its association with the farming industry of Salt Lake County and the development of the city of South Jordan as a farming community. It is one of only a handful of farmsteads in South Jordan that retains the historical and architectural integrity of its buildings and original land use. Only a few historic farmsteads currently have contributing outbuildings and farmland that is being worked by the farm's residents. This farm has been in almost continuous use since its establishment and has remained under ownership of the Holt family. The house is also architecturally significant under Criterion C as a good example of turn-of-the-century Victorian Eclectic architecture in Utah and because of its uniqueness in South Jordan.³ Utah's Victorian dwellings represent a shift in the of architecture style from that of the area's settlement period. Victorian architecture is important in denoting the end of Utah's isolation from the nation in the late nineteenth century. This house documents that rural areas also became less isolated from stylistic developments occurring on both the national and local levels. The Holt Farmstead is an important historical resource in South Jordan and represents what was once the primary lifestyle in Utah.

History of South Jordan

In 1849, a few Mormon settlers in the Salt Lake Valley ventured west of the Jordan River, living initially in earthen dugouts. In 1857, settlers came to what is now called South Jordan, located approximately 15 miles southwest of Salt Lake City. The area was part of the West Jordan Ward until 1863 when the South Jordan Branch was organized.⁴ Families settled on the banks of the Jordan River, where water was available for sustenance and irrigation of crops. Growing grain and alfalfa, and raising livestock were the principal means of livelihood for the early residents of the area. The major crop for much of the twentieth century was sugar beets. In an effort to make more land available for farming, water was diverted from the Jordan River by way of the Beckstead Ditch that was completed in 1859. In 1876 the South Jordan Canal was finished. On January 14, 1914, the residents of South Jordan held a celebration commemorating the arrival of modern amenities such as electricity, the interurban railroad, and a water system. South Jordan became an incorporated city on November 8, 1935. Historically, this quiet farming community only had four businesses, which are now gone. They were H&E Service, Holt's Service, Jordan Merc, and the White Fawn flour Mill.⁵

³ According to the Utah State Historic Preservation Office database, there are only three houses of this type and style remaining in South Jordan.

⁴ LDS Church wards and branches are the equivalent of a church parish or congregation.

⁵ Bateman, "South Jordan," 513.

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Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead, South Jordan, Salt Lake County, UT

In the early 1990s, South Jordan was reported to be the fastest growing city in the Utah. Today, much of the farmland has become residential, but there are a number of small businesses, grocery stores, a motel, and high-rise business towers, with most of the remaining land zoned for business development. In addition to the few remaining farms, open space has been preserved as city parks, a private golf course, and a county-operated equestrian complex and racetrack.⁶

History of the Farmstead

In 1863, Matthew Holt, his wife Ann, and their three children came to South Jordan, immigrating from Sheepshed, Dorchester, England.⁷ Ann Holt served as South Jordan Branch's first Relief Society President for more than thirty years. As a midwife, she delivered over five hundred babies in the area.⁸ On August 30, 1868, Samuel Elijah Holt was born to Mathew and Ann in a small one-room cabin near the Jordan River.⁹ Sometime between 1876 and 1880, Samuel's family moved to the then 57-acre farm approximately one mile north and two miles west of their small cabin.¹⁰

On August 16, 1893, Samuel married Margaret Geneva Beckstead in the Salt Lake LDS temple.¹¹ Geneva or "Neve" as she was known to friends, was born on April 2, 1874, to Henry Byram Beckstead and Catherine Mariah Egbert Beckstead in South Jordan. Her father was the town's first Sexton and a prominent and successful farmer and LDS Church leader. Around the time of his marriage to Geneva, Samuel and two of his brothers purchased eighteen sections of ground (11,520 acres) near Piedmont, Wyoming, and went into the sheep-ranching business. Samuel ranched sheep on the Wyoming property during the summer months for the next 25 years. In October of 1898, he was called to serve an LDS mission to the Northern States. He left his wife and three children and served as a church missionary for the next two-and-a-half years.¹² In March of 1901, Samuel returned to his family.

After his parent's deaths in 1901, the family decided to sell the farm to Samuel because it was the desire of his father that the farm and land be retained in the family.¹³ Samuel rented the farm for the next five years. In 1906, he had saved enough money to purchase the farm for \$3,500.00.¹⁴ That following spring Samuel started the construction of a large 10-room home for his wife and growing family of nine children. The home would serve both as a symbol to his rising affluence in the stock raising business and his success as a farmer. Three more children were born to Samuel and Geneva

⁶ Ibid., 514.

⁷ Holt, Histories, 104.

⁸ Bateman, "South Jordan," 513.

⁹ Holt, Histories, 123.

¹⁰ Salt Lake County Abstracts show Matthew Holt purchasing the property in 1880 and it is not likely that the land was irrigable before the completion of the canal in 1876.

¹¹ Holt, Histories, 123.

