

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only  
received JAN 4 1980  
date entered FEB 14 1980

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic William McLachlan Farmhouse

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 4499 South 3200 West St. not for publication

city, town Salt Lake City vicinity of congressional district 02

state Utah code 049 county Salt Lake code 035

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name James W. and Winifred M. McLachlan

street & number 2609 Keddington Lane

city, town SLC vicinity of state Utah 84117

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Salt Lake City and County Building

street & number

city, town SLC state UT 84111

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

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

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The William McLachlan farmhouse, as built in 1884-1885, was 22 x 21 feet in dimensions containing two rooms. This portion of the house is brick and adobe. The rooms are adobe lined covered with plaster. Ed Ashton did the mason work, and a man named Bridge did the plastering according to an entry on July 6, 1885 in McLachlan's Journal.

The front room windows are double sashed with one-over-one panes; the rest of the windows are double sashed with two-over-two panes. The top of the front windows and the door frames are decorated with carved moldings. The architraves around the windows and doors in the entrance hall and the front room are beautifully carved and molded. The doors have a center cross and four panels with the lower panels smaller than the upper panels. Transoms are above all the doors. Old fashioned porcelain door knobs and square iron latch boxes still remain on the doors.

In addition to the two rooms the house has two halls. The front door opens into the entrance hall, 4'10" x 15'10". From the entrance hall a door opens into the 15'6" x 15'10" front room. East of this room is another room which was the original kitchen, 15'3" x 12'5". Along the north end of this room is another hall 12'5" x 4'10" which was called the buttery. On the north side of the house the finish work on the cornices and bargeboard was never completed. William McLachlan intended to put an addition on the house at some future time, but he never did.

Very little of the outside of the house has been changed since it was first built in 1884. The roof is shingled with asphalt shingles over wood shingles. The soft bricks began to crack and chip, and they were painted cream in 1968. Considering the age of the house, 95 years, the adobe is in very good shape. Plumbing was not added to the house until 1968 when part of the kitchen was divided to install a bathroom, and an enclosed porch was added at the back door. Paneling was installed in the two main rooms and the ceilings spray painted because of cracking plaster.

The farmhouse now stands on 1.1 acres of the original 40 acres although about six acres of the farmland still surrounding it is owned by members of the McLachlan family. The well and the old barns still stand on the property.

# 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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** Winter 1884/85      **Builder/Architect** William McLachlan

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The William McLachlan farmhouse is significant because it is a particularly good example of the small "homestead" farmhouse which was atypical in Mormon settlement areas, where the "farm-village" system of in-town residence coupled with daily commuting to surrounding agricultural areas was generally favored. However, isolated farmsteads did begin to occur in Utah in the 1870's following the arrival of the general land office. The practice received further impetus in the 1880's when many polygamists reputedly built homes in out-of-the-way places to shelter plural wives from the raids of the federal "polygamy hunters". While there are written and folklore references to this practice, the McLachlan farmhouse is exceptional in the completeness of the documentaton of actual construction and of the events that brought it about. The house type is unusual, and the only one known in the Salt Lake Valley region of "over Jordan".

William McLachlan was born in Thornhill, Dumfrieshire, Scotland, in 1840. Trained as a carpenter and contractor, McLachlan converted to the Mormon Church and immigrated to America in 1863. He was clerk of the Church emigrant company aboard the ship Amazon, assigned to keep a historical record of the group. This interest in record keeping persisted throughout his life, as did his high level of activity in the Mormon Church...serving as President of the mission in New Zealand (1875-77) and later as President of the Pioneer Stake.

McLachlan was a polygamist, and like many of the less wealthy polygamists of the period, extremely distressed by the consequences of anti-polygamy raids. In order that his wives not be left penniless should he be arrested and imprisoned, McLachlan purchased land and built this home in a then-remote area "over Jordan". When it was completed in March 1885 it became home for Maggie Naismith, his second wife, and her five children. McLachlan himself vanished into the "underground" for nearly eight years. Part of the time he was employed as a carpenter on the Manti temple and used his earnings there to support his families. His wives were visited as often as it was safe, and Margaret received title to her house in 1886 to protect her and her husband from loss of property should he be caught and prosecuted. Fortunately, McLachlan was never brought to trial.

However, McLachlan was financially ruined by his eight years on the underground and was never able to complete Margaret's home. The additional tragedy of losing three husky sons to diptheria (in 1894) effectively limited his ability to make a success of the farm.

The surviving son, John L., inherited the home and 30 acres and somehow managed to make this small farm support his wife and ten children.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached sheet #9

# 10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property 1.1 acre

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name SLC South

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 

1	2	4	1	8	3	5	0	4	5	0	2	7	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

COM 585 FT N FR SW COR OF NW 1/4 OF SW 1/4 SEC 4 T 2S R 1W SL MER N 100 FT E 528 FT S 100 FT W 528 FT TO BEG LESS STEET 1.11 AC

### 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 Winifred M. McLachlan

organization (John Smith - Utah State Historical Society) date October 1979

street & number 2609 Keddington Lane telephone 278-2230

city or town SLC state UT 84117

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Melvin T. Smith

title Melvin T. Smith, State Historic Preservation Officer date November 20, 1979

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Carol D. Stuel date 2-14-80  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: William H. Balaban date 2-12-80  
Chief of Registration

## THE WILLIAM MCLACHLAN FARMHOUSE

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

BOOKS

- Esshom, Frank W. Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah. Salt Lake City: Utah Pioneers Publishing Co., 1913.
- Jenson, Andrew. Encyclopedic History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Salt Lake City: Deseret News Publishing Co., 1941. p. 658.
- . Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, Volume I. Salt Lake City: Published by the Andrew Jenson Publishing Co., and printed by the Deseret News, 1901. p. 611.
- Jubilee History of Latter-day Saints Sunday Schools. Salt Lake City: Deseret Sunday School Union, 1900. p. 296-297.
- Whitney, Orson F. History of Utah, Volume III. Salt Lake City: George Q. Cannon & Sons Co., 1895. p. 347-348.

ORIGINAL RECORDS

- Church Historian's Office of the L. D. S. Church  
 Church Shipping Records (Microfilm copy #6184, Pt. 2 for the Amazon is available at the Genealogical Library).  
 Journal of William McLachlan, 1882- Jan 1885, and 23 Jan. 1885 - 12 Jan. 1886. (Also 1859-1863, 1875-1876; other journals 1864-1865, 1876-1878 and 1880-1882 are in private hands. I have copies of these).  
 Obituary, Deseret News, 4 Dec 1916.
- Deeds in the Abstract and Plat Division, Rm. 204, Salt Lake City and County Bldg.  
 Abstract Books: A1, p. 190 line 5, 27, 31.  
                   B1, p. 189 line 24.  
                   D14, p. 31 line 39, 40, 41.  
 Deed Books: M, p. 688; Y, p. 290-291; 2B, p. 374-375; 4Y, p. 590-591; 12N, p. 556-557.  
 Plat Map of Section 4, Township 2 South, Range 1 West; NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 4.
- Probate Records at the State Branch Archives, 2333 South 2300 West, Salt Lake City.  
 Estate of William McLachlan - #8623  
 Estate of Margaret Naismith - #9447 and #12505  
                                   Book 65, p. 622  
                                   Book 68 1/2, #9447  
                                   Book 101, #12505