¹² Holt, History of the South Jordan Ward, 34.

¹³ Last will and Testament of Matthew Holt.

¹⁴ Annual reports of the estate of Matthew Holt, 1901-1905, as prepared by the family lawyer.

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Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead, South Jordan, Salt Lake County, UT

in the new house, making a total of six boys and six girls. At his time, he also built a new hay barn with flanking cow and horse barns, a chicken coop, buggy shed, granary, machinery barn, and coalhouse.¹⁵ Samuel's childhood home, a two-room adobe structure with south-facing front porch, was demolished soon after construction of the new house was completed (see map of site).

An enclosed sleeping porch was added to the rear of the house in 1915. Samuel and Geneva's daughter Verda suffered from heart ailments and the porch was added to provide a more healthful sleeping environment for her. The kitchen wing was added in approximately 1919 to give more space for cooking and summer home canning. Around this time, a milk house was built just south of the new kitchen. A cement tank inside the milk house was filled with cool water from the well and kept the daily milk cool before it was sold to local merchants. In 1919 Samuel and Geneva's oldest daughter Ivy, a recent widow and mother of two children, came to live in the house until 1939, when she remarried.

The Holts

Samuel Holt was an important church leader in South Jordan. In 1900, the population of South Jordan numbered about 100 families, most of these being members of the Mormon faith.¹⁶ South Jordan was a small, strung out community of farms and families with virtually no organized political or community groups. The LDS Church bishop served as both ecclesiastical and temporal leader of the community.¹⁷ On July 19, 1903, Samuel was called to be the first councilor (assistant) to Bishop Thomas Blake. He served under Bishop Blake for eight years until the time of Bishop Blake's death. On October 24, 1911, Samuel E. Holt became the third bishop of the ward.

During Samuel's service as a LDS bishop, from October 1911 to November 1924, his farm served as the bishop's tithing storehouse. In 1900, the LDS Church altered the way tithes were collected. Members were asked to switch from in-kind tithes to the paying of tithes in cash.¹⁸ However, the change was quite difficult and very slow for those in rural farming communities like South Jordan. As a result, Bishop Holt continued to receive tithing from many church members in goods instead of cash, the farm serving as the storehouse of these tithing goods. He would then have to either sell the goods for cash to pay the ward tithing or come up with the cash through personal means.

Bishop Holt also had a very substantial garden and orchard located to the north and northwest of the house. In it, he grew a variety of fruits and vegetables of which he shared regularly with the poor and

¹⁵ Salt Lake County Tax Files.

¹⁶ Holt, History of the South Jordan Ward, 34.

¹⁷ Bateman, Ron; Of Dugouts and Spires: The History of South Jordan, Utah.

¹⁸ At the turn of the century, Mormon prophet Lorenzo Snow changed church policy relating to the law of tithing. Before 1900, church members were required to give a tenth of all their crops and increase raised that year. Because the church was fast becoming cash poor and having trouble financially, President Snow required tithes to be paid with money so that the church could more easily pay off their debts.

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Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead, South Jordan, Salt Lake County, UT

needy of the ward. At the time, the Mormon Church had not yet established its renowned welfare organization and the bishop was expected to care for his "flock" through the local ward system and its organizations. Often the ward's budget could not help the needy members sufficiently so Samuel would use personal resources. His children remember well giving food from the garden and grain to help the needy and hungry. In one instance, Samuel's children were asked to give their new winter coats to a needy family and wear their old coats another season.¹⁹

On November 9, 1924, Samuel E. Holt was released as bishop. He went on to serve on the ward building committee and was instrumental in establishing the first modern chapel in South Jordan. Up until then, the ward had met in buildings used also for school and not specifically constructed for church worship. The chapel is easily seen from the Holt Farmstead because its land was donated by Samuel's father Matthew in 1899 (see map of site). In addition, after being released as bishop, Samuel continued to serve in several capacities within the church.²⁰

On June 1, 1940, at the age of 72, Samuel E. Holt died at his home in South Jordan of a coronary occlusion. After his death, his wife Geneva continued to live in the house with her sons working the farm. In 1941, her son Allen and his young family moved to the farm, living in the northern part of the house. They fashioned a kitchen out of the middle bedroom and added the existing door on the north façade. In 1952, Mrs. Holt sold approximately twenty-nine acres of the farm to her five living sons for the sum of \$2,700.00 in order to pay off an outstanding mortgage on the farm. This left her with eleven acres immediately surrounding the house and barns. On December 8, 1956, Margaret Geneva Holt died of natural causes. Soon after, the remaining sons and daughters of Samuel and Geneva decided to sell the eleven-acre farm to their sister Mabel and her husband Martin Henry Nelson.²¹

Martin Henry Nelson was born September 26, 1904, in Murray, Utah. Like his father, he was a carpenter by trade. Mabel Holt Nelson was born to Samuel and Geneva Holt September 26, 1905. She worked for many years as a hairdresser, first at the Powder Puff and later at Makoffs Department Store in Salt Lake City. During the 1960s, Henry stripped the wallpaper off the walls and painted the rooms. He also closed in many of the transoms above the doors in the house and installed a central heating system. After their purchase of the farm, Henry and Mabel began to use the land exclusively for sheep raising, except for a vegetable garden in the former vicinity of the hay barn. The farm today serves the same purpose. It is one of only a handful of farms that still retain the integrity of their

¹⁹ Reola Holt Newbold, interview.

²⁰ Holt, *History of the South Jordan Ward*, 41 & 45.

²¹ In his will, Samuel Holt stipulated that the farm should be kept in the family in perpetuity and that it should be sold to a son or daughter.

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Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead, South Jordan, Salt Lake County, UT

homes, outbuildings, and land in the South Jordan area.²² Sometime during the early 1960s, a strong wind destroyed the hay barn and the coal shed was moved to its present site close to the machinery barn (see map of site).

Henry Nelson passed away of a heart attack January 11, 1980. Mabel continues to live in the house, keeping it open and welcome to the hundreds of extended family and friends that refer to her as "Aunt Mame."²³ However, the farm and house are maintained by the sons of her sister, Reola Holt Newbold, and their families.

To this day, the farm continues to be a gathering place for the community. Twice each year a family party is held at the farm to celebrate the birthdays and lives of Samuel and Geneva Holt. It is not uncommon to have over 300 family members and friends in attendance.

Architectural Significance

The house is architecturally significant as a good example of turn-of-the-century Victorian Eclectic architecture in Utah and because of its uniqueness in South Jordan. According to the Utah State Historic Preservation Office database, there are only three houses of this type in South Jordan. Despite some modifications over the years, the house is in good condition and is a contributing historic building in a community, which, because of pressure from developers, has few historic buildings remaining. The site supplements the house's significance as it preserves the historic context. The property retains many vestiges of its early agricultural uses. The house, together with the extant outbuildings, fields, and trees that surround it, is a contributing historic resource of the community.

Utah's Victorian dwellings represent a shift in architectural style from that of the area's settlement period. Most of the houses built before 1890 were a vernacular classical form that emphasized symmetry and usually had minor architectural detailing. Victorian Eclectic details, such as the columns, brick hood moldings, and decorative shingle siding of this house, were important in denoting the end of Utah's isolation from the nation in the late nineteenth century. Rural areas also became

²² A windshield survey was taken of South Jordan City and only five farms have contributing out buildings and farmland that are being worked by the farm's residents. Twenty-one farms retain their outbuildings with 35 farms only retaining their houses.

²³ Mabel Holt Nelson, interview.

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less isolated from stylistic developments occurring on both the national and local levels. Pattern books and standardized building components were available and easily adapted for use with local materials. The former isolation of rural areas was no longer an obstacle to building well.²⁴

The Victorian central block with projecting bays was one of the most common house types in Utah between 1885 and 1915. The type represents modification of the side-passage house in which projecting bays were added to the principal rooms. This achieved the desired external irregularity of the picturesque while at the same time making the rooms larger and brighter. The house type was a roughly square footprint with a hipped or pyramidal roof and from one to three and sometimes four projecting bays that are usually gabled.²⁵

²⁴ Carter, 110-111.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, 44.

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- Mabel Holt Nelson. Interview by Russell H. Newbold. February 22, 1994. Utah State Historic Preservation Office, National Register File, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Marie Holt. Interview by Russell H. Newbold. March, 1994. Utah State Historic Preservation Office, National Register File, Salt Lake City, UT.

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Reola Holt Newbold. Interview by Russell H. Newbold. February 21, 1994. Utah State Historic Preservation Office, National Register File, Salt Lake City, UT.

Other Sources

Annual reports of the estate of Matthew Holt, 1901-1905, as prepared by the family lawyer. Originals in the possession of Denis Newbold.

Last will and Testament of Matthew Holt. In the possession of Denis Newbold.

Other information was gained through the Salt Lake County Archives from old tax assessments.

Specific dates were also found through family records held by Reola Holt Newbold.

Title search obtained through the Salt Lake County Abstracts.

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Holt, Samuel & Geneva, Farmstead, South Jordan, Salt Lake County, UT

Common Label Information:

1. Samuel & Geneva Holt Farmstead
2. South Jordan, Salt Lake County, Utah
3. Photographer: Cory Jensen
4. Date: May 2001
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO.

Photo No. 1:

6. South & west elevations of building. Camera facing northeast.

Photo No. 2:

6. North & east elevations of building. Camera facing southwest.

Photo No. 3:

6. South & east elevations of building. Camera facing northwest.

Photo No. 4:

6. South elevation of outbuilding group. Camera facing northeast.

Photo No. 5:

6. House and yard. Camera facing east.

Photo No. 6:

6. Farmyard and fields behind house. Camera facing northwest.